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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HENAAC Chairman and CEO Awarded
NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal**

HENAAC is proud to announce that Ray Mellado, Chairman and CEO received the NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal at a ceremony held at NASA Johnson Space Center on Thursday, July 9, 2009. This award is limited to an extremely small number of individuals, it is given to less than 1 percent of the contractor workforce and is awarded to an individual who was not a Government employee during the period in which the service was performed.

Mr. Mellado received this medal for outstanding contributions to NASA's mission in honoring and documenting the successes of outstanding Hispanic American professionals, including NASA engineers, scientists, and astronauts.

Mr. Mellado and the HENAAC organization were noted for being "visionaries in identifying outstanding young Hispanic men and women in STEM fields, including Ellen Ochoa, José Hernández and Danny Olivás as outstanding future leaders in science and engineering, years before NASA selected them as astronauts."

The HENAAC organization, its reputation for professionalism and the relentless efforts to assure that our Nation's, including NASA's technical workforce is available and ready for today's and for the future's challenges was acknowledged during the award ceremony.

Chairman Ray Mellado and the HENAAC team are honored by this recognition.

HENAAC Vision

Keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers especially in underserved communities.

HENAAC Mission

- To educate, motivate and enable more underserved students to achieve careers in STEM
- To develop and leverage Hispanic STEM talent to play a leadership role
- To engage families, educators and employers to support underserved students and communities in STEM careers
- To inspire our nation through recognition of the achievements of Hispanics and other role models in STEM
- To lead collaboration and cooperation within the STEM community

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