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NAMIC ANNOUNCES TELEVISION ICON NORMAN LEAR AS SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE 2015 L. PATRICK MELLON MENTORSHIP PROGRAM LUNCHEON PRESENTED AS PART OF THE 29TH ANNUAL NAMIC CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, NY – August 13, 2015 -- The **National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC)** today announced that television industry icon **Norman Lear** will be the special guest speaker for the **2015 L. Patrick Mellon Mentorship Program Luncheon** presented as part of the **29th Annual NAMIC Conference**. Held in conjunction with the cable television industry's *Diversity Week*, the Annual NAMIC Conference is a two-day symposium scheduled for September 29-30, 2015 at the New York Marriott Marquis in New York City.

The L. Patrick Mellon Mentorship Program Luncheon is a joint effort between NAMIC, Women In Cable Telecommunications (WICT), and the Walter Kaitz Foundation. The signature event will take place Tuesday, September 29th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. ET. The L. Patrick Mellon Mentorship Program was established in 1993, with the goal of aiding NAMIC members in growing their careers by matching them with mentors to assist them with their professional advancement strategies.

"Mr. Lear is among our industry's foremost visionaries and a trailblazing champion of television diversity," said **Eglon E. Simons**, president and CEO of NAMIC. "It is an honor to have the opportunity to celebrate his pioneering genius and career achievements in creating landmark programming while addressing complex and sensitive social issues."

An award-winning content creator with a distinguished career that has spanned six decades, Lear produced the ground-breaking series "All in the Family," which aired nine seasons. With four Emmy Award wins for Best Comedy Series and a Peabody Award, the success of "All in the Family" led to the creation of the highly acclaimed series "Good Times," "The Jeffersons," "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman," "Maude," "One Day at a Time" and "Sanford and Son." In 1984, Lear was honored with the distinction of being among the first seven television pioneers inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame. In addition to the Emmy and Golden Globe awards and nominations garnered by his television shows, Lear has been recognized by the International Platform Association, the Writers Guild of America and many other professional and civic organizations. In 1999, President Clinton presented Lear with the National Medal of Arts.

Currently, Lear serves as chairman of ACT III Communications, a multimedia holding company with interests in scripted and non-scripted television, motion pictures, and licensing, including Village Roadshow Entertainment and ACT III Licensing. Norman Lear's memoir *Even This I Get to Experience*, published by The Penguin Press, chronicles his life and career. *Even This I Get to Experience* is available online at <http://www.normanlear.com>.

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Time Warner Cable is the presenting sponsor of the 29th Annual NAMIC Conference. The L. Patrick Mellon Mentorship Program Luncheon is generously underwritten by The Walter Kaitz Foundation. Online registration can be accessed by visiting <http://www.namic.com>. Group registration discounts are available for multiple attendees from the same company. For more information visit <http://www.namic.com> or contact Sandra Girado, senior director of Meetings and Events, NAMIC, at 212-594-5985 or via email at info@namic.com.

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ABOUT NAMIC

NAMIC (National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications) is the premier organization focusing on multi-ethnic diversity in the communications industry. Founded in 1980 as a non-profit trade association, today NAMIC comprises 2,500 professionals belonging to a network of 16 chapters nationwide. Through initiatives that focus on education, advocacy and empowerment, NAMIC champions equity and inclusion in the workforce, with special attention given to ensuring that the leadership cadres of our nation's communications industry giants reflect the multi-ethnic richness of the populations they serve. For more information, please visit www.namic.com and stay connected to NAMIC on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

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