

TV One and Boys & Girls Clubs of America to be saluted at 35th Annual Walter Kaitz Foundation Fundraising Dinner

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, September 24, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [TV One](#), the network designed to entertain and inform a diverse audience of adult Black viewers, and [Boys & Girls Clubs of America](#), the national organization that has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens, will be honored for their commitment to diversity and inclusion at the 2018 [Walter Kaitz Foundation](#) Fundraising Dinner on October 17, in New York City.



This year's milestone 35th Anniversary Kaitz Dinner will take place on Wednesday, October 17 at New York's Marriott Marquis, under the theme "Diversity Through the Decades." Proceeds from the event will support the programs and initiatives of three key industry organizations: the Emma L. Bowen Foundation, the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC), and Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT). Each year, while bringing together media and telecommunications leaders to advance diversity, equity and inclusion across the industry, the dinner raises more than \$1 million in support of the programs and initiatives of these key groups.

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TV One will be honored as the 2018 Diversity Champion, an award given to organizations that act as catalysts for diversity throughout the media and telecommunications

industry. Diversity Champions motivate the industry to embrace and value diversity by serving as role models, inspiring and encouraging excellence, removing barriers that hinder progress, and empowering others with opportunities.

From the provocative original programming it produces, to the bold REPRESENT men's health and Hurricane Harvey relief initiatives it recently launched, TV One exemplifies the values articulated by the Walter Kaitz Foundation. TV One's commitment to these values is reflected across the entire organization, influencing not just in the on-screen content that captivates audiences, but also in the internal mechanisms that ensure diversity of thought and contribution in every aspect of their day-to-day operations.

“Opportunity is the great equalizer in business and in life,” said Michelle Rice, general manager at TV One. “Our CEO, Alfred Liggins has been a huge champion of diversity in our industry, and certainly, TV One has provided many opportunities to our employees, vendors, and partners that have made real impact on their lives, businesses and in the community. With TV One, Alfred continues to build upon the legacy of his mother, Cathy Hughes, Urban One, Inc. founder and chairperson. TV One is thrilled and incredibly humbled by this recognition and we share this

honor with every employee at the company.”

Boys & Girls Clubs of America will be honored as the 2018 Diversity Advocate, an award presented to an individual or organization outside of the media and telecommunications industry that has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to diversity. The award recognizes visionary leadership that fosters a more embracing and inclusive environment. The focus of Boys & Girls Clubs of America is to ensure that young people graduate from high school with a plan for the future, that focuses on developing skills, thinking independently and cultivating self-esteem.

“Over the last 150 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America has constantly changed to meet the needs of kids and teens in an ever-changing world. We believe where a child is from, or the circumstances surrounding them, must not limit their access to opportunities that can change their lives for the better,” said Jim Clark, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. “We want to close the opportunity gap for all young people, preparing them to be innovators and leaders who shape our world. Thank you to the Walter Kaitz Foundation for recognizing our focus on diversity and commitment to inclusion.”

“These two organizations epitomize the Walter Kaitz Foundation’s belief that a demonstrated commitment to enhance diversity and inclusion can be achieved in ground-breaking and innovative ways across all organizations,” said Michelle Ray, acting executive director of the Walter Kaitz Foundation. “This 35th Anniversary milestone offers our industry a unique opportunity to reflect upon the work we’ve all done to make diversity and inclusion one of the cornerstones of our industry while we chart a course for the future.”

This year’s Annual Dinner is being spearheaded by a distinguished committee of industry visionaries led by Josh Sapan, president & CEO, AMC Networks and Dave Watson, president & CEO, Comcast Cable, and Senior EVP, Comcast Corporation.

For tickets or information on sponsorship contact the Walter Kaitz Foundation at (202) 222-2490, email SLittle@walterkaitz.org or visit www.walterkaitz.org.

About the Walter Kaitz Foundation

The Walter Kaitz Foundation stands at the center of the media and telecommunications industry’s long-standing commitment to diversity and inclusion and seeks to advance the contributions of women and multi-ethnic professionals in the media and telecommunications industry. Through the funds raised, the organizations that are supported through grants, and the vital programs produced, the Walter Kaitz Foundation serves as a catalyst for increasing diversity, equity and inclusion in the industry’s workforce and its programming content.

About TV One

Launched in January 2004, TV One serves 59 million households, offering a broad range of real-life and entertainment-focused original programming, classic series, movies and music designed to entertain and inform a diverse audience of adult Black viewers. The network represents the best in Black culture and entertainment with fan favorite shows *Unsung*, *Rickey Smiley For Real*, *Fatal Attraction* and the NAACP Image Awards. In addition, TV One is the cable home of the blockbuster drama *Empire*. TV One is solely owned by Urban One, Inc. formerly known as Radio One, Inc [NASDAQ: UONE and UONEK, www.urban1.com], the largest African-American owned multi-media company primarily targeting Black and urban audiences.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For more than 150 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA.org) has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Today, 4,400 Clubs serve 4 million young people through Club membership and community outreach. They provide a safe place, caring adult mentors, fun and friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. National headquarters

are located in Atlanta. Learn more on Facebook and Twitter.

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