



**RAVEN-SYMONÉ AND ROBI REED TO RECEIVE TOP HONORS AT  
13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NAMIC VISION AWARDS**

**Niecy Nash Set To Host Gala Honoring The Cable Industry's Commitment  
To Programming Diversity**

**Los Angeles, CA - March 23, 2007 --** The **National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC)** today announced that world renowned entertainer **Raven-Symoné** and veteran casting director **Robi Reed** will receive top honors at the **13<sup>th</sup> Annual NAMIC Vision Awards**. Scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at the Beverly Wilshire in Beverly Hills, California, the **NAMIC Vision Awards** is the only entertainment industry event recognizing achievements in multi-ethnic, original cable programming.

"We are proud to honor Raven and Robi, two visionaries who have advanced the positive imagery of people of color on camera and behind-the-scenes," said Kathy Johnson, president, NAMIC.

**Raven** will be presented with the **2007 North Star Award**, which is presented annually to an individual or organization that has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to promoting ethnic and cultural diversity. At just 22, Raven's illustrious career began at age 3 with her debut primetime television role on "The Cosby Show" and has spanned almost two decades. Through her recent works including major film roles and television vehicles such as Disney's "That's So Raven" and "The Cheetah Girls" franchise, the multi-hyphenate entertainer's works have been embraced by people of all races and cultures. "I have been a longtime supporter of NAMIC and its mission," said Raven, "I am thrilled to be recognized as this year's NAMIC Vision Awards North Star Award recipient."

Emmy-winning casting director and TV/film producer, **Robi Reed** will receive the **2007 Legacy Award**. The Legacy Award pays homage to a trailblazing individual or body of work that has made an indelible impact on the diversity landscape. With over 40 films to her credit, Reed's accomplishments as a Casting Director and Producer have resulted in the creation of many opportunities for professionals and artisans of color to excel in front of the camera and behind-the-scenes. "It is truly an honor to be recognized by NAMIC, an organization that for more than twenty-five years has promoted diversity and the ideology of multi-ethnic inclusion," said Reed. Most recently, Reed partnered with Gospel singer Kirk Franklin to form *Fo Yo Soul Film & Television*, a production company focusing on inspirational projects. Additionally, Reed is credited as Casting Director and one of four Executive Producers of *Inspired By...The Bible Experience*, a history-making audio Bible featuring a cast of 300 celebrities, renowned clergy and media personalities.

**Niecy Nash**, host of the Style Network's home makeover show "Clean House" will serve as host of the **13<sup>th</sup> Annual NAMIC Vision Awards**. Additionally, Nash stars in Comedy Central's "Reno 911," the show's spin-off feature film, "Reno 911: Miami," which is currently in theaters and serves as a Correspondent for NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." Presenters for the 2007 NAMIC Vision Awards include: **Aimee Garcia** ("The George Lopez Show"), **Erica Hubbard** ("Lincoln Heights"), **Wesley Jonathan** ("What I Like About You"), **Robert Gossett** ("The Closer"), **Alec Mapa** ("Desperate Housewives"), **Nicki Macheaux** ("Lincoln Heights"), **Tonye Patano** ("Weeds"), **Victoria Recano** ("The Insider"), **Corey Reynolds** ("The Closer"), **Wendy Raquel Robinson** ("The Game"), **Rondell Sheridan** ("That's So Raven"/"Cory in the House"), **Gary Sturgis** ("Pride"/"Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls"), **Robert Townsend** (Entertainer/Filmmaker and CEO/President of Production, Black Family Channel), **Angela Tsai** ("NBA Timeout"), **Sheryl Underwood** ("Comic View"), **Lauren Velez** ("Dexter"), **Gwendoline Yeo** ("Desperate Housewives"/"Broken Trail") and **YoYo** (Air Personality, KDAY-FM).

(more)

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Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. and Warner Bros. are the presenting sponsors of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual NAMIC Vision Awards. Ticket inquiries should be directed to NAMIC, 212-594-5985. Tickets can also be purchased at the Beverly Wilshire hotel on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### **About NAMIC**

NAMIC is the premier organization focusing on multi-ethnic diversity in the communications industry. Founded in 1980 as a non-profit trade association, today NAMIC is comprised of nearly 2,000 professionals belonging to a network of 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.

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