From a Policy Advocate Who Ignited a National Conversation on Criminal Justice to an Acclaimed Musician Preserving the Cultural Heritage of New Orleans: The 21st Heinz Awards Honors Five Distinguished Changemakers

Heinz Family Foundation Announces $1.25 Million in Awards

PITTSBURGH, September 14, 2016—The Heinz Family Foundation today announced the winners of the 21st Heinz Awards, which will present unrestricted cash awards totaling $1.25 million to five exceptional Americans whose innovation and passion for solving critical issues facing people and the planet are making an impact both here and abroad.

This year’s recipients include an extraordinary musician whose philanthropy and mentorship is preserving the cultural heritage of his native New Orleans; a visionary whose optimistic view of our ability to change the course of climate change and secure a healthy future for our planet is justified by the proven, meaningful solutions he has implemented to reduce carbon emissions and energy waste; a pediatrician whose interventions are raising awareness of the link between chronic health issues and trauma experienced in infancy and childhood; a civil rights attorney and author who is leading a national dialogue on race and mass incarceration, and who has sparked a paradigm shift in criminal justice policies; and an entrepreneur whose accessible, no-cost website creation tool is helping to democratize publishing for all and fostering a new economy.

As part of the accolade, each recipient will receive an unrestricted cash award of $250,000.

“Though they come from diverse backgrounds and represent wide-ranging fields of knowledge and expertise, these outstanding men and women that we honor this year embody the true spirit of the Heinz Awards,” said Teresa Heinz, chairman of the Heinz Family Foundation. “They are not only leaders, they are truth-tellers, barrier-breakers, givers of hope and givers of help. They have taken their innate talents and abilities, harnessed the opportunities they have been given to achieve and excel and directed their focus to ideas and actions that are making a lasting impact on our communities and our world.

At a time of increasing divisiveness, these Americans inspire us with what is possible, remind us of our potential, and challenge us to do better.”

Created to honor the memory of the late U.S. Senator John Heinz, and now in its 21st year, the Heinz Awards program recognizes remarkable contributions in five distinct areas of great importance to Senator Heinz: Arts and Humanities; Environment; Human Condition; Public Policy; and Technology, the Economy and Employment. This year’s recipients by category are:

- **Arts and Humanities: Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews, New Orleans, La.**
  The Heinz Awards recognizes Mr. Andrews for his achievements as a musician and for his community work to protect and pass on to younger generations the rich musical heritage of New Orleans. Mr. Andrews is recognized internationally for his work as a multi-instrumentalist, composer, performer and musical innovator, and for his unique sound, described as a distinctive marriage of rock, funk, jazz, soul and hip hop. Dedicated to passing along the music traditions of New Orleans to the next generation, Mr. Andrews is the founder of the Trombone Shorty
Foundation, which provides schools across the city with professional-quality instruments; and the Trombone Shorty Music Academy, which features a music performance curriculum created by Mr. Andrews. The Trombone Shorty Foundation and Tulane University have also established the Fredman Music Business Institute to provide music industry leadership training to promising high school musicians.

- **Environment: Hal Harvey, San Francisco, Calif.**
The Heinz Awards recognizes Hal Harvey for his strategic leadership in the nonprofit sector’s efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change. A rare optimistic voice in the fray over carbon emissions and energy waste, Mr. Harvey, Energy Innovation CEO and founder of the ClimateWorks Foundation and the International Council for Clean Transportation, works from the premise that global climate change is in fact solvable, and that the move to zero-carbon energy technologies can be accomplished. His efforts in the United States, India, China, Europe and in developing countries have focused on solutions and strategies in sectors where incremental improvements to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions can make the most significant impact: cars and trucks, buildings, utilities and industry.

- **Human Condition: Nadine Burke Harris, M.D., San Francisco, Calif.**
The Heinz Awards honors pediatrician and founder and CEO of the Center for Youth Wellness Nadine Burke Harris, M.D., for her work in establishing protocols to identify and treat children suffering from toxic stress caused by extreme poverty, neglect, unsafe or chaotic surroundings or abuse—Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) that have been linked to increased risk of chronic disease later in life, including asthma, kidney and heart disease, obesity and cancer in addition to substance abuse, depression and suicide. Through the development of a screening tool to identify ACEs in young patients, Dr. Burke Harris is revolutionizing the way pediatricians will diagnose and treat children suffering from toxic stress, opening the way for appropriate interventions, which include mental health services, mindfulness coping skills, nurse home visits, education and support for improving lifestyle choices. Dr. Burke Harris’ screening method is being shared with colleagues around the world, along with evidence-based interventions for parents.

- **Public Policy: Michelle Alexander, Columbus, Ohio**
The Heinz Awards honors legal scholar, advocate, civil rights attorney and author of the seminal book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, Michelle Alexander for her work in drawing national attention to the issues of mass incarceration of African American men in the United States, and for igniting a movement that’s inspiring organizations and individuals to take constructive action on criminal justice reform. Ms. Alexander’s work has sparked a national dialogue, mobilizing activists, educators, religious leaders and individuals to take action to reform not only the system, but also the laws that limit opportunities for the formerly incarcerated to build new lives.
• **Technology, the Economy and Employment: Matt Mullenweg, Houston, Texas**

The Heinz Awards honors Matt Mullenweg, visionary co-founder of WordPress, a free, simple-to-use, open-source website and blogging platform. Today, WordPress, which is helping to democratize online publishing, powers more than a quarter (76.5 million) of websites worldwide, from millions of individual blogs to high-profile clients that include Time Inc., *The New York Times*, and Microsoft. Companies, nonprofits, artists, community groups, governments, scholars, researchers, students—anyone anywhere in the world looking to share their ideas and content has an easy-to-use platform available to them at no cost through WordPress.

Winners of the 21st Heinz Awards will be honored in Pittsburgh on October 4, 2016.

Now in its 21st year, the Heinz Awards has recognized 128 individuals and awarded more than $25 million to the honorees. This year’s award total is $1.25 million. For more information about the awardees visit [http://heinzawards.net/2016](http://heinzawards.net/2016).

EDITORS/REPORTERS: To obtain photos of the recipients, please contact Abby Manishor at amanishor@burness.com or 917-539-3308.

### About the Heinz Awards

Established by Teresa Heinz in 1993 to honor the memory of her late husband, U.S. Senator John Heinz, the Heinz Awards celebrates the accomplishments and spirit of the Senator by recognizing the extraordinary achievements of individuals in the areas of greatest importance to him. The awards, administered by the Heinz Family Foundation, recognize individuals for their contributions in the areas of Arts and Humanities; Environment; Human Condition; Public Policy; and Technology, the Economy and Employment. Nominations are submitted by invited experts, who serve anonymously, and are reviewed by jurors appointed by the Heinz Family Foundation. The jurors make recommendations to the Board of Directors, which subsequently selects the Award recipients. For more information on the Heinz Awards, visit [www.heinzawards.net](http://www.heinzawards.net).

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