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DIDI HIRSCH “ERASING THE STIGMA LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2013” CELEBRATES MUSICIANS DEDICATED TO EASING THE PAIN OF MENTAL ILLNESS

**This Year’s Honorees include Quincy Jones, Michael Angelakos and Jeff Greenberg
Three Devoted Mental Health Advocates and Humanitarians from the Music Industry**

CULVER CITY, Calif. March XX, 2013 – “Music Matters” is the theme of the 17th Annual Erasing the Stigma Awards presented by Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services. The luncheon and awards ceremony scheduled for Thursday, April 18, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif. will honor musicians whose songs have not only eased the pain of those suffering from mental illness — but whose own lives are a testament to overcoming adversity and erasing the stigma.

This year’s Beatrice Stern Media Award, created and funded by the Stern Family to recognize special individuals devoted to helping erase the stigma of mental illness in the media, will be presented to lead singer, songwriter and keyboardist of the band *Passion Pit*, Michael Angelakos. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder when he was 18, Angelakos has since used his popularity to shine light on mental health issues, mainly through social media providing a more open community for those affected by mental health.

Leadership Awards will go to iconic music executive Quincy Jones and Jeff Greenberg, owner of the legendary recording studio Village Studios.

Jones, a world-renowned conductor, arranger, composer, television producer and trumpeter, also is a noted humanitarian and philanthropist. During his five-decade career, Jones has received a record 79 Grammy Award nominations and 27 Grammys, including a Grammy Legend Award in 1991. In addition to countless career accolades, Jones has been involved in numerous worthy causes. His Quincy Jones Foundation has disbursed some \$20 million for anti-malaria measures in Africa and a project in which disadvantaged youths from South Los Angeles helped build houses in South Africa – among many other humanitarian efforts.

Greenberg is a former manager, concert producer, (Wolf and Rissmiller Concerts, Nederlander /Greek Theater, ICM Partners, formerly International Creative Management) and agent (Kinks, James Taylor, Fleetwood Mac.) Currently, he is chief executive officer and owner of famed Village Studios. He recently built a recording studio for the Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement Boyle Heights, a program of the Community Development Department with the City of LA to motivate and inspire inner city youth. The program has grown to include mobile recording studios visiting schools and parks throughout California. The Leadership Award will be presented to Greenberg by Al Schmitt.

Master of Ceremonies will be actress, singer, and former fashion model Garcelle Beauvais.

This year’s event chairman is Shawn Amos, Didi Hirsch board member, noted American singer/songwriter and former record company.

“Our first Erasing the Stigma Leadership Awards in 1997 honored Tipper Gore in recognition of her candid discussion of mental illness and its costs to all of us,” commented Didi Hirsch President and Chief Executive Officer Kita Curry. “Since then, the annual event has honored researchers, physicians, actors, writers, leaders and activists for their significant contributions to the field of mental health and the mission of erasing the stigma of mental illness.

“Since its inception, we’ve raised over three million dollars through Erasing the Stigma, which has been life transforming,” Curry added, “and sometimes life saving. We are extremely grateful to our generous supporters.”

Tickets to the 17th Annual Erasing the Stigma Awards may be purchased online:

www.ErasingtheStigma.org; by phone: [\(310\) 659-5517](tel:3106595517); or email: ErasingtheStigma@eventsbyone.com

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About Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services

With 70 years of experience, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services transforms lives by providing quality mental health care and substance abuse services in communities where stigma or poverty limit access. From 11 locations and 65 schools throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties, Didi Hirsch helps more than 74,000 children and adults each year, offering services that range from community education to outpatient care to residential treatment. Its Suicide Prevention Center was the first in the nation. Learn more at <http://www.didihirsch.org/>.