

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2008

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**BRINGING THE WORLD TO CLASSROOMS,
THE CELEBRATION OF TEACHING & LEARNING
UNVEILS NEW WEB SITE FOR 2009 AND OPENS FOR REGISTRATION**

Thirteen/WNET and WLIW21 launch www.thirteencelebration.org for the fourth annual Celebration of Teaching & Learning; Alan Alda, Eric Schmidt, Sir Kenneth Robinson, Temple Grandin and the new cast of Sesame Workshop's The Electric Company headline growing list of speakers

October 17, 2008, New York, NY – Thirteen/WNET and WLIW21, New York television stations of public media company of WNET.ORG, will draw more than 8,000 educators to the **2009 Celebration of Teaching & Learning**, the nation's premier professional development conference taking place March 6-7, 2009 in New York City at the Hilton New York. Designed for K-12 educators, academics and policy makers, this year's conference will once again present worldwide trends in instruction, education policy and the latest research.

“The Celebration of Teaching & Learning embodies the spirit and mission of public television - to deliver intelligent cultural, informational and educational content that inspires the audience,” said Neal Shapiro, President and Chief Executive Officer of WNET.ORG. “By bringing the world of education to teachers, we anticipate that attendees of this year's Celebration will leave with renewed dedication and desire to educate students to their highest potential.”

Among the growing list of speakers, this year's Celebration will feature technology-industry leader and Google's Chief Executive officer, **Eric Schmidt**, and the award-winning actor, director, best-selling author and host of the new PBS production “The Human Spark,” **Alan Alda**. Other keynote speakers include **Temple Grandin**, the world's most recognized autistic scholar, and **Sir Kenneth Robinson**, an internationally recognized author/expert in the development of creativity and innovation. Special guests at the Opening Session will be the new cast of **Sesame Workshop's The Electric Company**.

At the 2009 Celebration of Teaching & Learning Web site, www.thirteencelebration.org, educators can register to attend, obtain information on over 70 featured speakers and 200 exhibitors, see a

schedule on the 100 featured workshops, read and contribute to education blogs, sign up to receive e-mail updates and find answers to frequently asked questions. Visitors can also view a wide range of videos and transcripts from last year's conference. Super Early Bird registration rates are available now at www.thirteencelebration.org through November 10, 2008.

To help promote and disseminate key findings emerging from the Celebration, "Learning Curve," WLIW21 New York Public Television's award-winning education series, will feature highlights from the conference both on-air and online in the weeks following the Celebration.

Thirteen and WLIW21 gratefully acknowledge sponsorship support from Founding Sponsor: Chase; Premier Sponsors: National Education Association (NEA), NYSUT, UFT; Major Sponsors: CSA/ELI, Fordham University Graduate School of Education; Presenting Sponsors: Adelphi University, Teachers College, Columbia University; Event Sponsor: NYSFSA; and Media Sponsor: Education Week.

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ABOUT THIRTEEN/WNET

[Thirteen/WNET](http://www.thirteen.org) is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as [Nature](#), [Great Performances](#), [American Masters](#), [Wide Angle](#) and [Charlie Rose](#) to audiences nationwide, and serving the entire New York City metro area with unique local productions and broadcasts, cutting-edge Web sites, and innovative educational and cultural projects. More info at: www.thirteen.org.

ABOUT WLIW21

[WLIW21](http://www.wliw.org) New York Public Television is the third most-watched public television station in the United States, with an average weekly cumulative audience of 1.4 million households in the New York metropolitan area. As a resource for public television stations, WLIW distributes the weeknight, international newscast [Worldfocus](#), as well as the weekly series [Consuelo Mack](#), [WealthTrack](#), [Wild Chronicles](#), [Moment of Luxury](#) and the children's series [Miffy and Friends](#) and [Sheira & Loli's Dittydoodle Works](#). WLIW21 is a leading producer of PBS fundraising specials including the [VISIONS](#) aerial series, cultural documentaries and music specials. WLIW21's Instructional Television Services provides free programming and video streaming to supplement K-12 classroom instruction. On digital cable, WLIW Create offers enthusiasts a destination for their favorite public television cooking, crafting, and travel series; and WLIW World offers the best of public television's news, science and history programming. For more information, visit [wliw.org](http://www.wliw.org).