

November 10, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL APPROVES *REMEMBER THEM* PROJECT; MARTIN L. KING, 3rd, COMES TO OAKLAND; CHIODO ART DEVELOPMENT (CAD) STAFF MEET WITH SHIRIN EBADI



(from left) Francine Agapoff, David Tanenbaum, Shirin Ebadi, Fred Matin, Mario Chiodo

OAKLAND, CA--Chiodo Art Development (CAD) is proud to announce that on Tuesday, September 19, 2006, the Oakland City Council voted unanimously to approve the *Remember Them: Champions for Humanity (RT)* monument as a gift to the city of Oakland. Public meetings with Oakland government and staff members had been conducted over the past several months that included presentations to the Cultural Arts Commission, the Cultural Arts Advisory Board and the Life Enrichment Committee to propose a gift of artwork to the City of Oakland. At each of those meetings a strong positive expression of support from Oakland leaders, teachers and community greatly enriched the proposal's appeal to the Council.

On the same evening that the *RT* project was approved, Mario Chiodo learned that Martin Luther King, Jr. 3rd was coincidentally at a Town Hall meeting in Oakland for his own foundation, Realizing the Dream. Mario Chiodo drove to that meeting and invited Mr. King back to the CAD studios that evening so that he could view the model of the *RT* monument. Mr. King was extremely moved when he saw the sculpture of his mother and father and remarked on the

-- more --

MONUMENT-2-2-2

fact that no one has ever sculpted them side-by-side. He was also impressed with the power of the center section image that depicts the four figures from the March on Selma. CAD looks forward to future collaborations with Martin Luther King, Jr. 3rd and his Realizing the Dream Foundation.

On the next day, Mario, Francine Agapoff (Project Manager) and project crew traveled to San Rafael, CA to meet with Shirin Ebadi, who is represented on the monument. Ms Ebadi, formerly a judge in Iran and currently a defense lawyer, is a human rights activist and the first Iranian to win the Nobel Peace Prize (2003). She was in the Bay Area on a lecture tour and had arranged to meet separately with the CAD group. Through an interpreter, she expressed being honored by Mario's visit. Mario described the humanitarians on the monument and why he chose to sculpt each person. Ms. Ebadi affirmed Mario's explanations and stated her belief that education and global awareness are necessary to end terrorism and achieve world peace. She feels that the *Remember Them* monument and its educational components are a step in that direction. Ms. Ebadi hopes to attend the dedication of the monument in downtown Oakland in early 2008.

CONTACTS: Francine Agapoff, VP of Design Development, Chiodo Art Development,
(510) 663-8144, ext. 12
Joseph Haraburda, President & CEO, Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce,
(510) 874-4810