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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Palo Alto Adult School recognizes Herb Wong for 25 years of excellence in jazz education

Herb Wong, world-renowned jazz expert and Palo Alto Adult School jazz instructor has been awarded the Palo Alto Excellence Award in Jazz Education. Herb was recognized for his dedication and creative design of seventy five (75) unique courses over twenty five (25) years teaching at the Adult School. His dedication to the world of jazz extends to all of his students.

Palo Alto Adult School Principal, Kara Rosenberg states, "For 25 years, jazz lovers have had the opportunity to study a multitude of topics taught by our master of jazz, Herb Wong. One of our students has attended all 75 classes, since every quarter brings a new musician or subject to study. Herb's passion for jazz is infectious. His depth of knowledge has made our Music program exceptionally popular."

In the words of Evan Pricco, "Dr. Herb Wong is a legend in jazz circles. The music lover has been friends with some of the greatest musicians of the 20th century."

Ben Deovlet, an Adult School student shares, "Most courses on Jazz are taught from second or third hand knowledge and from a historical perspective. However, Dr. Herb Wong presents this music from the perspective of one who grew up with it and knew most, if not all of the great jazz artists. Rather than merely giving us an overview, he tailors each course to focus on a particular artist, group, instrument, or style, and he gives us the breadth and depth on each subject. Nowhere else could one get an entire course devoted to the Count Basie Orchestra, Mel Torme, Carmen McRae, Stan Getz, Pepper Adams, Bill Evans, Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday, and the list spans 75 courses taught continuously over a twenty-five year span.

On Sunday, December 15th, a celebratory lunch was held to honor Herb Wong and his twenty-five years of teaching at the Palo Alto Adult School. More than forty of his past and present students attended to congratulate Herb on this wonderful milestone.

For additional information on Palo Alto Adult School, contact Principal Kara Rosenberg at 650-329-3752 or by email at krosenberg@pausd.org.

About Palo Alto Adult School

Palo Alto Adult School (PAAS) was established by the Palo Alto Unified School District in 1921. PAAS is committed to excellence in providing a broad range of educational programs that meet the diverse lifelong learning needs of our community. The Adult School's goals are to support a skilled workforce, successful schools and a vibrant community by providing programs in English as a Second Language (ESL), Career Technical Education, Parent Education, Education for Independent Living and Community Education. Palo Alto Adult School is self-supporting and annually serves a student population of more than 8000 students. For additional information, call 650-329-3752 or visit the PAAS web site at www.PAAdultschool.org.