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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN FRANCISCO EDUCATION FUND HOSTS A NEW FUNDRAISING EVENT TO SUPPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(San Francisco, CA) On April 18, the San Francisco Education Fund (Ed Fund) will launch a new fundraising event called GROW (Gathering to Recognize Outstanding Work): A Celebration of Change at the Westin St. Francis Hotel.

This dynamic event replaces the Ed Fund's traditional holiday lunch and will feature a high tea and the annual showcase of outstanding Ed Fund-sponsored teacher-led grant projects. During the tea, public school students will provide musical entertainment and heartfelt testimony about the valuable work the Ed Fund does in SF's public schools. The Ed Fund also will honor local philanthropist JaMel Perkins for her longstanding commitment to public education in San Francisco. Ms. Perkins has been a community volunteer and activist for over 30 years, serving on the boards of the Ed Fund, Partners Ending Domestic Violence, Planned Parenthood, UCSF Foundation Relations, the League of Women Voters, STAND! Against Domestic Violence, and SHARE.

The event begins with high tea at 3:00 p.m., followed immediately by the teacher project showcase (free to the public) at 4:30 p.m. The showcase portion of the program will give attendees the unique chance to meet SFUSD teachers and see firsthand examples of the inspiring and creative learning opportunities happening in San Francisco public school classrooms as a result of the San Francisco Education Fund's grants program. The Ed Fund will also announce the 2007 winners of the prestigious Golden Apple Award, an award honoring teachers who facilitate the most outstanding grant projects in the areas of Teacher Learning and Community Partnership. Tickets for GROW start at \$125 and are available online at www.sfedfund.org/rsvp.

About the San Francisco Education Fund

Founded in 1979, the San Francisco Education Fund is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity committed to promoting excellent and equitable outcomes for San Francisco public school students so they can reach their full potential. The organization develops teachers and students as leaders, provides collaboration opportunities, promotes innovation and directs resources where they will have the greatest impact for those who need them most. Current Ed Fund programs include Leadership and Professional Development Programs for teachers (including grants, learning communities, and policy initiatives), Peer Resources for students (including mentoring, leadership training, and conflict resolution programs), and the Public Engagement Initiative, which strives to effect policy changes to improve teaching and learning in San Francisco's public schools. Together, these programs aim to increase the number of San Francisco public school students who graduate from high school, ready to attend college, begin a fulfilling work path, and play an active role in their community.

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For more information about the San Francisco Education Fund and GROW, please contact Lori McGilpin, (415) 912-2226 / lori@sfedfund.org.