

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation Begins School Year with \$50,000 Match from Santa Monica Place and Kaiser Permanente

Funds raised from these matching donations will support arts programs, instructional assistants and stretch grants at all SMMUSD schools

Santa Monica, Calif., August 18, 2017 – The Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation is starting off the school year with an exciting match from two of its Corporate Partners. Santa Monica Place, owned by Macerich and Kaiser Permanente are each generously offering \$25,000, for a total of \$50,000, as a match to the community to raise funds for programs at Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) campuses. The match will run until September 6, 2017.

"We can't think of a better community investment to make than giving back to our local schools," said Julia B. Ladd, Assistant Vice President, Property Management at Santa Monica Place. "Strong schools are the backbone of a strong community and a vibrant economy. We are so proud to be part of this effort to fund crucial programs for Santa Monica and Malibu students."

Donations to the Ed Foundation fund staff and programs at every SMMUSD school in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, including elementary arts programs, 87 instructional assistants in classrooms, and stretch grants for each school. Many schools use these grants for additional arts, STEM and student health and wellness programs.

"We hope that this match encourages other community members to join us in supporting our local public schools," said Yesenia Monsour, Director of Public Affairs & Brand Communications at Kaiser Permanente. "The programs funded by the Ed Foundation are crucial to the development of a child's wellbeing and enable all students to truly thrive."

For more information or to donate, go to smmef.org.

## **About the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation**

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Ed Foundation raises funds to enhance and supplement the curriculum of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all students in the Santa Monica and Malibu public schools.

All donations to the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation change the lives of students in the Santa Monica-Malibu public schools. Contributions fund excellent programs – from art to STEM to wellness – that shape our future problem solvers, visionaries and global citizens. To learn more about SMMEF visit www.smmef.org or www.facebook.com/smmef.

# **About Macerich**

Macerich, an S&P 500 company, is a fully integrated self-managed and self-administered real estate investment trust, which focuses on the acquisition, leasing, management, development and redevelopment of regional malls throughout the United States.

Macerich currently owns 54 million square feet of real estate consisting primarily of interests in 48 regional shopping centers. Macerich specializes in successful retail properties in many of the country's most attractive, densely populated markets with significant presence in the Pacific Rim, Arizona, Chicago and the Metro New York to Washington, DC corridor. Additional information about Macerich can be obtained from the Company's website at www.macerich.com

#### **About Kaiser Permanente**

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve 11.8 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal physicians, specialists and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education and the support of community health. For more information, go to: kp.org/share.

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