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**SHAKIRA, MANA, JOAN SEBASTIAN, RBD, INDIA, RAKIM & KEN-Y,
WISIN & YANDEL AND MARIANO BARBA,
TOP THE LIST OF FINALISTS FOR THE
2007 BILLBOARD LATIN MUSIC AWARDS ON TELEMUNDO**

**Awards will take place April 26th and
will be produced and broadcast LIVE by Telemundo**

Miami, FL, February 14, 2007 – Finalists for the *2007 Billboard Latin Music Awards* were announced today during a live broadcast of Telemundo's "Al Rojo Vivo con Maria Celeste." **Rakim y Ken-Y, Shakira, RBD, India, Maná, Joan Sebastian, Mariano Barba, Anais, Aventura, Fonseca, Toby Love** and **Wisin & Yandel** are among finalists featured in multiple categories. The ceremony will be held on **Thursday, April 26th** at **Bank United Center in Miami, Florida, and will be produced and broadcast live on Telemundo.** A complete list of finalists can be found at the Al Rojo Vivo and Yahoo Musica sections at yahootelemundo.com.

Topping the list as a finalist for seven awards is one of the most recognized reggaeton duos from Puerto Rico, Jose Nieves (Rakim) and Kenny Vazquez (Ken-Y), who together make up **Rakim & Ken-Y**, and who have been dominating the airwaves with their bilingual hits. They are up for *Hot Latin Songs Artist of the Year, Reggaeton Album of the Year* "Masterpiece: Nuestra Obra Maestra," *Hot Latin Song of the Year, Vocal Duet* and *Tropical Airplay Song of the Year, Duo or Group* for "Tengo un Amor," and *Hot Latin Song of the Year, Reggaeton Song of the Year*, and *Latin Ringtone of the Year* for "Down."

Puerto Rican tropical singer **India**, also known as the "Princess of Salsa," and Mexican singer/songwriter **Mariano Barba** are both up for five awards. **India**, who returned after a four-year hiatus with two albums, is a finalist in three categories including *Tropical Album of the Year, Female* for "Pura Salsa" and "Soy Diferente," *Tropical Airplay Song of the Year, Female* for "Lagrimas" and "Solamente una Noche," and *Latin Dance Club Play Track of the Year* for "Just One Night/Solamente Una Noche (Dance Remixes)." New artist, **Mariano Barba**, has taken the regional music world by storm with his album titled "Aliado del Tiempo," which is up for *Regional Mexican Album of the Year, New Artist*, and whose song by the same name is up for *Hot Latin Song of the Year, Regional Mexican Airplay Song of the Year, Male Solo Artist*, and *Regional Mexican Airplay Song of the Year, New Artist*. Barba is also up for *Songwriter of the Year*.

Finalists up for four awards include Mexican rock en español band **Maná**, Latin pop star **Shakira**, renowned Mexican singer and songwriter **Joan Sebastian**, Colombian singer/songwriter **Fonseca**, Mexican pop sensation **RBD**, popular bachata band from the Bronx **Aventura**, reggaeton duo **Wisin & Yandel**, Dominican newcomer **Anais**, and **Toby Love**, who has gained popularity for his fusion of bachata and hip-hop. Those up for three awards include reggaeton superstar **Daddy Yankee**, internationally renowned pop singer, **Ricky Martin**, reggaeton singer and composer, **Don Omar**, and Haitian-American rapper and reggae artist, **Wyclef Jean**.

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The awards are the grand finale to the 18th Annual Billboard Latin Music Conference. Now in its 18th year, this four-day event is being held April 23 - 26 at the InterContinental Hotel in Miami. For more information on the conference, please visit www.billboardevents.com.

The Billboard Latin Music Awards honor the most popular albums, songs, and performers in Latin music, as determined by the actual sales and radio airplay data that informs Billboard's weekly charts during a one-year period from the issue dated February 11, 2006 through this year's February 3rd issue. Finalists, and the eventual winners, reflect performance of new recordings on Billboard's sales charts, including Top Latin Albums, and radio charts, including Hot Latin Songs, with album categories confined to titles that did not chart before Billboard's Nov. 12, 2005 issue but excluding finalists from the prior-year's Billboard Latin Music Awards. Based on sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan and radio information monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, Billboard's charts are the world's most authoritative music charts.

Telemundo, a U.S. Spanish-language television network, is the essential entertainment, news and sports source for Hispanics. Broadcasting unique national and local programming for the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population, Telemundo reaches 93% of U.S. Hispanic households in 142 markets through its 16 owned-and-operated stations, 36 broadcast affiliates and nearly 684 cable affiliates. Telemundo is wholly owned by NBC Universal, one of the world's leading media and entertainment companies.

Now in its 112th year, Billboard is the world's premier weekly music publication and a diverse digital, events and brand, content and data licensing platform. Billboard publishes the most trusted charts and offers unrivaled reporting about the latest music, video, gaming, media, digital and mobile entertainment issues and trends. Billboard is the flagship property for the Billboard Information Group, which also consists of Billboard.biz, Billboard.com, Billboard Chart Alert, Billboard Information Network (BIN), Billboard Directories, Billboard Books, Billboard Licensing & Events and Radio & Records. Billboard's many strategic partners include Microsoft, Reuters, Sirius Satellite Radio, Telemundo, Univision Radio, ABC Radio Networks, Azteca America, and Billboard sister companies Nielsen SoundScan and Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. These partnerships leverage Billboard's proprietary data, charts and information resources to develop broadcast entertainment, digital and mobile platforms and contextual commerce applications that expand Billboard's franchise and consumer reach.

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CONTACT: Telemundo
Claudia Santa Cruz
Tel. 305-220-8887
csc@santacruzpr.com

Billboard
Lila Gerson
Tel. 212-255-8455
lila@rosengrouppr.com

***Full list of finalists for press at: www.telemundomv.com