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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECIPIENTS OF 2009 SDSA PARTNERSHIP AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Local Collaboration for the Improvement of K-12 Science Education Celebrated

The 2009 Annual San Diego Science Alliance Partnership Awards program was held on Thursday, May 21st at Qualcomm “Q” Auditorium. Over 100 attendees representing educators, companies, non-profits and research communities gathered in the magnificent Qualcomm gardens in the spirit of collaboration before heading inside for the much anticipated award presentation.

Duane Roth, Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of CONNECT - a globally recognized, non-profit organization that fosters entrepreneurship in the San Diego region, kicked off the award presentation portion of the evening with his keynote address noting the unique results and innovations that are generated when organizations in San Diego collaborate for a greater cause. Presenting the awards was Rick Beach, President of the San Diego Science Alliance. One-by-one award recipients were acknowledged with rich applause and a trophy of appreciation for his or her outstanding efforts for their partnership effort toward improvements in the region’s K-12 science education.

Listed below are the recipients of the 2009 SDSA Partnership Awards.

Innovations in Educations: Larry Bock, Founder, San Diego Science Festival.

Teacher: Maria Catalina, Mar Vista Middle School, Sweetwater District, Nancy Swanberg, Del Mar Hills Academy of Arts and Sciences, Del Mar Union School District, and the Grade Five Teachers of Rosa Parks Elementary, San Diego Unified School District.

School Administrator: Linda Stanley, Hilltop Middle School, Sweetwater District.

Partner: Dr. R. Jeffrey Chang, UCSD Medical School, Oncofertility Research Program

Company: Mary Cruz, Sharp Healthcare Career Pipeline Partnership.

Volunteer: Mary Ricci, Parent, Marie Curie Elementary, San Diego and Debbie Tahmassebi, American Chemical Society, San Diego Section.

Sustainable Program: Ellen Potter, Salk Institute Mobile Science Lab and Doris Anderson Elementary Institute of Science.

When asked final thoughts on the evening, attendees stated, “Truly a class act.” “We are fortunate to have the spirit of collaboration celebrated by the Science Alliance”

The celebration, sponsored by Delta Education, CPO Science and the San Diego County Office of Education, recognizes outstanding collaborative efforts by individuals or groups to positively impact K-12 science education in San Diego County. During a pre-ceremony networking reception attendees shared stories from the classroom to the boardroom to the field and perused the SDSA Program Displays including: BEWiSE, MSSELI, Health Science Initiative, Robotics and High Tech Fair.

San Diego Science Alliance is the catalyst for improving K-12 science education in San Diego County. SDSA delivers quality experiential programs; builds bridges between the region’s diverse business, education and scientific research communities, and fosters public/private partnerships to increase science literacy. For more information please visit www.sdsa.org.

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If you'd like more information about the SDSA Partnership Awards, please call Carin Holliday at 619.400.9777.