



Carlsbad Educational Foundation
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For Immediate Release
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Carlsbad Educational Foundation Announces District-Wide Support for FIRST LEGO League Robotics Teams

Local Company Life Technologies Provides Grant to Fund Participation in International Robotics Challenge at Every School in Carlsbad Unified School District

Carlsbad, CA – [Carlsbad Educational Foundation \(CEF\)](#), a non-profit organization devoted to developing and launching educational and enrichment programs for more than 10,000 Carlsbad students, is proud to announce support for *FIRST LEGO® League (FLL)* at all 14 schools in the Carlsbad Unified School District during the 2009-2010 school year. The FLL program is an international program designed to engage students, ages 9 to 14 and 14 to 18, in hands-on, inquiry-based scientific learning and problem-solving.

This program, which reinforces one of CEF's overarching goals to enrich education through increased hands-on science, is being made possible by a generous grant from the Life Technologies™ Foundation. Carlsbad-based Life Technologies is a global biotechnology tools company dedicated to improving the human condition. By partnering with the Life Technologies Foundation, CEF is able to sponsor one team per school, including all registration fees, two robots, related supplies, training and resource materials.

"The Carlsbad Educational Foundation is thrilled to partner with Life Technologies to bring the exciting *FIRST LEGO League* program to all the schools in the Carlsbad Unified School District," said Valin Brown, CEO of the Carlsbad Educational Foundation. "This highly innovative and forward-thinking program is the latest example of how CEF continually seeks ways to bridge the gap between classroom and real-world experiences. To that end, *FIRST LEGO League* represents an outstanding opportunity for us to promote educational excellence while inspiring young people to build science, engineering and technology skills."

Each Carlsbad team also will have the opportunity to compete in the 2009 international challenge, which is called "Smart Move." During the project phase, each team identifies a problem with the way people, animals, information or things travel in their community and then creates an innovative solution. During the robot part of the challenge, each team applies robotics, sensor technology and fresh thinking to confront some of today's transportation, safety and efficiency problems. The challenge culminates in local, qualifying and state tournaments in which teams present their research projects while their robots compete for a variety of awards.

"Life Technologies Foundation is very pleased to support this excellent program, which offers Carlsbad students an opportunity to think like scientists and engineers as they tackle tough, real-world problems," said Amanda Clardy, chief marketing officer for Life Technologies and a Life Technologies Foundation Board member. "The Foundation is dedicated to advancing scientific education among today's youth, and programs such as *FIRST LEGO League* are an

innovative way to engage our children in the sciences while preparing them for successful careers in the future.”

In 2008, Carlsbad’s Kelly Elementary School’s “Team Sonic” ranked sixth in the Qualifying Tournament for the international challenge, “Climate Connections - Building A Global Game Plan.” The Kelly team was recognized for their scientific research and recommended solution for wildfire ash removal. Additionally, Team Sonic was awarded the Teamwork Trophy for embodying the FLL’s values, including gracious professionalism.

Currently in its 11th year, *FIRST* LEGO League anticipates 14,600 teams in more than 50 countries competing in hundreds of qualifying events and championship tournaments. Teams also may have the opportunity to participate in the FIRST LEGO League World Festival, to be held April 15-17, 2010 in Atlanta. *FIRST* founder Dean Kamen, an entrepreneur who invented the Segway transportation system, teamed with Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen, first deputy chairman of the board of directors of The LEGO Group, to create the program as a way to engage children in playful and meaningful learning while helping them discover the fun in science and technology.

The Life Technologies Foundation

The Life Technologies Foundation™ is dedicated to advancing science education and key scientific discoveries that use the application of biology to address societal needs. In particular, the Foundation supports programs that accelerate the use of genomics to further healthcare, projects that advance medical education, and initiatives focused on providing biological solutions to some of society's most pressing challenges. By teaming with educators and researchers, the Foundation also strives to demystify the world of life science and empower today’s children to become tomorrow’s scientific leaders. Launched in 2008, the Life Technologies Foundation has committed approximately \$3 million to causes that advance the understanding and applications of science. The Foundation is a non-profit arm of Life Technologies Corporation (NASDAQ:LIFE), a global biotechnology tools company dedicated to improving the human condition. For more information or to submit a grant proposal, please visit www.lifetechnologies.com/foundation.

About the Carlsbad Educational Foundation

The Carlsbad Educational Foundation (CEF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was founded in 1983 to raise private support for public education and the enrichment of more than 10,000 students in the Carlsbad Unified School District. CEF develops, conducts and finances innovative, quality educational programs and projects. Since its inception, the foundation has contributed more than \$4 million in funds to Carlsbad schools, primarily for science, technology, arts and reading. In 2008, the foundation provided year-end grants totaling \$604,000 to help restore funding for the preservation of the arts, music, sports and libraries within the district. The foundation has just finalized an ambitious strategic plan that will support the development of additional music, science and innovative educational programs. The foundation also operates a Summer Enrichment Program as well as Kids’ Care, a comprehensive before- and after-school childcare program. For more information, visit www.carlsbaded.org