

COX KIDS FOUNDATION AWARDS \$50,000 TO LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR *INNOVATION IN EDUCATION*

(SAN DIEGO) February 4, 2003 – **The Cox Kids Foundation** has **awarded \$50,000 in grants to 14 middle and junior high schools throughout San Diego County** recognized for having innovative classroom or school-wide programs. The Cox Kids Foundation's *Innovation in Education* grants will help schools purchase equipment and materials for projects that range from science and technology to the arts and literacy.

The philanthropic arm of Cox Communications, the Cox Kids Foundation is funded by employee donations that are matched 100% by the company. Since January 2000, the Cox Kids Foundation has contributed \$610,000 in grants and scholarships to schools, students and children's charities throughout San Diego County. This is the third year the Cox Kids Foundation has awarded \$50,000 in *Innovation in Education* grants to local schools.

Innovation in Education grant recipients were chosen by the foundation's board members who made site visits to the schools and interviewed teachers prior to making their selection. The board is comprised of a diverse group of Cox Communications employees who represent various socio, ethnic, economic, and educational backgrounds.

The 2003 *Innovation in Education* grant recipients are:

- **Aseltine School, San Diego - \$1,366.11** for a new science unit that will provide hands-on activities for special education students;
- **Chula Vista Middle School, Chula Vista - \$5,000**, Accelerated Reader program to increase literacy;

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- **Freese Elementary, San Diego - \$3,600**, Enhanced Literacy Through Video Technology program that will train sixth-graders in digital video technology, script writing and oral presentation to produce school news show;
- **Hidden Valley Middle School, Escondido - \$5,000**, GLOBE (Global Learning to Benefit the Environment) trains students to collect data and use satellite information for climate research and other earth sciences;
- **Hillsdale Middle School, El Cajon - \$2,600** for Mars Outpost, a classroom space exploration simulation where students use computers, software, robotics, the Internet and electronic sensors;
- **La Presa Middle School, Spring Valley - \$7,500** for a drama and theater arts program linking students with seniors;
- **La Presa Middle School, Spring Valley - \$500** for an after school game club that increases social and thinking skills, and disability awareness;
- **Mar Vista Middle School, San Diego - \$5,000** for the Health/Conflict Resolution/Tolerance Unit that teaches anger management and peer mediation, and celebrates diversity;
- **O'Farrell Community School, San Diego - \$950** for Metamorphous, a Publication on Demand technology that students use to write, publish and distribute a book nationally. Proceeds fund future projects and college scholarships;
- **Rancho del Rey Middle School, Chula Vista - \$4,085** for the Heritage Plant Communities Project, which enables students to restore native plants on campus and at a local open space preserve by working with teachers, park rangers and local biology experts;
- **Roosevelt Middle School, Oceanside - \$2,000** to help fund the Blue and Gray Ball, an eight-grade Civil War re-enactment that includes costumes, food, music, decorations, games and dances of the period to bring the Civil War era to life for students;
- **Roosevelt Middle School, Oceanside - \$5,000** for a video studio project that will offer daily school-wide video communications while giving students experience in broadcast journalism and video production;

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- **Washington Middle School, Vista - \$6,000** for the Character Counts program which teaches trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship;
- **Woodland Park Middle School, San Marcos - \$2,000** for classroom sets of algebra tiles that will be used for hands-on learning of concrete and abstract math concepts.

The Cox Kids Foundation is a fund of the San Diego Foundation.

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