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15th Annual Golden Apple Awards Celebrate Excellence in Education

The City of San Bernardino Mayor's Education RoundTable To Present 12 Awards To Local School District and College Employees

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – March 20, 2009 – At a time when social and economic forces continue to present tremendous challenges to the educational landscape, it is important to take the time to recognize those who are making a difference in the lives of California's future leaders with outstanding commitment and dedication to excellence in education. Twelve local educators will be recognized for their contributions at the 15th Annual Golden Apple Awards emceed by Mayor of San Bernardino, Patrick J. Morris on Wednesday, March 25th at 5:30 p.m. at the Hilton San Bernardino.

This year's Golden Apple award winners from San Bernardino Valley College, Cal State University San Bernardino and San Bernardino City Unified School District showcase the dedication and institution-wide collaboration necessary to provide excellence in education.

"In this time of expected budget decreases and current shrinking revenues, only together, by combining resources and talent, can we fully serve the youth of our community. The partners in the Education RoundTable understand that need for collaboration," said City of San Bernardino Mayor, Patrick J. Morris. "The people honored at this year's awards ceremony have taken their talents and brought the goal of the Education RoundTable to fruition; they have committed themselves to doing more with less. That's what collaboration is about - combining the resources we have to impact the most people possible. I am so delighted that the honorees have chosen to work here, in this city, to better the lives of our children and those of the entire community and I look forward to our continued collaboration."

More than 200 are expected to attend the event presented by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Additional sponsors include: Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Arrowhead Credit Union and Tom Dodson & Associates.

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The 2009 Golden Apple Award Winners (photos available upon request):

Amy Braceros – PAWS Coordinator, Records, Registration and Evaluation – Cal State University, San Bernardino

Kimberly Cousins – Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Natural Sciences – Cal State University, San Bernardino

Janet Kottke – Professor of Psychology, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences – Cal State University, San Bernardino

Virginia Stewart – Event Analyst, Coussoulis Arena – Cal State University, San Bernardino

Rose Garcia – Administrative Secretary, Science Division – San Bernardino Valley College

Joy Hadnot – Administrative Secretary, Counseling and Matriculation – San Bernardino Valley College

Leticia Hector – Associate Professor and Department Chair, Speech Department – San Bernardino Valley College

Carol Cook – Associate Professor, Physiology, Science Division – San Bernardino Valley College

Dr. Joann Tortarolo – Director, Alternative Programs – San Bernardino City Unified School District

Mohammad Islam – Chief Business and Financial Officer – San Bernardino City Unified School District

William Beshears – Teacher, Manuel A. Salinas Elementary School – San Bernardino City Unified School District

Aimee Lombardo – Secretary III, Special Education – San Bernardino City Unified School District

The Education RoundTable (ERT) is a consortium comprised of the mayor, Cal State University, San Bernardino President Al Karnig, San Bernardino Valley College President Debra Daniels, San Bernardino City Unified School District Superintendent Art Delgado, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Gary Thomas and San Bernardino Community College District Chancellor Dr. Noelia Vela. The ERT supports quality education in San Bernardino and promotes educational opportunities offered through the public school, college and university systems.

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