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National Group to Recognize Orange County’s Most Innovative Schools, Educators and Students

Awards process showcases innovative approaches to preparing students for 21st-century global marketplace

IRVINE, CA. (March 13, 2013) - Project Tomorrow, the nation’s leading nonprofit group focused on science, math and technology education, in partnership with the OC Tech Alliance, is calling for nominations from the Orange County community to recognize outstanding education programs, educators and students for their innovative uses of science, math and technology. The Annual Innovation in Education Awards process is open to all public and private schools in Orange County, and nomination forms are available on Project Tomorrow’s website, http://www.tomorrow.org/programs/innovationawards.html. The 2013 Innovation in Education Award recipients will be announced at the 20th Annual High-Tech Innovation Awards Dinner on Tuesday, October 15th, 2013 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa.

Project Tomorrow is seeking nominations in three categories this year:

- **Innovative Schoolwide Program of the Year in Science, Math & Technology** – distinguishing a public, private, or parochial school that demonstrates innovation with an outstanding, results-based schoolwide program

- **High Impact Teacher of the Year in Science, Math & Technology** – acknowledging the influence of a great teacher in his/her use of science, math or technology to significantly impact student academic achievement

- **Emerging Student Innovator of the Year in Science, Math & Technology** – recognizing current eighth grade or freshman, sophomore, and junior high school students who are creatively using science, math and technology resources to solve a school or community problem

“With all of the national discussion on global competitiveness, creating a career-ready workforce and improving education, this awards process provides a unique opportunity to celebrate and showcase Orange County school programs and teachers that are cultivating 21st-century skills as well as the students who are putting these essential skills to use to create innovative solutions to real problems,” says Julie Evans, Project Tomorrow’s CEO.
Nominations for the 2013 Project Tomorrow Innovation in Education awards may be self-submitted or submitted by a district and/or school staff person. Organizations such as a PTA unit, parent advisory committee, or any youth based organization(s) are also eligible to nominate. An independent review panel of local education and business leaders will select this year’s award recipients.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 29, 2013. Nomination forms may be submitted through the online application forms found at http://www.tomorrow.org/programs/innovationawards.html or sent via email to mkohl@tomorrow.org or fax to 949-609-4665. Award recipient finalists will be notified by Friday, May 3rd, 2013.

About Project Tomorrow

Project Tomorrow (www.tomorrow.org), a national education nonprofit organization headquartered in Irvine, California, supports the innovative uses of research-based science, math and technology resources to develop critical thinking, problem solving and creativity in K-12 students. Project Tomorrow addresses the challenges of developing schools for the 21st century through national research projects, community and school-based programs, online tools and resources, and advocacy efforts to ensure that all students are prepared to be tomorrow’s leaders, innovators and engaged citizens of the world.