

## FOUNDATION NEWS

### **Toyota USA Foundation Awards \$816,000 For Math And Science Initiatives**

July 24, 2001 -- Torrance, CA -- The Toyota USA Foundation recently approved grants totaling \$816,000 to fund five education programs designed to enhance the teaching of K-12 math and science throughout the United States.

Recipients of the awards include the Mathcounts Foundation in Virginia; Ohio State University's Education Outreach Programs; Center for Science Literacy at Oklahoma State University; Science Education Center at the University of Texas at Austin, and Take Stock in Children in Florida.

"We're pleased to support these five outstanding organizations that seek to build innovative math and science education programs," said Yoshi Inaba, president of Toyota USA Foundation. "Each of these programs addresses critical needs for students."

Funding of \$76,000 will enable Mathcounts Foundation to produce and distribute the 2001-2002 school year edition of the Mathcounts School Handbook. Distributed free of charge to 35,000 middle schools nationwide, the handbook is the centerpiece of the Mathcounts program.

A grant of \$50,000 will allow the Ohio State University's Education Outreach Programs at Lima, to develop "E-Quest," a hands-on, integrated environmental education program. The inquiry-based program will be used in alternative education sites for at-risk students.

The Center for Science Literacy at Oklahoma State University will receive \$200,000 over two years to fund the development of a professional development program for kindergarten through 10th grade teachers. The program, which will serve as a model for statewide systemic reform, will improve the teaching of science in under-funded, disadvantaged, inner-city schools in Tulsa.

The Science Education Center at the University of Texas at Austin will receive \$390,000 over a three-year period to initiate the Toyota USA -- Regional Collaborative Partnership, a project that will provide sustained professional development and mentoring for 1,800 kindergarten through 12th grade science teachers. Designed to assist teachers in meeting the state's curricular standards, the Texas Regional Collaboratives program requires participants to complete 105 hours of continuing education and provide mentoring to other teachers.

A grant of \$100,000 to Take Stock in Children in Jacksonville, Florida, will provide seed funding to create a multi-year initiative that targets 100 high-potential low-income sixth graders. The mathematics, science, and technology program will recruit and train 100 mentors to meet with the students on a weekly basis.

The Toyota USA Foundation is a \$35 million charitable endowment created and funded by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. It is dedicated to supporting innovative educational programs serving kindergarten through 12th grade in the United States -- with special emphasis on mathematics and science.

To request an application and guidelines, contact the Toyota USA Foundation at 19001 S. Western Ave., Torrance, Calif., 90509; call (310) 618-6766 or visit [www.toyota.com/foundation](http://www.toyota.com/foundation).

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