



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Junior League of DeKalb County Congratulates Recipients of
Mini Grants for Excellence in Education**

(DECATUR) November 30, 2010 – Each year the Junior League of DeKalb County, Inc. (“JLD”) offers K - 8 teachers in DeKalb County the opportunity to obtain funds to promote classroom innovation and engage students in critical thinking, inquiry and self-directed learning. Individual grants are awarded in amounts up to \$400. JLD selects and funds up to \$7,500 in Mini Grants each year. This program is one of JLD's primary means of promoting and supporting excellence in education. To date, JLD has donated approximately \$180,000 to fund creative and innovative teaching projects in DeKalb County classrooms.

JLD congratulates the following recipients of mini grants:

Jill Reiter, Briarlake Elementary School

Nonfiction Ninjas: Arming Deaf Students with Strategies to Decrypt Data

Alice Day, Brockett Elementary School

"One If By Land..."

Peggy A. Price and Jenny Au, Coralwood School

Handwriting Becomes Fun! Fine Motor Development through Multi-Sensory Learning

Mary Nevil and Jennifer Young, Knollwood Elementary School

Bluebird Bookstore

Melissa L. Jainchill, Oakcliff Traditional Theme School

Incorporating Social Learning and Higher Levels of Bloom's Taxonomy through Games

Christy B. Kramer, Briarlake Elementary School

Hands on History--Pueblo Pottery

Jean Ann Tonka, Briarlake Elementary School

Rockin' the Road to Rigby Reading!

LaShawn Jenkins, Kingsley Charter School
Homework Station

Roshelle Steans and Trina Lorenz, Briarlake Elementary School
Signing to Soar

Melissa McMillan, Briarlake Elementary School
Briarlake Beaver Book Buddies

Arietha Lockhart and Janie Alexander, Medlock Elementary School
Subtraction and Music

Diana M. Berry and Farren Avret, Briarlake Elementary School
Bridging the Gap

Malisa Davis, Briarlake Elementary School
Math Magic Mastery

Jaime Williams, Henderson Mill Elementary School
Cozy Reading Corner to Build a Love for Reading

Julia H. Grant, Wadsworth Magnet School for High Achievers
Where Am I? The Search for African American Characters in Contemporary Literature

Inetta Jackson, Meadowview Elementary School
Life Cycles: Through The Eyes of a Butterfly

Valerie Z. White, Marbut Elementary Theme School
Math Stop Signs

Rita Whidbee, Freedom Middle School
Looking Ahead: 8th Grade Takes College Tour

Janel H. Stover and Mary Jane Holbrook, Hawthorne Elementary School
Time for Science and Social Studies

Sabrina S. Adler, Knollwood Elementary School
Learning to Read Books, Love Books and Go Places

Barbara Rutledge and Joan Abraham, Princeton Elementary School
Eco-Art: Exploring Nature through Art

Rachel Torres and Rebecca Burnett, Henderson Middle School
Recycling Matters

Yolwana Lawrence and Tanyana J. Warner, Ronald E. McNair Discovery Learning Academy

Project ROCKS (Remediating Our Children's Knowledge and Skills)

Shenika D. Price and Kristen L. Drake, Hightower Elementary School

Homework Hero

Simone Kelly and Ruth Berberich, Livsey School

Oh, The Places You Will Go!

Lisa B. Taylor, Livsey School

Science Start Up

Latanya Fanion and Teresa Wittingham, Atherton Elementary

Project RAMP (Reading and Math Progress)

Patricia A. Smith, Oakcliff Traditional Theme School

Literature Days

Educators who submitted proposals selected for funding were honored at a reception on November 18 at the Mary Gay House, JLD's headquarters.

"We received so many wonderful proposals this year. It really showed how lucky we are in DeKalb County to have such dedicated teaching professionals," said Amy Hawkins Morelli, Chair of the Community Development Committee, which administers the grant program.

"I am so impressed with what these educators are able to accomplish with limited funds," said JLD President Christa Sobon.

Mini grants are funded through programs such as JLD's Giving Gala annual auction event. Giving Gala will be on April 1, 2011 at the historic Old Courthouse on the Square in Decatur. Please visit www.jldekalb.org for more information.

Congratulations to our 2010-2011 winners!