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**Project Tomorrow and AeA Announce Finalists for 2007 Innovation in Education Awards**

*Awards sponsored by Emulex recognize education leaders and students  
for innovation in Science, Math and Technology*

**Irvine, Calif., May 8, 2007** – Project Tomorrow, a national education nonprofit organization, today announced the finalists for the 2007 Innovation in Education awards. The annual award process done in partnership with the Orange County Council of AeA recognizes education leaders and students for their innovative uses of science, math and technology in the classroom and community. For the first time, the awards are being sponsored by Emulex Corporation with a \$2,500 college scholarship being provided to the “Emerging Student Innovator.”

“In today’s competitive global economy, it is essential that our students are well prepared, especially in science, math and technology, to compete with students around the world,” said Julie Evans, chief executive officer of Project Tomorrow. “We are especially proud to work with our sponsor Emulex Corporation to present the awards to some extraordinary education leaders here in Orange County who are committed to providing the high quality education needed to develop the innovation workforce of tomorrow.”

The sponsorship of the 2007 Awards program by Emulex Corporation allowed Project Tomorrow to expand the awards program to every school and district in Orange County, and to create the new category recognizing how students are using science, math and technology to solve community or school problems.

“Emulex is proud to be a sponsor of Project Tomorrow, a unique organization committed to encouraging innovation in the areas of science, math and technology to help develop critical thinking, problem solving and creativity in K-12 students throughout Orange County,” said Jim McCluney, president and chief executive officer of Emulex Corporation. “The Innovation in Education Awards are an important way for Emulex to support the future of Orange County and its next generation of technology leaders.”

The second annual Innovation in Education Awards will acknowledge four recipients including one student for their innovation in science, math and technology. The finalists in all categories are listed below:

**Project Tomorrow: District Leadership in Science, Math and Technology**

Dr. Theresa Daem, superintendent, Laguna Beach Unified School District

**Project Tomorrow: Emerging Student Innovator**

Katherine L. Bower, Brea Olinda High School, Brea Olinda Unified School District

Marshall Thomas, Laguna Beach High School, Laguna Beach Unified School District

## **2-2-2 Project Tomorrow Announces Finalists for 2007 Innovation in Education Awards**

Jason Youdeem, Foothill High School, Tustin Unified School District

### **Project Tomorrow: High Impact Teacher in Science, Math and Technology**

Amanda Donnell, Andersen Elementary School, Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Janice Hopper, Century High School, Santa Ana Unified School District

Jeffrey Lee, Arthur F. Corey Elementary School, Buena Park Unified School District

Holly Steele, Beechwood School, Fullerton School District

### **Project Tomorrow: Innovative School Program in Science, Math and Technology**

Jerry Halpin, principal, Brea Olinda High School Global IT Academy, Brea Olinda Unified School District

Lucinda Nares Pueblos, principal, Lathrop Technology Magnet School, Santa Ana Unified School District

Jacqueline Pearce, principal, Robert C. Fidler School, Fullerton School District

Ginny Trapani, principal, Yorba Linda Middle School, Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

Project Tomorrow received 37 nominees for this year's awards representing schools and districts throughout Orange County. The finalists were reviewed by a national panel which included Dr. Kevin Daly of MAXxess, Inc., Karen Greenwood Henke of Nimble Press, Marina Leight of Center for Digital Education, Jeanie Luckenbaugh of Emulex Corporation and Sue Neuen of Science@OC at California Science Center.

The award recipients will be revealed on May 10, 2007 in conjunction with the AeA Orange County and Inland Empire High-Tech Innovation Awards at the Fairmont Hotel in Newport Beach. Individual tickets prices for the recognition event are \$125 for AeA members and \$150 for non-members. Tables of 12 are still available for \$1,200 for AeA members and \$1,500 for non-members. To register for the event, please contact [Leah Van Zee](#) or call (949) 477-5300.

### **About Project Tomorrow**

Project Tomorrow is a national education nonprofit group headquartered in Orange County. The vision of Project Tomorrow is insure that today's students are well prepared to be tomorrow's innovators, leaders and engaged citizens of the world. We believe that by supporting the innovative uses of science, math and technology resources in our K-12 schools and communities, students will develop the critical thinking, problem solving and creativity skills needed to compete and thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We approach our mission through national research projects, the replication of model excellence projects in schools and communities, online tools and resources for students, teachers and parents, and national and regional advocacy efforts. For more information about Project Tomorrow and our Innovation in Education Awards, please visit [www.tomorrow.org](http://www.tomorrow.org).

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