



Carlsbad Educational Foundation  
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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Carlsbad Educational Foundation Supports Science Olympiad Program**

### ***Beckman Coulter Foundation and McCarthy Family Foundation Grants Support Hands-On Science at Three Middle Schools & Carlsbad High***

**Carlsbad, CA** – [Carlsbad Educational Foundation \(CEF\)](#), a non-profit organization devoted to developing and launching educational and enrichment programs for nearly 11,000 Carlsbad students, announces continued support for the Science Olympiad program at all three Carlsbad middle schools and Carlsbad High School during the 2010-2011 school year. [Science Olympiad](#) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of science education through “academic track meets” where a cross-section of students participates in tournaments that foster teamwork and collaboration.

This program, which reinforces one of CEF’s goals to enrich education through increased hands-on science, is being made possible through generous grants from the Beckman Coulter Foundation and McCarthy Family Foundation. Specifically, the grant from Beckman Coulter provided the necessary funds to sponsor 10 teams across CUSD’s three middle schools: Aviara Oaks, Calavera Hills and Valley Middle Schools.

An additional grant from the McCarthy Family Foundation provided the necessary funding to support the second-year continuation of two Science Olympiad teams at Carlsbad High School. Both grants have provided valuable assistance in covering costs associated with team registration fees, competition-related supplies and coaching stipends for each lead coach.

“The Carlsbad Educational Foundation is thrilled to continue its partnership with the Beckman Coulter Foundation to support the Science Olympiad program at our middle schools,” said Valin Brown, CEO of the Carlsbad Educational Foundation. “At the same time, we are indebted to the McCarthy Family Foundation for making it possible to provide ongoing support for Science Olympiad at the high school level as a tremendous way for students to continue their passion for hands-on science in the upper grades.”

For more than a quarter century, Science Olympiad has helped create a passion for learning that has led to a revolution in science education. Each tournament includes keenly balanced elements from the various science disciplines, including chemistry, biology and physics. The San Diego County Regional Science Olympiad Competition for Division B, which encompasses CUSD middle schools, took place on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at Rancho Bernardo High School. The San Diego County Regional Science Olympiad Competition at the high school level takes place Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at Del Norte High School in Poway.

At the February 5<sup>th</sup> competition, Valley Middle School placed 14<sup>th</sup> out of 30 regional schools. Individually, students from all three middle schools placed in the top 20 across a variety of

individual test, build, and lab events. A total of 86 teams from regional schools competed in more than 20 competitive events.

The goal of [Science Olympiad](#) is to create a passion for learning science and recognize high levels of academic achievement by motivated students in an exciting and challenging extra-curricular enrichment program. Since 1984, Science Olympiad has led a revolution in science education. What began as a grassroots assembly of science teachers now is one of the premiere science competitions in the nation. In 2011, there are 6,000 secondary schools from 49 states participating in the Science Olympiad National Tournament with an additional 10,000 elementary schools holding tournaments or other hands-on events.

#### **About the Beckman Coulter Foundation**

The Beckman Coulter Foundation is a charitable organization established by Beckman Coulter Inc. Its mission is to fulfill and support Beckman Coulter's philanthropic goals. The Beckman Coulter Foundation is a separate, private foundation established in 2007 as an important part of Beckman Coulter Inc's charitable giving efforts. The Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of Beckman Coulter Inc. by funding programs that are focused around science, science education and healthcare-related research that improves patient health and the quality of life. For more information, visit [beckmancoulterfoundation.org](http://beckmancoulterfoundation.org)

#### **About the McCarthy Family Foundation**

The McCarthy Family Foundation is a small private foundation established in 1988. Organized as a California public benefit nonprofit corporation, it operates from San Diego. Officers and directors are members of the McCarthy extended family (two generations). The foundation operates without permanent staff and its directors serve without compensation for administration and grant evaluation purposes. Originally funded with \$1 million, foundation assets have grown from additional family contributions and investment results to approximately \$8.8 million at the end of 2009. For more information, visit [mccarthyfamilyfdn.org](http://mccarthyfamilyfdn.org).

#### **About the Carlsbad Educational Foundation**

The [Carlsbad Educational Foundation](#) (CEF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was founded in 1983 to raise private support for public education and the enrichment of more than 10,000 students in the Carlsbad Unified School District. CEF develops, conducts and finances innovative, quality educational programs and projects. Since its inception, the foundation has contributed nearly \$5 million in funds to Carlsbad schools, primarily for science, technology, arts and reading. In 2010 alone, the foundation released nearly half a million dollars in support of K-5 music programs, hands-on science, and educationally innovative programs. CEF also operates a Summer Enrichment Program as well as Kids' Care, a comprehensive before- and after-school childcare program. For more information, visit [www.carlsbaded.org](http://www.carlsbaded.org).

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