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**MIND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES HONOREES FOR
10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AWARDS DINNER NEXT MONTH**

Outstanding local philanthropists, Cisco Systems, Inc., and students and educators from high performing schools participating in MIND's math education programs receive honors

SANTA ANA, CA, Sept. 16, 2008 – The non-profit neuroscience and education research based corporation MIND Research Institute announced the local honorees for its 10th Anniversary Celebration Awards Dinner being held at the Irvine Hyatt Regency Hotel on October 10. It will honor Laguna Beach philanthropists Ted and Janice Smith with the “Gordon L. Shaw Lifetime Achievement Award” and Cisco Systems, Inc., with an “Outstanding Corporate Partner Award.” MIND Research is also honoring a select group of local teachers, principals and students. The 2008 Awards Dinner Committee is co-chaired by Michelle Horowitz and Janet M. Ray, who are leading the 36-member volunteer dinner committee.

MIND Research provides award-winning mathematics education programs to more than 400 K to 12 schools, helping 72,000 students in 19 states improve their performance in math. Proven with over 10 years of successful classroom use, MIND's innovative *ST Math*[™] software dramatically raises student proficiency on standardized math tests for all students, regardless of their academic level or economic, cultural, and language background. Through MIND's visual, language-independent approach, students successfully gain the problem-solving skills that are so critical for their future success.

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Among MIND's school awards is a special "Outstanding Math and Music Student" award for Justin Spence, a Mountain View High School student in El Monte, who first used MIND's program in third grade at La Primaria Elementary School in Los Angeles. "Outstanding Teacher Awards" will be presented to: Melissa Luis of Madison Elementary in Redondo Beach Unified, and Michael Baker, Technology Coordinator of King Elementary in Santa Ana. "Outstanding Student Awards" will be presented to: Esteban Nuñez, a fourth grader from Monte Vista Elementary in Highland Park during the 2007-2008 school year, and Ezrie McCurry, a second grader from Walnut Elementary in San Gabriel Valley during the 2007-2008 school year. "Honorable Mentions" will be awarded to: Bruce Clark, Principal of Los Angeles Elementary in Los Angeles; Dr. Chuck Lewis, Principal of Key Elementary in Anaheim; and Tina Montemer, Arts and Technology Coordinator for Mary Butler Elementary in Long Beach.

Recipients of MIND's "Gordon L. Shaw Lifetime Achievement Award" Ted and Janice Smith, husband and wife, are known throughout the community for their dedication to organizations in the education and the arts. Their strong sense of patriotism and untiring responsibility to their community brought them to the MIND Research Institute in 2000 and is a major reason for MIND's success in reaching as many children as possible with innovative education programs. Ted Smith is the Chairman and CEO of MIND Research Institute. He is the founder and retired CEO of one of the largest software companies in Southern California, FileNet. Janice Smith co-chaired MIND's 2005 Awards Dinner and has been on the Awards Dinner Committee every year. The Smiths have donated several million dollars to community organizations and have spent even more countless hours volunteering. Ted and Janice also jointly won Orange County's Spirit of Philanthropy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005.

MIND Research is pleased to honor Cisco Systems, Inc., for its outstanding and generous support of MIND's programs with the "Outstanding Corporate Partner Award." Cisco's 2007 gift of \$500,000 funded the upgrade of MIND's math education programs to make them deliverable online over the Internet. With Cisco's support,

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MIND Research was able to improve the efficiency of operations and program delivery. Combined with a large product grant, Cisco's support to the MIND Research represents a million-dollar investment in MIND's work. Prior giving from the Cisco Foundation includes a \$50,000 grant in 2004 to expand MIND's *ST Math+Music*TM program to additional California schools, and an \$89,000 product donation in 2005 to help build hardware to manage MIND's rapid growth in numbers of participating students.

"MIND Research is delivering a program that has a clear and replicable impact on the math and problem-solving skills of today's children," stated Michael Yutrzeuka, Executive Director of the Cisco Foundation. "We are delighted to accept this award and are honored to be a part of the important work of the MIND Research Institute. This program will help arm future generations with the basic math and problem solving skills required to compete in a global economy in the 21st century."

School Honoree Details:

Outstanding Honorary Music and Math Student Justin Spence from Mountain View High School in the El Monte Union High School District: Spence's brilliance was first discovered in 3rd grade when his school began using MIND's math software. He whizzed through 76 puzzles of the most difficult math challenge game in just 27 minutes – a feat of pure genius. His accomplishment was mentioned in the *Neurological Research* journal. For the first time, he was labeled gifted instead of struggling. He gained confidence and soared to the top of his class in every subject. Spence is now an accomplished musician who plays numerous instruments, including flute, piano, and concert level oboe.

Outstanding Student Esteban Nunez, a fourth grader in 2007-2008, at Monte Vista Street Elementary, a Highland Park School in the Los Angeles Unified School District: An English Language Learner, Nunez's math test scores dramatically improved after using *ST Math*. Nunez's favorite subject is now math. His teacher said Nunez has become a "math whiz" and is now recognized by his classmates as excellent in math.

Outstanding Student Ezrie McCurry, a second grader in 2007-2008, at Walnut Elementary, in the Walnut Valley Unified School District (Los Angeles): McCurry comes

from a diverse background that includes Chinese, Mexican, and European. Her teacher classified her as an eager learner and a self-motivated hard worker with great leadership skills. Her classmates often turn to her for help. Participating in MIND's math program, she has learned to be patient and that "slow and steady wins the race." The program allowed her to further excel in math in a fun, interactive way.

Outstanding Teacher Melissa Luis, from Madison Elementary in the Redondo Beach Unified School District (Los Angeles): Luis taught for eight years, always committed to students' success in learning math. She setup an after-school program with *ST Math* as an intervention for students who were struggling so that every child could learn with the software. Luis stated that students love the math games so much that they don't want to miss school. She is also thrilled with the higher test scores they are achieving with the program.

Outstanding Teacher Michael Baker, Technology Coordinator, at King Elementary in the Santa Ana Unified School District (Orange County): Baker, the Technology Coordinator at King, coordinates the school's use of *ST Math*, including tracking every classes' performance using the software. His principal applauded him for holding teachers accountable for their progress through the software, as well as creating a wall chart for the school's progress in *ST Math*, focusing on group progress. Baker's students are enjoying math and are motivated to learn with the program, which has contributed to the school's higher test scores.

The 2008 Awards Dinner is MIND's annual fundraising event and includes a live auction, entertainment, dinner, awards ceremony and fund-a-school auction. Sponsorships are available for \$25,000; \$12,000; \$6,000; \$3,000 and \$1,500. Individual ticket prices are \$300 each. Lead sponsors of the event include: David and Michelle Horowitz; Marc Levin; Microsemi Corporation; Noelle Marketing Group; Bill and Pat Podlich; Walkie and Janet M. Ray; and Ted and Janice Smith. Additional major sponsors include: Boeing Company; Maureen and Emil Brolick; Budge and Carol Collins; Emulex Corporation; Ellie and Mike Gordon; Paul and Lilly Merage; Sherry and John Phelan; Samueli Foundation; David and Sandy Stone; The Dirk Family - TROY Group Inc.; US

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Bank; and YUM! Brands Foundation. For information about the event, contact Maria Cervantes at (714) 751-5443, ext. 239, or visit MIND's website at www.mindresearch.net.

The MIND Research Institute is a neuroscience and education research based, non-profit corporation. MIND applies its distinctive visual approach to illustrating concepts and building problem-solving skills as the basis for innovative, research-proven math education programs for elementary and secondary schools. The programs include the *ST Math*[™] patent-pending instructional software for K-5 students, *ST Math*[™]: *Algebra Readiness* for intervention at the secondary level, and *Algebra Readiness: Blueprint for the Foundation of Algebra* a comprehensive program featuring a textbook and integrated courseware. The visual approach taps into each student's innate ability to do spatial-temporal (ST) reasoning and problem-solving, and is effective at engaging students at all levels of language or academic proficiency. There are currently 400 schools in California, Texas and 17 other states, and more than 70,000 students and 4,500 teachers participating in the program.

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