



RAFT "HANDS-ON" RECOGNITION PROGRAM
Celebrating Great Teaching Projects – During and After School!

San Jose, Calif. – August 6, 2010

News Facts:

- This Fall 2010, RAFT is launching a new "Hands-On" member recognition program that highlights exciting inquiry-based activities which help students become enthusiastic about learning and achieve their educational aspirations.
- RAFT is dedicating this year to a celebration of great teaching – both inside and outside of the classroom. Our membership of over 9,000 educators represents a diverse base ranging from traditional classroom teachers to home school providers, after-school program instructors, and members of community-based organizations such as the Girl and Boy Scouts with educational programs for children and youth.

"Hands-On" Award Program

- RAFT's "Hands-On" awards will recognize exceptional collaborative and inquiry-based teaching projects and activities that RAFT members bring to young learners.
- Awards will be given quarterly based on member project submissions as well as RAFT staff observation of exciting learning activities developed in our project "Green Rooms."
- One member per quarter at each of RAFT's Bay Area Learning Resource Centers (San Jose and Redwood City) will be selected as "Hands-On" award recipients. Each winner will receive a 2-year paid membership to RAFT, framed award certificates, and a flip camera.
- RAFT members submit a learning project or activity and a committee comprised of RAFT board members and senior staff, educators and community leaders will review submissions and name two quarterly winners. See the award submission form for additional information and details.
- Winners and project descriptions will be recognized on RAFT's website, in RAFT announcements and marketing materials, and at each RAFT location's Green Room to help inspire others.
- "Hands On" project submission forms are available at www.RAFT.net.

Supporting Quote:

- "As education that has traditionally taken place in classrooms continues to evolve, creating quality experiences that engage young learners in approachable ways that are appropriate for lots of education settings is a critical imperative," said Mary Simon, RAFT Executive Director. "The 'hands-on' teaching approach has been proven to increase student motivation and achievement. RAFT's 'Hands-On' award recognizes the best of our members' creativity and innovation in encouraging hands-on 21st Century learning in classrooms, after-school and community-based programs. Together, we can create the 21st Century learning environment of the future."

For more information about RAFT, go to www.raft.net.



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Affiliate RAFT Organizations
Sacramento, CA
and Denver, CO