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**VALLEY FORWARD ASSOCIATION AND UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX OFFER
TWO FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ARIZONA TEACHERS**

PHOENIX (Sept. 2, 2010) – Valley Forward Association, in partnership with University of Phoenix, is offering two full-tuition scholarships to Arizona K-12 teachers in an effort to expand its environmental education outreach. Each scholarship will allow a prospective student the opportunity to obtain a Master of Arts in Education (MAED) degree at University of Phoenix.

The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide educational opportunities to local teachers who have demonstrated sustainable practices in their classroom and want to continue to make a difference in their community. This opportunity is being offered in conjunction with Valley Forward's sixth annual EarthFest Educators Night, where K-12 teachers will receive complimentary resources on environmental education that meet state standards and learn how to green their school. Educators can apply for the scholarship at the event, presented in partnership with Intel Corporation and the Helios Education Foundation.

Held at The Phoenix Zoo on Sept. 16, this innovative event combines entertainment and education, showcasing environmentally oriented curriculum, activities and programs on Arizona's unique desert character. More than 50 booths representing public and private sector environmental education programs, along with exhibits from the non-profit and educational communities, will be featured. Other attractions for teachers include giveaways, complimentary refreshments and resources that help in the classroom.

“Our local teachers have done so much for our community with fewer resources, and many have gone above and beyond to educate their students about the importance of sustainability,” said Diane Brossart, president of Valley Forward Association. “We are thrilled to be partnering with University of Phoenix to offer educators the opportunity to further their own education.”

University of Phoenix's MAED degree program is designed to meet the specific needs of educators through eight different specializations. Each area of specialization offers courses to enhance and refine the skills of the individual, whether an administrator, a classroom teacher or a corporate trainer. Scholarship recipients may attend classes on campus or online.

The scholarship application deadline is Oct. 22, 2010, and recipients will be announced by Nov. 12, 2010. To obtain a copy of University of Phoenix's Valley Forward Scholarship application, teachers can visit valleyforward.org or phoenix.edu/scholarships.

(more)

About Valley Forward Association

Valley Forward Association is a 41-year-old non-profit environmental public interest organization that brings business and civic leaders together to convene thoughtful public dialogue on regional issues, and to promote cooperative efforts to improve the sustainability and livability of Valley communities. In addition to environmental education, the Association's basic agenda includes: land use planning and open space initiatives, transportation and air quality issues, water management and energy.

About University of Phoenix

University of Phoenix is constantly innovating to help students balance education and life in a rapidly changing world. Through flexible schedules, challenging courses and interactive learning, students achieve personal and career aspirations without putting their lives on hold. As of May 31, 2010, 476,500 students were enrolled at University of Phoenix, the largest private university in North America. University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs from campuses and learning centers across the U.S. as well as online throughout the world.

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