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Contact: Heidi Normandin
303.299.3629/hnormandin@ecs.org

ECS Honors Scholastic with 2013 Corporate Award

DENVER – The Education Commission of the States (ECS) will present its 2013 Corporate Award to Scholastic Inc. for the company’s commitment to encouraging a love of reading and learning in children, particularly children from low-income families. The award will be presented June 26 at the 2013 ECS National Forum on Education Policy in St. Louis, Missouri.

The ECS Corporate Award honors nonprofit organizations and for-profit corporations that have demonstrated a sustained commitment to, and investment in, improving public education—particularly efforts that reach underserved students. Scholastic is committed to ensuring every child has books of his or her own at home and donates about six million books each year to low-income children. The Company reaches children in need all over the world through their long-time partnerships with organizations like Reach Out and Read and Room to Read.

“We know our youngest learners fall behind if they don’t read regularly. Scholastic has moved beyond the school setting to make sure those kids whose parents can’t afford books are reading at home. Scholastic’s philanthropic work has improved the lives of millions of children across the globe,” ECS President Jeremy Anderson said.

Scholastic also provides vital support to teachers, such as the recent donation of free lesson plans and one million new children’s books to schools and libraries affected by Hurricane Sandy. The company also partners with governors’ spouses nationwide through the Scholastic Summer Challenge, a free program designed to help stop learning losses during summer months by encouraging more reading. To gain a greater understanding of families’ perspectives on reading, Scholastic surveys parents and children biannually about their reading behaviors and attitudes, access to books, and e-reading. The findings from the fourth edition of this survey, known as the Kids & Family Reading Report™, were released earlier this year.

“At Scholastic, it is our firm belief that literacy is the birthright of every child. Yet three-fourths of our students do not read proficiently and that is a statistic we are determined to change through our work in classrooms and communities everywhere,” noted Margery Mayer, President of Scholastic Education. “The ECS Corporate Award is a validation of our role as a trusted partner for teachers, families, schools...
and local leaders to ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn, grow and live a successful life.”

The ECS Corporate Award was created under the leadership of former Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer, the 1999-2000 ECS Chair. Ms. Mayer will accept the award on behalf of Scholastic.

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About ECS

ECS is the only nationwide, nonpartisan organization that works directly with governors, legislators, chief state school officers, higher education officials, and other leaders across all areas of education, from pre-K to college and the workforce. Since 1965, we have tracked policy, translated research, provided unbiased advice, and created opportunities for state policymakers to learn from one another. ECS is located in Denver and maintains the nation’s most extensive clearinghouse on education policy.

About Scholastic

Scholastic Corporation (NASDAQ: SCHL) is the world’s largest publisher and distributor of children’s books and a leader in educational technology and related services and children’s media. Scholastic creates quality books and ebooks, print and technology-based learning materials and programs, magazines, multi-media, and other products that help children learn both at school and at home. The Company distributes its products and services worldwide through a variety of channels, including school-based book clubs and book fairs, retail stores, schools, libraries, on-air, and online at www.scholastic.com.

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