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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOLDEN BOARDING PASS GRAND PRIZE WINNER ANNOUNCED

Smithsonian Student Travel announces the grand prize winner in the Golden Boarding Pass sweepstakes.

Cambridge, MA / May 10, 2010 – Jon Plum, a sixth-grade World Cultures teacher from Spring, Texas, has won a free trip for 10 from educational tour company Smithsonian Student Travel.

Plum is the grand prize winner of Smithsonian Student Travel's Golden Boarding Pass sweepstakes. The prize is an all-inclusive, free trip for ten students and Plum to Washington, D.C. in 2011. Plum will use an essay contest to decide which students will go on the trip.

Plum said, "I am so excited and blessed to be able to offer such a great educational gift to my students. This is huge for our kids here at Dueitt Middle School and for me as an educator. How often do most teachers have the opportunity to show kids all the wonderful things they talk about in class up close and personal? What a powerful tool for a teacher and opportunity for their kids!"

Also a seventh- and eighth-grade football and track coach, Plum said, "I truly believe this will be a once in a lifetime experience for some who may have never been able to take this journey without the help of Smithsonian Student Travel."

Plum came across the sweepstakes on the Smithsonian Student Travel website. He said, "I have been looking for ways to allow kids in our school the opportunity to experience history on a personal level. I was searching through many programs that offered student travel, and I came along the Smithsonian Student Travel program. I saw the contest on your website and thought this would be so cool because the Smithsonian is such great institution of history!"

Seventeen teachers were winners in the Golden Boarding Pass sweepstakes. Ten iPods, four VIP tours of the Smithsonian Institution and two Golden Trip Travel Scholarships were awarded by Smithsonian Student Travel.

Smithsonian Student Travel combines the educational resources of the Smithsonian Institution with the travel expertise of EF Education First to create educationally-enhanced tours for students and teachers. Smithsonian Student Travel student trips are operated by EF Education First, the world's largest private education organization with 45 years experience. EF's North American headquarters are in Cambridge, MA, though the company spans the globe with hundreds of offices in more than 50 countries, a staff of over 29,000 employees, teachers and volunteers.

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