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Nine Teachers Win National Contest

Great American Financial Resources Announces Winners for The Great American Classroom Makeover

CINCINNATI, OHIO – January 5, 2009 – Great American Financial Resources, Inc., a member of the Great American Insurance Group family of companies, has announced the winners of The Great American Classroom Makeover. The national contest gives educators across the country the opportunity to nominate their classrooms to receive up to \$2,000 to purchase needed items or upgrade their rooms.

“According to the National School Supply and Equipment Association, teachers spend more than \$1 billion of their own money each year for classroom supplies and items for their students,” said Tom Maxey, President, 403(b) and 457 Market, Great American Financial Resources. “This program is an opportunity for us to provide additional support to teachers who are striving to create positive, engaging learning environments for their students.”

Winning teachers will receive a cash award for classroom updates and supplies, a one-year subscription to the Great American Teachers’ Club (a membership-based resource site through the Ron Clark Academy), and a one-year membership to a discount benefit program.

Grand prize winners were selected from hundreds of entries across the United States. These winners will receive \$2,000 for their classrooms:

- **Cynthia Haydon, Union Elementary, Petaluma, CA**
Ms. Haydon requested funding to rebuild the student storage space in the 113-year-old, one-room school house where her classroom is located.
- **Jennifer Criswell, RJ Wollam Elementary, Sante Fe, TX**
After their school suffered damage from Hurricane Ike, Ms. Criswell’s students are bunking in a vacant space at the junior high with no desks or bookshelves.
- **Pati Harper, LEARN, Oakdale, CT**
Ms. Harper wants to make her renovated strip mall classroom more accessible for her students with multiple disabilities.
- **Terri Bradshaw, Harold R. Walker Elementary School, Canton, OH**
Ms. Bradshaw’s classroom is a “locker room turned art room” that is in need of renovations that will allow the elementary art program to continue to inspire creativity.
- **Yvonne Edman, Borrego Springs Elementary, Borrego Springs, CA**
Ms. Edman needs new computers and educational programs to assist her special needs students.

There were also four honorable mentions chosen who will receive \$1,000 cash awards for classroom needs:

- Amber Belbachir, Laura Ferrell Learning Center, Franklin, OH
- Jessyca Mathews, Carman-Ainsworth High School, Flint, MI
- Sonya Boyles, John T. Simpson Academy Alternative Center for Education, Easley, SC
- Steve Middleton, Crook County High School, Prineville, OR

Great American Financial Resources representatives will be visiting the winning teachers throughout the month of January to present the awards. For more information on the winners, please visit

www.gaclassroommakeover.com.

About Great American Financial Resources:

The companies of **Great American Financial Resources, Inc.** (GAFRI) have provided retirement solutions for educators for more than 30 years. Through its subsidiaries, GAFRI is engaged in the sale of traditional fixed, indexed and variable annuities and a variety of supplemental insurance products. GAFRI is a subsidiary of American Financial Group, Inc. (AFG), based in Cincinnati, Ohio. AFG's common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and Nasdaq under the symbol ("AFG"). *An American Company Serving America's Educators*, GAFRI is proud to recognize and support educators nationwide who make the future brighter for our children. For more information, visit **www.GAFRI.com**.

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