

NEWS RELEASE

Broadmoor Charter School Board

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ASSESSOR NANCY MARSHALL DONATES XO LAPTOP COMPUTERS TO EVERY 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH GRADE STUDENT OF BROADMOOR'S ANDREW H. WILSON CHARTER SCHOOL

New Orleans, April 30, 2008 – A press conference will be held today at 2:30pm at Broadmoor's Andrew H. Wilson Charter School (temporary location) 1111 Milan Street with Assessor Nancy Marshall to announce a donation of eighty XO laptop computers, one to every 3rd, 4th and 5th grade student of Wilson Charter School.

The XO laptop, conceived at the Media Lab of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and developed and manufactured by OLPC and its technology partners, has been created specifically for children in developing countries. It affords them the opportunity to learn, regardless of their environmental conditions. The distinctive green and white plastic laptop, weighing in at 3 pounds, is known to be kid proof – it can be dropped repeatedly, submerged in water, and still work. The XO laptop screen makes it easy for children to read outdoors in bright sunlight and can also be charged with solar panel or hand crank.

Upholding the vision that every child can learn when given the tools and support, Assessor Marshall took advantage of the opportunity to impact the lives of children in her district by bridging the technological gap through the One Laptop Per Child Foundation; using her salary to purchase 175 XO laptop computers for Wilson Charter School students, Assessor Marshall says, "There is no greater investment than our children".

By the end of her term she will have purchased 850 laptop computers, enough to provide computers for every child at Wilson Charter School and at least one other school. She welcomes participation by others, as it would be wonderful to provide every grammar school child with his or her own laptop. Interested donors should contact the Broadmoor Improvement Association at (504) 309-2561.

Sheila Thomas, the principal of Broadmoor's Wilson Charter, believes the XO laptop computers will have a positive impact on the academic achievement of the school's 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students, "The XO laptop computers will be used as a powerful instructional tool as our children move from one grade to the next and acquire the technological skills needed to compete in the larger world".

Connie Yeaton, chair of the Broadmoor Charter School Board, is grateful that this advanced technology is being made available to the students of Wilson School, "On behalf of the Broadmoor Charter School Board we really feel blessed by the dedication of Nancy Marshall and the many people who have helped service Wilson Charter School in the Broadmoor community. Our school has reached a new plateau and our children will now have an opportunity to become technologically savvy at an early age".

“This is a great day for students of Wilson and the Broadmoor community as we work towards our goal of providing every Wilson student with a laptop and every residential household with access to technology. Nancy Marshall is a true partner dedicated to assisting Broadmoor pave the road to 21st century technology”, says LaToya Cantrell, president of the Broadmoor Improvement Association.

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