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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Encouraging the Next Generation of Innovators**

As computer components get smaller and climate change concerns get bigger, employees with technical degrees are in demand more than ever before. As a step to expose high school students to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers, Great Minds in STEM™ and The Boeing Company are partnering to bring the nationally acclaimed Viva Technology Program to Oak View School High School in Huntington Beach, CA.

Viva Technology is designed to engage students, parents and teachers in activities that stimulate their interest in the applications of technology and provide a STEM career focused path to higher education. It also helps students understand the correlation between their math and science studies and the many exciting careers in technology.

Working together, The Boeing Company and Great Minds in STEM™ will use the Viva Technology's innovative program to inspire young minds to pursue careers STEM. The Viva Technology Program consists of two separate elements. A parent portion will take place on Thursday, April 1, 2010, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The parent portion will feature an orientation where they will receive information about what their child will learn from participating in the program, why encouraging student in math and science will positively impact their child's future and what STEM career opportunities lie ahead for these youth.

The student portion will take place on Friday, April 2, 2010, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program will feature professional guest speaker Alejandro "Alex" M. Lopez Vice President, Advanced Network and Space Systems, Phantom Works, Boeing Defense, Space and Security & Great Minds in STEM™ Board Member who will share his background and experience to expose students to the many opportunities available to them and to introduce students to the work The Boeing Company produces for our country. Additionally, students will experience a day filled with hands-on competitive and educational exercises designed to explore math and science concepts. Students will work in teams led by engineering and science college students from surrounding universities and colleges.

It is through programs such as Viva Technology that Great Minds in STEM™ fulfills its vision to "Keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers especially in underserved communities."

For more information, please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org).

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