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**For Immediate Release**

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**Great Minds in STEM,™ in Partnership with the United States Air Force, brings the Viva Technology™ Student Day and Student/Community Assembly to the city of Santa Ana, CA**

Great Minds in STEM™ and the U.S. Air Force are partnering™ to bring the nationally acclaimed Viva Technology™ Program to the students of the Santa Ana Unified School District in Santa Ana, CA. The U.S. Air Force and Viva Technology Program aim to inspire students to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers by putting them face-to-face with local community based organizations sharing resources available in the local area.

Viva Technology™ is Great Minds in STEM's National K-12 STEM Education Awareness Program. Making an impact in hundreds of households across the United States, the program 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.

The Viva Technology™ Program consists of three separate elements. Sierra Intermediate School will host a Parent Orientation and Full Student Day, and all three schools will take part in the Student/Community Assembly at the Delhi Community Center. The Parent Orientation portion will take place on **Wednesday, May 25, 2011**, from **6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** The Student Day portion will take place on **Thursday, May 26, 2011**, from **8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** and the Student/Community Assembly will take place on **Friday, May 27, 2011** from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the Delhi Community Center.

The Parent Orientation will feature a presentation where parents will receive information about what their child will learn from participating in the program, why encouraging student interest in math and science will positively impact their child's future and what STEM career opportunities lie ahead for these youth. This Parent Orientation will be presented in both English and Spanish.

The Viva Technology™ Student Program aims to empower, educate, and excite middle school students of Sierra Intermediate School about their many STEM career opportunities that lie in their future. Students will experience a day filled with hands-on competitive and educational exercises designed to explore math and science concepts. Participating students will work in teams led by engineering, science, and ROTC college students from surrounding universities and colleges including, but not limited to, the University of California Irvine, California State University, Los Angeles, and California State University, Long Beach. Students will also interact with U.S. Air Force representatives and hear a key note speech by Mr. Scott Beatty, a Professional Engineer working for the Assurance Directorate at the U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Center in Los Angeles, CA. Active participation gives students opportunities to accrue points and win educational technology related prizes at the end of the day.

The final element of the program will be a district-wide Student/Community Assembly inviting seventh and eighth graders to interact with locally based community organizations and universities. Students will also compete in a high-energy STEM Challenge and earn prizes throughout the day. Invited guests from Sierra Intermediate School, Lathrop Intermediate School, and Willard Intermediate School can look forward to a one of a kind experience of informative, hands-on and competitive learning.

For more information about Viva Technology™ and future programs please visit [www.vivatechnology.org](http://www.vivatechnology.org)

**About Great Minds in STEM™**

Keeping America technologically strong by promoting STEM Careers in underserved communities.

For more information about Great Minds in STEM please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)