



Contact: Monica Villafana, Esq.
Director
Viva Technology Program
Phone: 323.262.0997
FAX: 323.262.0946
monicavillafana@henaac.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE SHELL OIL COMPANY AND VIVA TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM PARTNER TO CONTINUE INCREASING ENGINEERING AWARENESS IN AUSTIN, TEXAS.

October 19, 2006 --- As part of a continuous partnership with the **SHELL OIL COMPANY, HENAAC** is preparing to return its acclaimed Viva Technology Program to Kealing Middle School in Austin, Texas on Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28, 2006. The Shell Oil Company supports HENAAC's dedication to increasing awareness of engineering and technical fields to middle and high school students.

On **Viva Technology Day**, one hundred students, chosen by their teachers, participate in an innovative engineering awareness program which motivates them to pursue careers in engineering, science and technology. In addition, Viva Technology holds a Parent Seminar at each of these schools where the student's parents are informed about college choices and career paths that their children are eligible to take. Parents also receive information about standardized tests, high school courses and engineering programs at top universities which will be useful when their children begin to explore educational and career options in technology and science.

Participating in the Viva Technology Day will also be engineering college students the University of Texas at Austin as well as Texas A & M College Station who will join the Viva Technology team members to help make this program a success. In a small-group setting, these college students will be able to promote college and science while working with the middle school students on their engineering challenges.

The Viva Technology Day at Kealing MS will feature a presentation by a PhD engineering student who has worked on projects such as the development of a robot that measures volcanic deformation. The goal is to familiarizing students with role models and careers in engineering and technology.

Since its debut in 2001, the Viva Technology Program has been conducted at over 50 sites across the nation, including locations in 12 states, in every region of the country. For more information about Viva Technology Programs and upcoming events, including pictures and detailed descriptions, please visit www.henaac.org
