COALITION MEMBERS

4-H
4-H is a community of more than seven million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension System of the United States Department of Agriculture. Learn more about the 4-H adventure at www.4husa.org.

American Federation of Teachers
The AFT represents 1.3 million pre-K through 12th-grade teachers; paraprofessionals and other school-related personnel; higher education faculty and professional staff; nurses and health care workers; and federal, state and local government employees. For more information about the AFT, visit www.aft.org.

Asia Society
Asia Society is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening relationships and deepening understanding among the peoples of Asia and the United States. The Society operates cultural, policy, business, social issues and education programs. Through its Asia and International Studies in the Schools initiative, Asia Society’s education division is promoting teaching and learning about world regions, cultures and languages in K-12 schools by raising awareness and advancing policy, developing practical models of international education in the schools, and strengthening relationships between U.S. and Asian education leaders.

Headquartered in New York City, the organization has centers in Hong Kong, Houston, Los Angeles, Manila, Melbourne, Mumbai, San Francisco, Shanghai and Washington, D.C. Visit Asia Society’s education Web sites at www.askasia.org and www.internationaled.org, as well as Asia Society’s institutional Web sites at www.asiasociety.org and www.asiasource.org.

Association of American Geographers
The Association of American Geographers (AAG) is a scientific and educational society founded in 1904. For 100 years the AAG has contributed to the advancement of geography. Its 9,500-plus members from 62 countries share interests in the theory, methods and practice of geography, which they cultivate through the AAG’s Annual Meeting, two scholarly journals (Annals of the Association of American Geographers and The Professional Geographer) and the monthly AAG Newsletter.

The AAG promotes discussion among its members and with scholars in related fields, in part through the activities of its affinity groups and 53 specialty groups. The meetings and activities of regional divisions provide the opportunity to network with colleagues all over the country. For more information, visit www.aag.org.
Budget Rent A Car
Budget Rent A Car System, Inc. is the owner and franchiser of one of the world’s best-known car rental brands with more than 1,800 car rental locations in the U.S., Canada, Latin America, Caribbean, Australia and New Zealand. The company also operates Budget Truck Rental and is part of Avis Budget Car Rental, LLC (formerly Cendant Car Rental Group), a wholly owned subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE: CD), a diversified global provider of business and consumer services primarily within the travel and real estate sectors. For more information, visit www.budget.com.

Committee for Economic Development
The Committee for Economic Development is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of more than 200 business leaders and university presidents. Since 1942, its research and policy programs have addressed many of the nation’s most pressing economic and social issues, including education reform, workforce competitiveness, campaign finance, health care, and global trade and finance. CED promotes policies to produce increased productivity and living standards, greater and more equal opportunity for every citizen, and an improved quality of life for all. For more information, visit www.ced.org.

Council on Competitiveness
The Council on Competitiveness is the only bipartisan, non-profit, national organization that brings together thought leaders from all elements of America’s private sector – business, academia and labor – to promote economic growth and raise the standard of living for all Americans. As the only national organization whose membership is composed exclusively of CEOs, university presidents and labor leaders, the Council is strategically positioned to ensure that regional, national and world economic agendas anticipate and respond to the demands of a competitive environment for global trade, commerce and prosperity. For more information, please visit www.compete.org.

ESRI
ESRI has been the world leader in the geographic information system (GIS) software industry for more than 30 years. As the leader in GIS technology, ESRI offers innovative solutions that will help customers create, visualize, analyze and present information better and more clearly. Working with location information, ESRI’s GIS software and solutions provide the power to solve problems encountered every day.

Organizations around the world, as well as local, state and federal government agencies are using ESRI GIS software to make smart and timely decisions. ESRI provides powerful GIS solutions to more than 300,000 clients in more than 200 countries. In fact, ESRI is leading the industry in providing mapping technology that meets today’s global needs. ESRI offers GIS solutions to help you unlock the spatial component of a customer’s valuable data and see the organization’s information from a new perspective. For more information, visit www.esri.com.

The GLOBE Program
GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is a worldwide hands-on, primary and secondary school-based education and science program that unites students, teachers and scientists in the study and research about the dynamics of the Earth’s environment. More than a million GLOBE students located in 109 countries have taken more than 14 million important environmental measurements for use in their own research activities, as well as by scientists around the world. For more than a decade, GLOBE has supported the multicultural study of science, social studies and geography by promoting geographic literacy through our network of students around the world. For more information, visit www.globe.gov.
iEARN-USA
iEARN-USA is a member of iEARN (International Education and Resource Network), the world’s largest non-profit global network that enables young people to use the Internet and other new technologies to engage in collaborative educational projects that both enhance learning and make a difference in the world. Established in 1988 as a pioneering online program among schools in the United States and schools in the Soviet Union, iEARN has grown to serve more than 20,000 schools in 120 countries. For more information, visit www.iearn.org.

Lindblad Expeditions
Lindblad Expeditions was founded in 1979 and operates a fleet of six ships in regions such as Galapagos, Antarctica, Alaska and Baja, California with a focus on responsible tourism. The company has been the recipient of many environmental awards including the U.N. Programme Global 500 Award. The company has also received numerous awards including being named the #1 Small-Ship Cruise Line (Travel + Leisure’s World’s Best Value Awards 2006); #2 Tour Operator (Travel + Leisure’s World’s Best Value Awards 2006); “The Best Ships in the World” and “The Best Itineraries” (Conde Nast Traveler: Truth in Travel Awards 2006). For more information, please visit www.lindblad.com.

NBA Cares
NBA Cares is the National Basketball Association’s global community outreach initiative that builds on the NBA’s long tradition of addressing important social issues. During the next five years, the league, players and teams will raise and contribute $100 million for charity, donate more than one million hours of hands-on volunteer service to communities around the world, and build more than 10 places where kids and families can live, learn and play. For more information, visit www.nba.com/nba_cares/.

The National Council for Geographic Education
Since 1915, the National Council for Geographic Education has been the major professional organization devoted exclusively to enhancing the status and quality of geography teaching and learning in the United States across all grade levels and among all age groups, from preschoolers to adult learners. Its activities include annual meetings and workshops for pre-service and in-service geography educators, curriculum development and enhancement projects, and the publication of a wide variety of electronic and print resources including the Journal of Geography, a peer-reviewed journal of research and innovation in geographic instruction, and the Pathways Series of materials on geographic learning and teaching. For more information, visit www.ncge.org.

National Council of La Raza
The National Council of La Raza (NCLR) – the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States – works to improve opportunities for Hispanic Americans. Through its network of more than nearly 300 affiliated community-based organizations (CBOs), NCLR reaches millions of Hispanics each year in 41 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. To achieve its mission, NCLR conducts applied research, policy analysis and advocacy, providing a Latino perspective in five key areas – assets/investments, civil rights/immigration, education, employment and economic status, and health.
In addition, NCLR provides capacity-building assistance to its affiliates who work at the state and local level to advance opportunities for individuals and families. Founded in 1968, NCLR is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, tax-exempt organization. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., NCLR serves all Hispanic subgroups in all regions of the country. NCLR has operations in Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Phoenix, Sacramento, San Antonio and San Juan, Puerto Rico. For more information, visit [www.nclr.org](http://www.nclr.org).

**National Council for the Social Studies**
The National Council for the Social Studies is the largest association in the nation devoted solely to social studies education. The Council’s mission is to provide leadership, service and support for all social studies educators teaching students the content knowledge, intellectual skills and civic values necessary for fulfilling the duties of citizenship in a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world. For more information, visit [www.ncss.org](http://www.ncss.org).

**National Geographic Society**
Created in 1888 for “the increase and diffusion of geographic knowledge,” the National Geographic Society mirrors the world through incisive magazines, maps, books, films and interactive media. National Geographic has supported more than 8,000 research projects and explorations and dispersed more than $54 million in grants for innovative geography educational programs. For information, visit [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com).

**National PTA**
With nearly six million members, National PTA is the largest volunteer parent organization in the United States. Since its founding in 1897, National PTA has prided itself on being a powerful voice for children, a relevant resource for parents and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in National PTA is open to anyone who is concerned with the education, health and welfare of children and youth. For more information about National PTA, visit [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org).

**SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Adventure Parks**
Home to more than 50,000 animals - many of which are threatened or endangered - SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Discovery Cove care for the largest zoological collection of animals in the world. As a reflection of this commitment, the parks also maintain the largest animal information Web site of any zoological organization in the world. The parks' child-friendly site, [www.swbg-animals.org](http://www.swbg-animals.org), boasts more than 3,600 pages of content and 400 in-depth species profiles, ranging from killer whales to kookaburras.

For more than 45 years, SeaWorld and Busch Gardens parks have initiated and supported wildlife conservation as well as animal rescue, research and education efforts. In 2003 the parks created the non-profit SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, a private charitable foundation committed to increasing the company's $2.5 million annual contributions for worldwide environmental, research education and animal rescue programs. More information is available at [www.swbg-conservationfund.org](http://www.swbg-conservationfund.org).

St. Louis-based Busch Entertainment Corporation operates SeaWorld Adventure Parks in San Diego, Orlando, Fla. and San Antonio; Busch Gardens Adventure Parks in Tampa Bay, Fla. and Williamsburg, Va.; Adventure Island in Tampa Bay; Water Country USA in Williamsburg; Sesame Place near Philadelphia; and Discovery Cove in Orlando. The nine parks play host to more than 20 million guests a year and employ more than 15,000 people.
Sesame Workshop
Sesame Workshop is a nonprofit educational organization making a meaningful difference in the lives of children around the world. Founded in 1968, the Workshop changed television forever with the legendary Sesame Street. Today, the Workshop continues to innovate on behalf of children in 120 countries, using its proprietary research methodology to ensure its programs and products are engaging and enriching.

Sesame Workshop is behind such award-winning programs as Dragon Tales, Sagwa, The Chinese Siamese Cat, Pinky Dinky Doo and groundbreaking multimedia productions in South Africa, Egypt and Russia. As a nonprofit, Sesame Workshop puts the proceeds it receives from sales of Sesame Street, Dragon Tales, Sagwa, and Pinky products back into its educational projects for children around the world. Find the Workshop online at www.sesameworkshop.org.

Smithsonian Institution
The Smithsonian museums are the largest museum and research complex in the world, with collection objects numbering more than 136 million. Collecting, preserving and presenting artifacts and objects is the foundation of the Institution’s work. However, the Smithsonian is equally dedicated to the preservation and understanding of cultural heritage throughout the world. Music, stories, lifeways and literature are an important aspect of the Smithsonian’s work. For more information, visit www.si.edu.

United Nations Foundation
The United Nations Foundation is a public charity created in 1998 with businessman and philanthropist Ted Turner’s historic gift to support United Nations causes. The U.N. Foundation promotes a more peaceful, prosperous and just world through the support of the United Nations. Through its grant-making and by building new and innovative public-private partnerships, the U.N. Foundation acts to meet the most pressing health, humanitarian, socioeconomic and environmental challenges of the 21st century. In one of its largest projects, the U.N. Foundation works with UNESCO and other partners to preserve and support World Heritage sites by encouraging economic development that vest local residents in the preservation of the sites. For more information, visit www.unfoundation.org.

World Affairs Councils of America
The World Affairs Councils of America is the largest international affairs nonprofit organization in the United States. The councils are non-profit, non-partisan organizations open to all who wish to join. Started in 1918, the council system has 535,000 members and participants, 84 councils and 26 affiliates. Councils operate on membership dues, corporate sponsorships, grants, in-kind donations, fundraising events and fee-for-service activities. More than 2,000 corporations, foundations and individuals support council work.

The council system has the biggest international affairs speakers’ program in the country with more than 2,500 events each year. Councils also run international exchanges, school programs, teachers’ workshops, model United Nations, foreign policy discussions, national opinion polls, travel programs, young professionals’ programs, conferences, corporate programs, journals, newspaper columns, and local radio and television programs. The system has five flagship programs: World in Transition, Great
Decisions, the NPR radio program “It’s Your World,” Academic WorldQuest and Travel the World. For more information, visit www.worldaffairscouncils.org.