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SAINT EDWARDS SCHOOL NAMED 2010 GLOBAL CLASSROOM AWARD WINNER

*Creative international exchange efforts of students and staff bring
national prize to local school*

January 8, 2010, Vero Beach, Florida – The Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) honored Saint Edwards School (SES) this month by naming it a Global Classroom Award winner. The Global Classroom Award recognizes schools that incorporate international issues and global awareness into the school and larger community.

The cultural and student exchange programs at Saint Edwards School were top-rated over 30 schools nominated from around the country. The faculty and students of Saint Edwards School demonstrate dedication to raising global consciousness and an enthusiasm for welcoming foreign exchange students into their student body.

Saint Edwards promotes global understanding and international education throughout all age groups. Starting in the Lower School, students participate in the “Pennies for Peace” project, and third graders held a fundraiser for a Tanzanian hospital to provide orthopedic surgery for children. Chinese language and culture coursework is offered to 8th grade students, and 9th grade honors students take AP Human Geography. Over school breaks, SES provides opportunities for students to travel and study China, France, Russia, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand and Turkey. Additionally, SES integrates foreign exchange students into their school community by welcoming international students with a week-long orientation. This process covers community life in Vero Beach; student expectations of living with a host family, and American school life.

Tracy Carroll, Chair of Youth Exchange Programs with Rotary International District 6930, stated “Their commitment to the international program allows the local community to build meaningful relationships and deepen its understanding of others through linguistic, cultural, and ethnic diversity.”

“CSIET is pleased to recognize Saint Edwards School with the 2010 Global Classroom Award,” said John Hishmeh, executive director of CSIET. “International engagement is evident among all student age groups at this school, with an impressive and diverse range of program activity.”

As a Global Classroom Award winner, Saint Edwards School will receive a \$500 scholarship for its students to study abroad, or equivalent funds to put towards global awareness projects in the school community. In addition, a representative from the school has been invited to Charlotte, North Carolina and will receive complimentary registration, accommodation and airfare to take part in the 2010 National School Conference on International Youth where he/she will accept the award. The other CSIET Global Classroom Award winner this year is Lodi High School in Lodi, Wisconsin.

About the Council on Standards for International Educations Travel

CSIET is a private not-for-profit organization whose mission is to identify reputable international youth exchange programs, to provide leadership and support to the exchange and educational communities so that youth are provided with meaningful and safe international exchange experiences, and to promote the importance and educational value of international youth exchange. CSIET has been promoting international youth exchanges since 1984. For more information, visit www.csiet.org.

2010 National School Conference on International Youth Exchange

This conference – February 19-20, 2010 in Charlotte, North Carolina – will provide a unique opportunity for school leaders, educators and administrators to meet and network with school colleagues and leaders of various youth exchange programs. CSIET is very pleased to announce that the **Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools** and the **Public Schools of North Carolina** are joining CSIET as co-sponsors of the conference.

About Saint Edwards School

For information, visit www.steds.org

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