



Windstream Announces 10 'Spirit Award' Winners

More Than 150,000 Online Votes Cast in Classroom Connections Program

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 9, 2010 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Windstream (Nasdaq:WIN) today announced the top 10 'Spirit Award' winners as part of the company's *Classroom Connections* program. The 10 schools were chosen from among 30 finalists through a public online vote and each will receive a \$5,000 donation from Windstream.

The 10 winners are:

Commerce Middle School – Commerce, Ga.
Jay M. Robinson High School – Concord, N.C.
J.R. Ingram Elementary School – Sanford, N.C.
Laurel Hill Elementary School – Laurel Hill, N.C.
Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit – Edinboro, Pa.
Northwestern School – Mendon, Mo.
Prague High School – Prague, Okla.
St. Elizabeth School – St. Elizabeth, Mo.
White County Ninth Grade Academy – Cleveland, Ga.
Winder-Barrow Middle School – Winder, Ga.

More than 120 schools applied to Windstream's Classroom Connections program which donated a total of \$150,000 to schools in 2010. All applicants were required to produce a video demonstrating their need for technology. Four schools were awarded \$25,000 each earlier this year. All winning videos can be viewed online at www.lifetimetour.com/classroomconnections.php.

About Windstream

Windstream Corporation is an S&P 500 company with about \$4 billion in annual revenues. Windstream provides phone, high-speed Internet and high-definition digital TV services to customers in 23 states. The company also offers a wide range of IP-based voice and data services and advanced phone systems and equipment to businesses and government agencies. For more information about Windstream, visit www.windstream.com.

The Windstream Corporation logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=7044>

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