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BREAKTHROUGH COLLABORATIVE RECEIVES \$50,000 FROM AT&T FOR SAN FRANCISCO EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA –Breakthrough Collaborative today announced it has received \$50,000 in funding from AT&T to support two Breakthrough programs in San Francisco.

The contribution will support Breakthrough’s programs that increase educational opportunity for high-potential, low-income middle school students and inspire outstanding college and high school students to pursue careers in education.

Students are first eligible to apply to Breakthrough San Francisco programs during 4th grade to the San Francisco Day School, and during 6th grade to Summerbridge San Francisco, a Breakthrough Program at University High School.

“At AT&T, we’re committed to helping students succeed – here in San Francisco and across the nation,” said Ken McNeely, President, AT&T California. “That’s why we’re proud to support Breakthrough Collaborative and its efforts to support and inspire students to advance academic achievement. Breakthrough’s innovative programs can make a real difference in the lives and futures of young people in our community.”

At Breakthrough, academically motivated students from across San Francisco discover an intellectual community and support system of peers and mentors where “smart” is “cool.” They attend six-week summer sessions, after-school tutorials, and Saturday enrichment events. Breakthrough students develop academic skills and self-confidence for success in rigorous, college-preparatory middle and high schools, and, ultimately, four-year colleges.

Beth Porter, National Executive Director of the Breakthrough Collaborative, said, “We are honored to receive this grant on behalf of our San Francisco programs and salute AT&T for their commitment to educational excellence.”

The Breakthrough program employs the research-proven “Students Teaching Students” model in which outstanding college and high-school students are trained and mentored by professional educators to serve as full-time summer “teachers” to younger elementary and middle-school students. Breakthrough’s success as a teacher training program – in particular, its ability to draw students of color into the field of teaching – has earned national acclaim.

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