



CORPORATE PRESS RELEASE

Taylor Expands Ready! for Kindergarten Program in its Mankato Area Companies

North Mankato, MN – October 7, 2011 – Taylor Corporation, a global company providing communications, marketing and interactive solutions, announced that it is expanding the Ready! for Kindergarten Program to include employees in all its Mankato and North Mankato companies. “We are the only community in the nation to partner with corporations in offering this program,” shared Linda Kilander, Ready! for Kindergarten Program Director.

The Ready! for Kindergarten Program is a structured series of classes delivered to parents or other caregivers three times per year when their children are 0-5 years old. The program equips parents and caregivers with essential tools and resources to foster pre-literacy, pre-math and social-emotional skills in children birth to five years of age.

Carlson Craft, a Taylor subsidiary, agreed to be a pilot site and began offering the Ready! for Kindergarten program to its employees in the fall of 2008, becoming the first company in the nation to do so. Carlson Craft sponsored three 90-minute classes for its staff to attend throughout the year. These classes were held onsite during work hours and free of charge to enrolled attendees.

Last week, the program was kicked off at all Mankato area Taylor companies to an enthusiastic response, with 115 employees attending the first series of classes. The Taylor companies have agreed to pay the costs of the program and their employees’ time to attend the class. After attending her first class, Kelly Nelson, Accounting Supervisor at Taylor Corporation, sent an email to Taylor’s management thanking them for offering the program, “As a full-time, working first-time mother, this is appreciated more than many may know. It relays to me that my company has an overall interest in the well being of my family and our successes in life.”

“As a parent of two young children, I found my first READY! for Kindergarten class to be extremely helpful. I not only learned great ideas on how to help prepare my children for school and on becoming readers but received the tools to help engage them in learning. I look forward to ‘playing with a purpose’,” states Christy Bode, Marketing Manager at Pear Tree Greetings.

Taylor Corporation was one of the founders of the Greater Mankato Early Learning Initiative (GMELI), which sponsors Ready! for Kindergarten. “Kindergarten readiness is a critical issue, with statewide statistics showing approximately 50% of children aren’t prepared for kindergarten,” said Suzanne Spellacy, Vice President & Assistant General Counsel for Taylor Corporation, “and many of these children never catch up.” Spellacy has served on the GMELI board since its inception in 2008 and stated, “We’re excited to expand the Ready! For Kindergarten program in our companies, as this helps our employees and the community at the same time.”

Taylor Corporation focuses its charitable giving on support for education in the greater Mankato area, from kindergarten readiness through higher education.

About Taylor:

Taylor Corporation, one of the largest privately held companies in the United States, provides innovative products, technologies and services that focus on the evolving needs – personal and business – of more than half of the Fortune 500 companies and millions of small businesses and consumers around the world. With more than 80 domestic and foreign subsidiaries, Taylor is recognized as one of the top 10 graphics communications companies in North America, delivering what matters most to its customers.

www.taylorcorp.com

Company Contact:
Marne Slack, Corporate Communications
Taylor Corporation
Office: (507) 386-3168
mjslack@taylorcorp.com