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PRESS RELEASE

West Palm Conservatory Teacher Selected for Teachers R Heroes Honors

Victorville, December 20, 2011... The Board of Trustees' meeting was halted during the President's message to give time to honor long-time Victor Valley College Instructor, Dr. Thomas Miller, as this month's Teachers R Heroes recipient. Miller's nomination was supported by four separate students who were either enrolled in one of his classes or have moved on to advance their education. All of them noted his love for his subject (music) and his ability to share that appreciation with the others. His reputation and brilliance as a leader, in his field, has led to student concerts at Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center and other world stages.

During the presentation, he was joined by several students who stayed after class to witness the event. Nominators all agreed that Dr. Miller cares for his students and always looks for ways to improve their lives. A student wrote, "Dr. Miller is always ready to get student's involved with singing and vocals to make the day go better. We all need music, and Doctor Miller has shown that he cares for students who need a place in the entertainment world." Another student wrote, "Dr. Miller has been an excellent teacher and mentor for the entire time I was at Victor Valley College. He transfers his passion for knowledge down to his students. Even more, he enjoys his job and loves his students. He has been there for lost students, like me. He is a positive influence in our lives to keep us from going down the wrong roads. In a third nomination, a student wrote, "Dr. Miller is truly a teacher worthy of recognition in this society where people who care are few and far between. Dr. Miller has not only been an excellent teacher, but a great mentor. Someone to look up to, and when you are around him, you just feel like you need to strive harder to better yourself. Dr. Miller is a great teacher who always puts his students first. He always finds the time to help us find answers, even when the question is in another subject, like math. Classes are always interesting and fun. We work hard and get the job done with great learning experiences."

The "Teachers are Heroes" program is sponsored by Victor Valley College, El Dorado Broadcasting, and the Daily Press. School participation is coordinated through San Bernardino County Schools. Participating businesses and agencies include Little Caesars Pizza, Red Robin Restaurants, Vitelli's Deli, Reed Foods, Victorville Speed Wash, Ultra Star Theaters, Horace Mann- Robert Stepanian, Edible Arrangements, and Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt.

Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com, www.Y102FM.com, www.TheFox106.com, www.Talk960.com, or www.vvc.edu. Nominations may also be sent by mail to Victor Valley College, Teachers are Heroes, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, attention Dr. Lori Kildal.