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CONTACT: Ed Hayward 617-696-1275 Carol Rosner 617-696-0495

Milton Gets Ready to Celebrate Education

The Milton Foundation for Education will hold the sixth annual Celebration for Education on Saturday, November 20, at Lombardo's in Randolph, with the goal this year to raise funds to support world language programs in the Milton Public Schools.

Proceeds from the evening, which includes silent and live auctions, raffles and dinner, will support foreign language programs in all six town schools and the ongoing work of the non-profit foundation, which awards grants to classroom teachers and presents the annual Teacher of the Year Awards each spring.

This year's theme "For the Love of Language" highlights the need for software, books and materials to supplement programs that include French Immersion and the FLES Spanish courses for elementary school students, as well as French, Spanish and Latin courses at the middle and high school levels.

"World language learning is a priority for the parents of Milton," said Foundation Board President Carol Rosner. "This year's Celebration is a great chance to lend our support to the teachers and school leaders who have helped to make these programs among the best in the state and across the country."

This year, television journalists and Milton parents Jonathan Hall and Karen Marinella will help present some of the hundreds of items up for bidding during the live auction.

"Karen and I love living in Milton, and we'd like to see continued improvement in the schools each year. It's important for all of us to chip in and help," said Hall, a reporter and anchor at WHDH-TV/Ch. 7. "Private fundraisers are a great way to bridge the gap, and build strong futures through better schools. That takes money, and that's one reason I wanted to be a part of this event."

Last year, more than 800 Milton residents turned out at Lombardo's to make the 2003 Celebration for Education the most successful fundraiser ever for the foundation. Slightly more than \$200,000 was raised to support athletics, health and physical education programs. So far, \$120,000 has been approved to fund a range of educational materials and equipment – from rock walls to treadmills – for all six schools.

In all, the Celebration events have raised roughly \$550,000 to support the

educational programs of each Milton public school, as well as the ongoing work of the foundation.

Over the past four years, proceeds from the fundraiser have provided significant support to the science, technology, math and arts programs.

For more information about the Celebration for Education, see the website www.miltonfoundationforeducation.org.

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