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## The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation Awards \$11,700 in Grants

Trailblazers Program Rolls into Second Year; New Scholarships and Programs Debut During 2010

February 16, 2011 – Fairfield, CT – The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation, a charitable foundation that helps vulnerable children and families of Connecticut, today announced \$11,700 in grants for 2010 to local organizations, including a continued partnership with the Connecticut Audubon Society.

The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation granted \$6,700 to the Audubon Society in order to continue the Trailblazers field trip program for Bridgeport Public Schools, which enters its second year of existence this spring. Additionally, two scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded through the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation Memorial at Fairfield High School and Fairfield Prep. The Foundation has also added two additional grants this year with new partners, including a \$2,000 grant to the Evergreen Network, an agency that provides supportive service specifically for children and adults infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, and \$1,000 to the Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse program, a local-based LAX team in Connecticut.

"Over the past year we have focused on indentifying ways that we could give back and contribute financially to organizations that were closely tied to John's interests," said Amanda Flanagan, chairperson of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. "We are very pleased to continue our partnership with the Connecticut Audubon Society and to bring nature and science into the lives of so many deserving children. We also honored to provide resources to the Evergreen Network and the Bridgeport Lacrosse program in order to give them the materials they need to successfully run their programs. Both organizations give back to children in a unique way, whether it's a mentoring program through Evergreen or an outlet to play a favorite sport through the Bridgeport lacrosse program. We look forward to expanding our reach in the community by continuing our progress in 2011."

The Trailblazers program was developed for area students in grades two through six to have an opportunity to explore native Connecticut habitats and see live animals which complements their existing science curriculum. The Evergreen Network scholarship will support the basic needs of family and children throughout the state of Connecticut, and with John's passion for sports, the Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse scholarship will provide a donation towards the team's fall clinic, winter indoor league and the development of the Trumbull Gardens field for lacrosse, soccer and flag football.

## **About The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation**

The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation was established in loving memory of John Patrick Flanagan who passed away from a rare and aggressive form of cancer on December 24, 2008 at

the age of 44. John's family, friends and colleagues have established the Foundation to serve as a charitable legacy to support what he cherished above all else: children and family. The Mission of The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation is to help vulnerable children and families by supporting charities that provide the direction, education and healthy environment that vulnerable children and families need to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.