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**Local Teacher Honored by Hixson**

*-Hixson Teacher of the Year Program Continues to Support Teachers-*

(CINCINNATI; May 1, 2009) – Beverly (Bev) Davis, a Cosmetology Instructor for grades 11 and 12 at the Live Oaks campus of Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development, has received the 2009 Teacher of the Year Award from Hixson, an architecture, engineering and interior design firm based in Mt. Adams. In addition to the honor, Davis received a \$5,000 monetary prize.

“I am so thankful that Hixson is so giving,” said Davis, who teaches in the new high-tech cosmetology lab at Live Oaks. “I am truly honored and very excited to have won the prestigious award.”

Presenting Davis with the award at a reception last night, Hixson CEO and President Wick Ach noted that this marks nearly 20 years that Hixson has given the “Teacher of the Year” award. “Hixson continues to believe that supporting those who dedicate their lives to developing our next generation is the right thing to do,” said Ach. “This award is a valuable and important example of the many ways Hixson contributes to our community.”

Hixson’s Chief Structural Engineer, Scott Mueller, P.E., S.E., nominated Davis, who teaches Mueller’s daughter Katelyn through Great Oaks’ affiliation with the Milford Exempted School District. In the nomination, Mueller wrote that Davis is a “positive role model, motivator, and very dedicated to her students.”

In her award-winning entry, Davis remarked “Teaching is a gift: It’s not really about the content you teach, but the people. You first have to engage the students with an inspiration, setting the stage for creating a positive environment, with a reason to listen and learn today.”

The Hixson Teacher of the Year award has been given since 1991 to a current teacher of a Hixson associate's child or grandchild. Approximately \$100,000 has been awarded since the program's inception. In addition to Davis, the other finalists nominated by Hixson associates were (listed alphabetically by last name):

- Tessa Crooke, Kindergarten, St. Joseph Consolidated School, Hamilton, OH
- Melissa Fette, Grade 1, Monfort Heights Elementary, Cincinnati, OH
- Molly Hamm, Kindergarten, St. Joseph Elementary School, Cold Spring, KY
- Joseph Hibbett, Grade 10, Randall Cooper High School, Union, KY
- Emily Jefferson, Grade 6, Berry Intermediate School, Lebanon, OH
- Karolyn Klever, Grade 2, Bowman Primary School, Lebanon, OH

All nominees completed an application process, which covered information such as professional development activities, community involvement and teaching philosophy. Submitted entries were reviewed by an independent panel comprised of school administrators from around the region, which selected Davis as this year's Hixson Teacher of the Year recipient. In addition to the \$5,000 prize given to Davis, finalists each received a \$100 award and a plaque recognizing their excellence at the Hixson reception.

#### **Hixson Gives Back**

Hixson developed the Teacher of the Year program as a way to re-invest in the communities in which our associates live and work. Because we believe in the power of education and the need to reward great teachers, the program's operations and information are available to any other company which would like to institute a similar educational awards program. Interested companies should contact Jenny Cox at 513-241-1230 for more information.

Davis has taught at Live Oaks for the past 15 years of her nearly 30-year teaching career. She holds a Vocational Education Certificate from Wright State University, along with other teaching licenses and certificates from the Ohio State Board of Cosmetology. She is an active member of several professional organizations including the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences (NACCAS) and the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTA). Davis, 56, resides in Milford, Ohio.



Pictured left-to-right: Katie Mueller (daughter of Hixson associate Scott Mueller), Hixson CEO & President Wick Ach, Teacher of the Year Winner Beverly Davis

#### **ABOUT HIXSON**

Hixson is an architecture, engineering and interior design firm specializing in projects for corporate office environments, retail projects and industrial processing facilities. Listed as one of the top firms in North America, Hixson delivers insight and advocacy leading to intelligent project execution through 16 integrated technical disciplines. To learn more, please visit [www.hixson-inc.com](http://www.hixson-inc.com).

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