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Contact: Taryn Hecker
Public Relations
Phone: (208) 661-3891
Email: taryn@pricelessnotpricey.com

Plans unveiled for mobile Science Center

STAR Discovery Bus will complement STAR Science Center

RATHDRUM – A North Idaho nonprofit organization today announced plans for a mobile Science Center.

The STAR Discovery Bus will bring learning opportunities and hands-on exhibits to public, private and home school students throughout the region. The bus will also be used for county fairs, community events and to transport robotics teams to competitions all over the Pacific Northwest.

The STAR Discovery Bus will complement the 20,000-square-foot STAR Science Center set to open in Rathdrum in 2012. Both projects are funded by the nonprofit North Idaho Discovery Association.

Since 2007, the Discovery Association has contributed more than \$500,000 in funding for more than 50 robotics teams – comprised of more than 3,000 students – statewide.

“The STAR Discovery Bus will allow us to reach even more students and allow them to explore various pathways in science, math and technology,” said Dr. Lorna Finman, who founded the Discovery Association in 2007 with her husband, Paul Finman.

The bus will allow students and members of the community to experience what is in store at the STAR Science Center, which will feature world-class interactive exhibits, science laboratories and

opportunities for students to explore robotics, molecular biology, alternative energy and agricultural technology.

Though the Discovery Association was founded in North Idaho, plans call for expanding the program throughout the United States to promote science, education, technology and math.

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About The Discovery Association

The North Idaho Discovery Association is a non-profit organization founded by Dr. Lorna Finman and Dr. Paul Finman in 2007 to foster learning and innovation in science and technology through hands-on experience and mentor-based programs. The Discovery Association strives to inspire youth to explore various pathways into science, math, and technology.

Local teams funded by the Discovery Association include

Silver Hills Elementary, Post Falls Middle School, River City Middle School, Lutheran Church of the Master, Holy Family Catholic School, Woodland Middle School, Lakeland Junior High, Washington Elementary, Winton Elementary, Mullan Trail Elementary, Classical Christian Academy, Canfield Middle School, Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, Ponderosa Elementary, Lakes Magnet Middle School, Sandpoint Charter School, Prairie View Elementary, Ramsey Magnet School of Science, Canyon Elementary, Kellogg Middle School and Pascal Academy.

To learn more, visit www.nidarobotics.com or call (208) 661-3891.