

News release for immediate release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More than \$1,600 in Donors Choose.org supplies headed to two teachers at the Academy for Technology & Classics

SANTA FE, N.M. (Nov. 5, 2014) – Lapboards to accommodate class outside, movies to help learn about German history and culture, models of the human endocrine system and the brain, vocabulary learning tools and a laminator are all supplies Heather Cook and Scott Coss will receive from DonorsChoose.org thanks to donations from Horace Mann Insurance and others.

Cook says something as simple as a lapboard can greatly impact learning. "Studies show taking classes outdoors helps students to learn; their bodies relax; brain waves move into a more active and creative mode; and the kids simply feel better," wrote Cook in one of her four project posts. "These lapboards are a bit bigger than the books we usually take with us to write on, so they will make it easier for my high schoolers to have space for paper and a book or binder, so they can still work out in the fresh air."

Coss teaches math and wants the laminator to help preserve review question sheets created by students for each unit in class. "I think knowing that their creations will not only be saved, but utilized by all their peers across multiple classes, will motivate students to work harder and try and make great questions that will be used throughout the entire year," wrote Coss in his project <u>post</u>.

Horace Mann agent Joseph Jaramillo says it's great to see educators get these supplies. "So many school districts have had to cut back on their budgets, and DonorsChoose.org allows educators a way to get the tools they need to help keep students engaged and learning," says Jaramillo.

Horace Mann partnered with DonorsChoose.org in 2011 and has since donated more than \$2.5 million dollars. And Horace Mann agents have shown teachers throughout the nation how to successfully post DonorsChoose.org projects. Horace Mann donated a total of \$1,272 to the projects valued at \$1,666.

About Horace Mann

Horace Mann (Horace Mann Educators Corp. (NYSE:HMN)) is the largest national multiline insurance company focusing on educators' financial needs. Horace Mann provides auto and homeowners insurance, retirement annuities, life insurance and other financial solutions. *Founded by Educators for Educators*® in 1945, the company is headquartered in Springfield, Ill. For more information about the company, visit horacemann.com.

About DonorsChoose.org

Founded in 2000, DonorsChoose.org is a nonprofit website where public school teachers describe specific educational projects for their students, and donors can choose the projects they want to support. To date, more than 209,000 public and charter school teachers have used the site to secure funding for nearly \$285 million in books, art supplies, technology, and other resources that have supported 13 million students.

Contact: Michelle Eccles, Horace Mann, 217-788-5394, michelle.eccles@horacemann.com.

Projects funded:

The Horace Mann Companies 1 Horace Mann Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62715-0001 217-789-2500 www.horacemann.com

Lap Boards Take Learning Outdoors

Movies Create Windows to Another Culture

Something to Write On...and Learn On!!

What's in a Brain?

Preserve Memories and Ideas: Laminate for Your Future!