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**The Home Depot® Reveals the Finalists for the
2011 “Retool Your School” Campus Improvement Grant Program for
Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

*Community Encouraged to Vote as Fifty Six Schools from across the Country Compete for up to \$50,000 in Grants
for Sustainable Campus Renovations and Improvements*

New York, NY– April 11, 2011 – Fifty six Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) from 16 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been announced as finalists in The Home Depot’s 2011 “Retool Your School” campus improvement grant program. These contenders are competing for \$150,000 in on-campus improvement grants and are counting on their communities, alumni, friends and the public to help them win. From March 1 to April 22, supporters can visit www.retoolyourschool.com to vote for their favorite school and sustainable campus improvement project and help make a difference for generations of students to come. One \$50,000 grant and ten \$10,000 grants will be awarded. The Home Depot® will announce the winners on May 16, 2011.

“The ‘Retool Your School’ grant program was developed last year as a way to provide lasting improvements to HBCU campuses. As finalists compete for funds to make vital on-campus renovations, it is now time for their communities to get involved and help them win. With proposals for projects such as creating serene outdoor study areas and building greenhouses and community gardens, these campus upgrades will benefit current and future students, as well as the surrounding communities,” said Trish Mueller, senior vice president and chief marketing officer, The Home Depot.®

More than 54 percent of the nation’s HBCUs applied to the “Retool Your School” grant program. These schools will face stiff competition from participants in Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, as well as the U.S. Virgin Islands. Area residents and school alumni should log on and vote at www.retoolyourschool.com to ensure that their local school brings home the grand prize.

Some of the potential improvement projects entered by the 56 HBCU finalists include projects that will affect the campus and community as a whole, such as installing eco-friendly bathrooms, adding wheelchair ramps and automatic access doors, creating sustainable landscaping projects, replacing windows with Energy Star rated fixtures, installing solar energy systems and motion sensors to reduce electric consumption in classrooms, starting community gardens and campus greenhouses to encourage healthy eating, and creating nature trails accessible to the surrounding community as a fit living initiative. Each of the proposed improvement projects will enhance campus life for many years.

To apply for the “Retool Your School” grants, HBCUs were required to submit applications via the “Retool Your School” Website by the February 22 entry deadline. During the online voting period, currently

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underway, consumers will be able to view descriptions of major and minor proposals and can cast one vote per day for their favorite HBCU. Following the online vote, a panel of distinguished judges will also evaluate each school's proposal. Projects will be judged based on votes posted to the Website, as well as the judges' evaluation as to the relevance to the proposal requirements as listed on the Website and application. Entrants must highlight how each project will make a lasting, positive impact on their campus, and special attention will be given to schools that pitch eco-friendly plans. The winning schools will be determined based on a combination of online votes and the judges' evaluations.

For more information and updates on The Home Depot® “Retool Your School” grant program or to vote online visit www.retoolyourschool.com.

Online voting began March 1, 2011, and will end on April 22, 2011, at 11:59 pm EST.

About The Home Depot®

The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement specialty retailer, with 2,247 retail stores in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, 10 Canadian provinces, Mexico and China. In fiscal 2010, The Home Depot had sales of \$68.0 billion and earnings from continuing operations of \$3.3 billion. The Company employs more than 300,000 associates. The Home Depot's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: HD) and is included in the Dow Jones industrial average and Standard & Poor's 500 index.

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The 2011 Home Depot “Retool Your School” HBCU Finalists

Alabama

Gadsden State Community College
Oakwood College
Stillman College
Talladega College
Tuskegee University

Arkansas

Arkansas Baptist College
Philander Smith College
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Delaware

Delaware State University

District of Columbia

Howard University
University of the District of Columbia

Florida

Bethune-Cookman University
Florida A&M University
Florida Memorial University

Georgia

Albany State University
Morris Brown College
Spelman College

Kentucky

Kentucky State University

Louisiana

Dillard University
Southern University and A&M College
Southern University at New Orleans

Maryland

Coppin State University
Morgan State University

Mississippi

Alcorn State University
Mississippi Valley State University
Rust College
Tougaloo College

North Carolina

Barber-Scotia College
Fayetteville State University
Johnson C. Smith University
Livingstone College
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
St. Augustine’s College

Pennsylvania

Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

South Carolina

Allen University
Benedict College
Clinton Junior College
Denmark Technical College
South Carolina State University
Voorhees College

Tennessee

Fisk University
Knoxville College
Meharry Medical College

Texas

Huston-Tillotson University
Jarvis Christian College
Paul Quinn College
Southwestern Christian College
Texas Southern University

U.S. Virgin Islands

University of the Virgin Islands

Virginia

Norfolk State University
Saint Paul’s College
Virginia State University
Virginia Union University

West Virginia

Bluefield State College
West Virginia State University