

Office DEPOT OfficeMax

## Office Depot, Inc. Showcases Commitment to Learning with Its Education Partners at SXSWedu

### ***IBM, INCubatoredu, Footsteps2Brilliance, Join Office Depot to Create 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environment***

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BOCA RATON, Fla.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Office Depot, Inc. (NASDAQ: ODP), a leading global provider of office products, services, and solutions, through its Office Depot and OfficeMax brands, today announced plans to showcase its “Commitment to Learning” initiative during SXSWedu, March 7-10, in Austin, Texas, featuring interactive and engaging learning spaces, and informative sessions with its education partners.

At the conference, Office Depot, Inc. will present in the SXSWedu Playground, an exciting learning space built to fuel innovation and discovery, where attendees can explore everything from early literacy platforms to high-impact learning environments. A visit to the Office Depot Innovation Zone, located in Playground spaces #15 and #17, will take attendees on an immersive 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning experience from birth to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Highlights of this experience include a personalized engagement platform for educators from IBM; early literacy mobile applications from Footsteps2Brilliance; high school entrepreneurship competitions designed by INCubatoredu; as well as makerspace student simulations, 3D printing, and more.

In addition, Office Depot is hosting two speaking sessions from the SXSWedu stage – “Lifelong Learning in a Cognitive Era” on March 7, from 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. CT and “Out of This World Spaces Create Next Gen Learners” on March 8, from Noon - 12:30 p.m. CT.

“Lifelong Learning in a Cognitive Era” features Doug Hunt, General Manager of Education, IBM, discussing how education leaders can leverage data insights and cognitive capabilities to create new models for personalized education, improving and optimizing learner outcomes.

The second speaking session, “Out of This World Spaces Create Next Gen Learners,” features former teacher and current Office Depot, Inc. learning consultant Haydee Fuselier who takes attendees on a journey through time: visiting classrooms of the past, present and future and exploring how learning environment evolution and associated pedagogical innovations are fueling student achievement.

Building on decades of collaboration with educators, “Committed to Learning” is a key Office Depot initiative founded on the core beliefs of equity; skills mastery; and collaboration between teachers, students, and parents; for successful learning outcomes.

“‘Committed to Learning’ integrates Office Depot’s education-focused contract division with a wealth of best-in-class partners across the instructional ecosystem of people, classrooms, content, data and materials,” said Becki Schwietz, Senior Director of K-12 Initiatives for Office Depot, Inc. “By listening to the unique needs of the instructional leadership teams, our experts create solutions that directly address their needs, goals and initiatives.”

Learn more about Office Depot’s education solutions today.

### **About Office Depot, Inc.**

Office Depot, Inc. is a leading global provider of products, services, and solutions for every workplace – whether your workplace is an office, home, school or car.

Office Depot, Inc. is a resource and a catalyst to help customers work better. We are a single source for everything customers need to be more productive, including the latest technology, core office supplies, print and document services, business services, facilities products, furniture, and school essentials.

The company has annual sales of approximately \$14 billion, employs approximately 49,000 associates, and serves consumers and businesses in 59 countries with approximately 1,800 retail stores, award-winning e-commerce sites and a dedicated business-to-business sales organization – all delivered through a global network of wholly owned operations, franchisees, licensees and alliance partners. The company operates under several banner brands including Office Depot, OfficeMax, Grand & Toy, and Viking. The company’s portfolio of exclusive product brands include TUL, Foray, Brenton Studio, Ativa, WorkPro, Realspace and HighMark.

Office Depot, Inc.’s common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol ODP. Additional press information can be found at: <http://news.officedepot.com>.

## Contacts

Office Depot, Inc.

Julianne Embry, 561-438-1451

[julianne.embry@officedepot.com](mailto:julianne.embry@officedepot.com)

or

Edelman

Abby Van Uum, 512-200-5341

[abigail.vanuun@edelman.com](mailto:abigail.vanuun@edelman.com)