



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Foothills School Hosts Open House

Boise, ID – Foothills School of Arts and Sciences is hosting an Open House to give Treasure Valley parents the opportunity to learn more about the mission and curriculum of this downtown learning community first-hand.

The event is slated for Thursday, February 4, 2010, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the school's cultural district location, 618 South 8th Street.

Visitors to the Open House may tour the pre-kindergarten through ninth grade classrooms and meet with teachers, parents and administrators. The Open House will also feature presentations from Foothills staff that highlight unique aspects of the educational experience at Foothills School.

The featured presentations will include an overview of the Middle School and why the Foothills experience is particularly different for students at this level; the teaching methods used at Foothills, emphasizing inquiry education and differentiation for every student; and what parents can do to finance a private school education - even in a tough economy.

The Open House will also feature a sample Socratic seminar, conducted by the eighth grade literature teacher Daniel Fisher and a group of Foothills students. The Socratic seminar is used across the grades and subjects at Foothills; it is a method of learning by discussion that involves the teacher and students in a shared experience and is a hallmark of the Foothills educational program.

"This will be a great night for parents looking for a different kind of education for their child," said Shawn Shepherd, Head of School. "Foothills is proud to be the oldest independent school in the Valley and we are living up to our mission of developing students' personally, academically, and socially. The Open House gives parents an opportunity to learn from our students and our faculty, as well as our current parent community, about this very special educational environment."

Foothills School of Arts and Sciences is an inquiry-based learning community in which students explore questions in a manner suited to their own learning styles. An 18-year-old institution, Foothills School offers a student-teacher ratio of 1:9; a school-wide visual art, music and Spanish program; as well as a full range of electives that help students identify their passions. For more information about Foothills, please visit www.foothillsschool.org.

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