



CAPITAL ONE – UNIVERSITY of NEW ORLEANS
CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2009

**Capital One Bank named Distinguished Partner in Education
by Louisiana Department of Education**



Hugh Hamilton, who heads branch banking in the Greater New Orleans Region for Capital One Bank, accepts the Distinguished Partner in Education Award from the Louisiana Department of Education.

The Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter School Network is pleased to announce that Capital One Bank, the charter school network's founding corporate partner, has been named a 2009 Distinguished Partner in Education by the Louisiana Department of Education. The award honors organizations and individuals that contribute to the success of public schools and the academic achievement of students. The groups, which include corporate and non-profit groups, will be recognized during a reception at 6 p.m. on June 17, at Louisiana State University's Lod Cook Conference Center in Baton Rouge.

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) initiated the Distinguished Partners in Education award in 1989 to recognize businesses, industries, non-education associations and individuals who have made significant contributions to public education in Louisiana. The contributions do not have to be financial, but individuals and organizations must demonstrate a sustained commitment to and support of quality education to earn the distinction. In addition to recognizing these organizations for their contributions, Department leaders said they hope the awards also serve as inspiration for other organizations to support public education.

"These organizations have extended their resources to the education of our children, and our students have benefited from their participation," said Louisiana's superintendent of education Paul Pastorek. "Our school leaders and teachers cannot succeed without the outreach of their communities, and we are extremely grateful to them for their active commitment."

"At Capital One, we believe that children hold the key to the future of our communities, and we are pleased to support community organizations and efforts such as the Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter School Network that focus on education," said Hugh Hamilton, who heads branch banking in the Greater New Orleans Region for Capital One Bank. "Capital One is honored to be named a Distinguished Partner in Education, and we encourage other companies and organizations to support programs and initiatives that improve education in Louisiana."

(more)

"Capital One has played a vital role in working with The University of New Orleans to provide excellent educational opportunities for New Orleans families," said Dr. Andre Perry, chief executive officer of the Capital One-UNO Charter School Network. "In addition to providing financial support, Capital One's employees have personally contributed to the success of our learning community. This has been especially important as we continue our recovery from Hurricane Katrina."

Nominations for the award are submitted by school district superintendents, businesses, groups and individuals. Sixty-seven organizations were nominated this year. Nominees are judged based on the duration of their partnership with a school; the number and type of participants involved; partnership goals and objectives; partnership activities; and evidence of substantive results related to partnership goals.

"Every day, individuals and organizations play an important role in the education of our students, and we are thankful for their assistance," BESE president Keith Guice said. "These 11 organizations have demonstrated that they understand the value of public education by contributing financial and human resources to enrich the educational experience of our students, and their efforts have made a difference in the lives of children across Louisiana."

Recipients of the 2009 Distinguished Partners in Education award are:

- **Capital One Bank, New Orleans, La.**
- Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. Pelican Chapter, Baton Rouge, La.
- Caddo Career & Technology Center Foundation, Shreveport, La.
- Chevron Oronite Company, LLC - Oak Point Plant, Belle Chasse, La.
- CHRISTUS Schumpert Health System, Shreveport, La.
- Cooking in Central, Inc., Baton Rouge, La.
- Department of Psychiatry - LSU School of Medicine, New Orleans, La.
- Marathon Petroleum Company, LLC, Garyville, La.
- St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Covington, La.
- Super 1 Foods of Ruston, Ruston, La.
- Trinity United Methodist Church, Ruston, La.

Media Contact: Paul Dauphin,
Pierre Principle Communications, 504-581-9940

**Capital One-University of New Orleans
Charter School Network**
2000 Lakeshore Drive
Bicentennial Education Building, Room 242
New Orleans, LA 70148

T: 504.280.2309
F: 504.280.2312
E: info@unocharternetwork.net