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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2013

A Natural Partnership Emerges for Solano Community College

FAIRFIELD, CA, FEBRUARY 21, 2013: Solano Community College (SCC) District and the Jimmy Doolittle Air and Space Museum Education Foundation (The Foundation) are pleased to embark on forming a public-private partnership. This joint venture was developed out of the natural fit between The Foundation's dream to construct and house an interactive, innovative, educational air and space museum and SCC's desire to relocate its fast-growing School of Aeronautics. The Museum is slated to be located in Vacaville on approximately 20 acres of land: 10 acres will house the Museum and other facilities, while the other 10 acres will house the restoration and educational facilities.

The Foundation's Executive Director, Brian McInerney, shared, "The focus of the Museum location is in Vacaville across from the Nut Tree airport, 20 acres between the shopping center and freeway; however, there will also be an air park at Travis Air Force Base (TAFB) (an annex to the Museum), keeping the heart and soul of the Air Force in the Museum structure. Our mission is to inspire and educate, and the collaboration with the College's Aeronautics Program is a no-brainer. The Museum and annex will be open to the public and the TAFB annex will not require base access for the community to visit. The hope for this partnership is to preserve and honor history, but also stay on the cutting edge with interactive technology."

"The Jimmy Doolittle Air & Space Museum is a project I hold dear to my heart and when the group asked me to participate, I could not refuse," divulged Mr. Herman Rowland, Jelly Belly CEO. "I feel so strongly about this opportunity to teach the community about patriotism and why all those people died in World War II for our freedom; we hope people will learn about the sacrifices that were made when they visit the Museum. We have an amazing opportunity with this partnership that is not presented at any other Museum throughout the country."

The structure of the partnership, as well as the role of each entity has not yet been finalized. Both parties will memorialize the formation of the relationship in a more definitive agreement over the next few months and look forward to the contributions the partnership will make to the community.

For additional information regarding the project, please contact Professor George Maguire at George.maguire@solano.edu or 707.864.7000, ext. 4481.

About Solano Community College:

The College has served as the preeminent educational institution in Solano County since 1945 when it was founded as Vallejo Junior College. In the early 1970s, the College moved to its present Fairfield site, and is presently serving over 20,000 students throughout the academic year.

In addition to the main campus in Fairfield, the College has one Center in Vacaville, and one in Vallejo. To further serve the community, SCC offers courses at Travis Air Force Base, and operates a School of Aeronautics at the Nut Tree Airport.

Currently, Solano Community College offers Associate Degrees and Certificates in various disciplines, to include transfer courses to California State Universities (CSU) and Universities of California (UC), and provides training in several trades. For more information, please visit us at www.solano.edu.

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