

NEWS RELEASE August 5, 2014 AVID Center CONTACT: Liz Morse, AVID Center Steven Baratte, AVID Center (858) 380-4800 lmorse@avid.org

USS Midway Museum Receives AVID/U-T San Diego Community Service Award

SAN DIEGO- AVID Center and U-T San Diego presented Mac McLaughlin, President and CEO of the USS Midway Museum, with the AVID Center/U-T San Diego Community Service Award. The award, which recognizes organizations that demonstrate a commitment to improving the lives of our youth and the San Diego community at large, is given annually at AVID's Summer Institute. This year, the USS Midway Museum was presented the Community Service Award because of their invaluable contribution to the education of San Diego-area students, a commitment that is crucial to our city's future success.

"When we opened the Midway to the public 10 years ago, we thought we were opening a museum," said McLaughlin. "Little did we know at that time, that the Midway would grow into such a valuable community resource and classroom environment where educating and inspiring future generations would become our core program."

The USS Midway, recent host to the San Diego County AVID Student Recognition Ceremony, serves approximately 50,000 students annually through their educational programs. Their education mission is to serve as an engaging venue for students to explore science, technology, math, and history; to promote an understanding of the relationship between technology and real-life applications at sea; and to inspire students with a particular focus on character development in service to their country and community.

Since 2004 more than \$950,000 has been awarded in fee and transportation scholarships to finance class visits to the Midway. Each year the Midway awards \$20,000 in scholarships to college-bound AVID students with high tech and science-related majors at the Classroom of the Future Foundation annual awards dinner.

AVID Center CEO Sandy Husk said, "Every summer, we come together as educators to learn how to successfully implement the AVID system. However, education doesn't live in a vacuum—it really is a community effort. We are grateful to the USS Midway and their commitment to giving back to the community."

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ABOUT AVID

AVID is a non-profit, proven college readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories and impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K–12 and in 41 postsecondary institutions. The AVID College Readiness System transforms a school's academic culture to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and succeed in higher education and training.



(L-R Drew Schlosberg, AVID Center board member emeritus, presents the AVID/U-T San Diego Community Service Award to Sara Hanscom, director of education, USS Midway Museum, and Mac McLaughlin, president and CEO of the USS Midway Museum.)