

## SONIC Drive-In Champions Local Teachers by Funding More Than \$1 Million in Classroom Projects Through Eighth Annual Limeades for Learning Campaign

Latest donation impacts 69,450 students in 295 communities coast to coast

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- SONIC Drive-In (NASDAQ: SONC), the nation's largest chain of drive-in restaurants, wrapped up its eight annual Limeades for Learning Fall Voting Campaign, giving more than \$1 million to fund 2,315 public school teacher projects over the four-week campaign. In partnership with Donors Choose.org, this national award winning and voter-driven cause marketing campaign put guests in the driver's seat to allocate SONIC's donation, helping to ensure essential learning materials and innovative teaching resources are available in public school classrooms across the country.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here: http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20161026005993/en/

From September 26 through October 23, SONIC empowered guests and fans to make a difference in their local communities by voting for public school teacher projects they wanted funded on the Limeades for Learning website, <a href="LimeadesforLearning.com"><u>LimeadesforLearning.com</u></a>. Throughout the voting period, projects with the most votes each week received funding, with an average request of \$728 per project.

"We're proud to support public school teachers to the tune of \$1 million through our eighth annual Limeades for Learning Fall Voting Campaign, bringing SONIC's contribution to public school classrooms to \$2 million so far in 2016," said Christi Woodworth, vice president of public relations for SONIC. "During the four-week campaign, SONIC guests and fans mobilized to make a difference in their communities by determining which teacher projects we funded. We believe that teachers are innovative and entrepreneurial and will continue to launch additional initiatives throughout the school year to ensure we continue to support the communities and neighborhoods we proudly serve."

Following this year's Limeades for Learning fall voting campaign, SONIC has funded 13,614 classroom projects in 1,160 cities over the past eight years. More than 408,420 students have benefited from the projects funded since the campaign launched in 2009.

"SONIC and its fans continue to help ensure students across the country receive resources they need to learn and thrive," says Charles Best, founder of DonorsChoose.org. "In addition to providing financial support to local public schools, SONIC is raising awareness around the need to support public school educators. We're thrilled to partner with SONIC to inspire others to help improve their communities through Limeades for Learning."

## About SONIC, America's Drive-In

SONIC, America's Drive-In is the nation's largest drive-in restaurant chain serving more than 3 million customers every day. Nearly 90 percent of SONIC's 3,500 drive-in locations are owned and operated by local business men and women. Over more than 60 years, SONIC has delighted guests with signature menu items, more than 1.3 million drink combinations and friendly service by iconic Carhops. Since the 2009 launch of SONIC's <u>Limeades for Learning</u> philanthropic campaign in partnership with DonorsChoose.org, SONIC has donated more than \$7 million to public school teachers nationwide to fund essential learning materials and innovative teaching resources to inspire creativity and learning. To learn more about Sonic Corp. (NASDAQ/NM: SONC), please visit <u>sonicdrivein.com</u> and please visit or follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. To learn more about SONIC's Limeades for Learning initiative, please visit <u>Limeadesforlearning.com</u>.

## About DonorsChoose.org

<u>DonorsChoose.org</u> is an online charity that allows public school teachers across the country to post classroom project requests on their website, <u>www.DonorsChoose.org</u>. Individuals are able to browse the requests and can donate any amount to projects that inspire them. Once a project reaches its funding goal, <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> sends the materials to the school. Teachers and fans can also connect with <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> at <u>facebook.com/DonorsChoose</u> or on <u>Twitter</u>

## @DonorsChoose.

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