



## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Los Angeles Universal Preschool Receives Statewide Award For Innovation, World-Class Service and Performance Excellence**

**LOS ANGELES** – Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) today was named as the recipient of a statewide Eureka “Bronze-level” award recognizing the non-profit organization for its adherence to superior quality, efficiency and performance excellence standards.

LAUP was one of only 12 organizations recognized by The California Council for Excellence (CCE), which administers the California Awards for Performance Excellence (CAPE).

“Since our creation in 2004, LAUP has been committed to adhering to the highest quality and business standards aimed at maximizing the efficiency of our operations, as well as the satisfaction with our preschool funding services,” said Gary Mangiofico, CEO of LAUP, which is committed to making preschool education available to every four-year-old in Los Angeles County.

“This prestigious award reflects our hard work in brokering funding, building the Pre-K community, and creating alignment within the early childhood education sector,” Mangiofico continued. “The recognition is also a reaffirmation of our high expectations for quality, efficiency and fiscal responsibility, to which LAUP and our preschool providers are dedicated.”

LAUP is committed to increasing access to preschool throughout Los Angeles County, and ensuring that high-quality early childhood education is available to families of all socio-economic levels, Dr. Mangiofico added.

The statewide award program, which emulates the national Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program, recognizes organizations that demonstrate superior performance in seven key business areas. They are: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement and knowledge management, human resources, process management and business results.

“The rigorous Baldrige Criteria are recognized internationally as the hallmark for performance excellence and allow us to select award winners to serve as role models for all California organizations,” said MaryAnn Pranke, CAPE chairwoman.

“I extend my congratulations to all of the distinguished award winners,” said Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. “Thank you for your adherence to the highest standards of excellence, and I wish you every future success.”

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