

Barksdale Reading Institute Supports Mississippi Teachers

OXFORD – The Barksdale Reading Institute has donated \$100,000 to DonorsChoose.org, a nonprofit connecting donors and teachers via the Internet. The grant will raise awareness of DonorsChoose.org among Mississippi public school teachers as well as encourage citizen philanthropists across the state and the entire country to support projects for Mississippi classrooms.

“We are extremely grateful to the Barksdale Reading Institute for their generous contribution,” said Charles Best, founder and chief executive officer of DonorsChoose.org. “This grant will help give over 8,000 Mississippi students the resources they need to learn what would otherwise not be possible.”

To introduce Mississippians to the innovative and award-winning DonorsChoose.org program, the Barksdale Reading Institute’s donation will be used to partially-fund projects across the state (at 50 percent of the project’s total cost). This will allow citizen philanthropists to fund any Mississippi project for much-needed classroom resources at a “50 percent discount.”

“The Barksdale Reading Institute is proud to sponsor such an innovative organization that is making a difference for Mississippi schools,” said Claiborne Barksdale, chief executive officer of the Barksdale Reading Institute. “We hope this donation will inspire Mississippi residents to get involved directly in local education and donate to teachers’ projects posted on DonorsChoose.org.”

Since its founding in 2000, DonorsChoose.org has facilitated the donation of \$18 million to classrooms benefiting more than 950,000 students across the United States. This generosity has encouraged 35,000 teachers in 10,800 public schools to submit 80,000 proposals for their students.