

Ryan Britton, Executive Director Earth Sky, Inc. P.O. Box 1965 Austin, TX 78767

Dear Ryan:

Project Learning Tree (PLT) welcomes the opportunity to expand our partnership with Earth & Sky's through the PORTOL Project.

PLT is the largest, and one of the most widely used, environmental education programs in the world. Its award winning, broad-based environmental education curriculum is designed for formal and non-formal educators of PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. For over 30 years, PLT has worked through a vast grassroots network which now includes over 500,000 PLT-trained educators, international, national, state and local partners, and partnerships with our sponsoring organizations in all 50 states and around the world. PLT continually collaborates with a large variety of partners to develop new environmental education curriculum materials, provide educator training, reach diverse and underserved communities and create new initiatives for innovative teaching and learning opportunities.

PLT believes that Earth & Sky's *INSTEP* Project has enormous potential to inspire curiosity about Earth and space science and to reach the general public, underserved communities in particular, with much needed science-related educational enrichment. In particular, this project is helping make connections between the Earth and space science and will help provide educators with the tools they need to teach inquiry based learning. PLT's role in the *INSTEP* Project will play an integral role in achieving the project objectives. To that end, PLT is prepared to engage in the following activities:

- Correlate INSTEP radio shows to PLT curricula, materials and activities (Spanish and English).
   All shows will be correlated to the Pre-K-12 supplementary curriculum materials and posted on the PLT and Earth & Sky web sites.
- Identify and correlate additional educational resources to the *INSTEP* radio shows and post them on the PLT and Earth & Sky web sites.
- Train PLT coordinators and the national facilitator network to use INSTEP Materials and Resources in their teacher workshops. Incorporate training at national PLT coordinators conferences and state facilitator workshops.
- Train teachers to use *INSTEP* and correlations in conjunction with PLT materials and activities during PLT workshops. Over 1,200 workshops are conducted for 25,000 educators each year in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- Inform and update PLT-trained educators about the INSTEP Project through PLT's website and Branch newsletter (distributed via email to over 35,000 trained PLT educators).
- Develop and deliver of conference sessions discussing the INSTEP Project and promote PORTOL at exhibit booths (National Science Teacher's Association, North American Association for Environmental Education, National Association of Biology Teachers, National Council for Social Studies, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development).

We look forward to continuing to work closely with you and your colleagues at Earth & Sky and to sharing our collective energy and resources to ensure the project's success.

Sincerely,

Kocty Mc Bland

Kathy McGlauflin Senior Vice President



WEBSITE: www.plt.org

1111 NINETEENTH ST. NORTHWEST SUITE 780 WASHINGTON DC 20036

202.463.2462 FAX 202.463.2461 E-MAIL: info@affoundation.org

KATHY MCGLAUFLIN VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION

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