

Office DEPOT®

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OFFICE DEPOT TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF FIRST STORE IN OAKLAND PARK, FLA., WITH MARCH 27 RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

*Event to Include Donations to Positive Images Enterprises, the Kids Ecology Corps
and Gilda's Club; Remarks by Local Business and Government Officials*

Oakland Park, Fla., March 24, 2008 – Office Depot (NYSE: ODP), a leading global provider of office products and services, announced today that the Company will celebrate the opening of its first store in Oakland Park on Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. The store is located at 3935 N. Federal Highway, north of Oakland Park Boulevard.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation will make \$500 contributions and donate a number of new children's backpacks to three local non-profit organizations: Positive Images Enterprises, the Kids Ecology Corps and Gilda's Club. In addition, Laurie Watkins, Broward Outreach Coordinator for United States Congressman Ron Klein; Oakland Park Mayor Layne Dallett Walls; and Valerie Krom, Business Development Executive from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, will offer welcoming remarks. Oakland Park Commissioners Allegra Webb Murphy, Suzanne Boisvenue and Charles Schwabe, Assistant City Manager will also attend. The public is invited to attend the event.

About the New Office Depot Store in Oakland Park

According to Store Manager Patricia Messer, the new Oakland Park store features Office Depot's industry-leading M2 retail format. M2 offers customers the most enjoyable shopping experience in the industry – in a format that is intuitive, logical and designed specifically for the way people make purchase decisions.

Products are grouped in highly visible, strategically located "pods," with core supplies at the outer perimeter of the store – signed for optimal visibility and easy purchase – and furniture and technology at the center – to better support consultative sales.

The new Office Depot store employs approximately 20 full- and part-time associates. It houses more than 7,500 technology, furniture and supply products as well as Design, Print and Ship services in 20,008 square feet of customer space.

Store hours are Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The telephone number for the store is 954-563-8011.

About the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

Special guests scheduled to participate in the March 27 ribbon-cutting include:

Non-Profit Organization Representatives:

- Georgia Foster, Executive Director, Positive Images Enterprises
- Jacquie Williams, Program Coordinator, Positive Images Enterprises
- Emily Nell Lagerquist, Executive Director, The Kids Ecology Corps
- Lee Gottlieb, Eco-Action Program Manager, The Kids Ecology Corps
- Alyssa Bartashy, Development Coordinator, Gilda's Club
- Elisa Jones, Noogieland Manager, Gilda's Club

Federal Official:

- Laurie A. Watkins, Broward Outreach Coordinator for United States Congressman Ron Klein

City of Oakland Park Officials:

- Mayor Layne Dallett Walls
- Commissioner Allegra Webb Murphy
- Commissioner Suzanne Boisvenue
- Charles Schwabe, Assistant City Manager

Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Representative:

- Valerie Krom, Business Development Executive

“Office Depot is strongly committed to enhancing the quality of life in the communities in which our company conducts business,” said Messer. “We are excited to open our first store in Oakland Park and to assist these critically important non-profit organizations in their efforts to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families in this area.”

The backpack donations are part of the Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program, through which it will donate 300,000 new backpacks this year to non-profit organizations and schools for distribution to deserving children throughout the United States and Canada. By the end of this year, Office Depot will have given away nearly 1.8 million backpacks since the program began in 2001.

About Office Depot

Every day, Office Depot is Taking Care of Business for millions of customers around the globe. For the local corner store as well as Fortune 500 companies, Office Depot provides products and services to its customers through more than 1,600 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and a \$4.9 billion e-commerce operation. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$15.5 billion, and employs about 49,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office products and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 43 countries.

Office Depot's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP and is included in the S&P 500 Index. Additional press information can be found at <http://mediarelations.officedepot.com>. Details and images specific to Office Depot's retail division are available at <http://mediarelations.officedepot.cc/m2>.

About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation that serves as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care, the Foundation strives to make a positive impact on many lives in many communities around the world. The Foundation supports a variety of programs that enhance the quality of life for children, strengthen communities, encourage local and global economic growth, and empower schools and non-profit organizations. It also provides support when disasters strike – doing what it can, not only to speed the process of rebuilding, but also to mitigate the impact of future disasters. Visit www.officedepotfoundation.org for more information.

About Positive Images Enterprises

The mission of Positive Images Enterprises is to empower men and women to become self-sufficient by providing assistance with health and wellness, education, safety and prevention, as well as job training and career development. Founded in 1997, Positive Images has served 10,000 individuals through its seminars and services. It works with those coming off welfare, entering the job market, recently released from prison, coming from substance abuse facilities and homeless shelters. Positive Images has offices in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties.

About the Kids Ecology Corps

The Kids Ecology Corps (KEC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to inspire young people to make environmental action part of their everyday lives and the lives of those around them. In 1998, KEC was formed to educate young people to become aware and knowledgeable of environmental issues and to develop their leadership skills to become active in caring for our world, starting with their own communities. Over the past 10 years with a small staff and a group of dedicated volunteers, KEC has reached over 60,000 young people from pre-K through high school, offering unique hands-on presentations and eco-action programs that educate children and youth.

About Gilda's Club

Gilda's Club South Florida is a free cancer support community for women, men, children and teens with all types of cancer, and their families and friends. It offers networking groups, lectures, workshops, specialized children's and teen programs and social events in a nonresidential, non-medical, home-like setting. Its clubhouse is located in a historic home in downtown Fort Lauderdale on the Tarpon River. The mission is to provide a meeting place where people touched by cancer can join with others to build a personal network of emotional and social support as an integral part of their cancer treatment.

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