NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Benchmark Education Company Named 2023 SIIA CODiE Award Finalist

The company's *Benchmark Phonics* is recognized by peers in the Best Science of Reading Foundational Skills Solution category.

NEW ROCHELLE, NY, May 10, 2023—Leading educational publisher Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is pleased to announce that *Benchmark Phonics*, the company's phonics program for Grades K-5, was named a finalist in the 2023 SIIA CODIE Awards, in the Best Science of Reading Foundational Skills Solution category. CODIE finalists represent the best products, services and people in the Education and Business Technology Industries.

Benchmark Phonics was developed by early reading expert Wiley Blevins, Ed.M., for Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction, and is based on the latest Science of Reading research and the 7 Foundations of Strong Phonics Instruction. The program offers a structured literacy approach, an emphasis on application of learning to reading and writing, and unit topics designed for building vocabulary and content knowledge.

The <u>SIIA CODiE Awards</u>, the long-running, premier awards program for the software and information industries, are produced by the <u>Software & Information Industry Association</u> (SIIA), the principal trade association for the software, education, media and digital content industries. *Benchmark Phonics* was selected as a finalist across dozens of Business Technology and Education Technology categories, among hundreds of nominations.

"The 2023 CODiE Award finalists highlight the products and people who are out in front, leading their industries forward," SIIA President Chris Mohr said. "These honorees continue the proud tradition of CODiE Award finalists of recognizing the most impactful products, services and leaders of their time, setting a foundation for the next generation of innovators. Congratulations to all who received this well-earned acknowledgment."

"We are delighted to see *Benchmark Phonics* named as a CODiE Best Science of Reading Foundational Skills Solution Finalist," BEC founder and CEO Tom Reycraft said. "Our greatest satisfaction comes from knowing that our resources are supporting educators and helping students grow and succeed, and we are pleased that this recognition reflects that mission."

The CODiE Awards are the industry's only peer-recognized awards program. Finalists are determined by industry experts. CODiE Award winners will be announced during the Virtual Celebrations June 21-22, 2023, at 1pm EST.

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ABOUT BENCHMARK EDUCATION COMPANY

Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is a leading publisher of core, supplemental, and intervention literacy and language resources in English and Spanish. BEC is also a provider of exceptional professional development to educators.

BEC is recognized as a responsive publisher that offers equally rigorous and engaging digital, print, and hybrid learning materials grounded in the Science of Reading research. BEC monitors research outcomes carefully to create effective foundational resources that include strong decoding materials with systematic and explicit instruction and high-quality resources focused on language development and comprehension. BEC's content-rich and authentic texts offer instruction in close reading and analysis, multiple perspectives, and authentic literature while building world knowledge and reflecting the individuality of every student in each diverse classroom.

BEC is committed to partnering with teachers to provide the best for all students through resources of exceptional quality, world-class professional development, and effective and dedicated customer support for educators.