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FOR RELEASE

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JOIN PEOPLE'S UNITED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE "UNITING CASH FOR CLASSROOMS" CAMPAIGN WITH DONORSCHOOSE.ORG

In recognition of American Education Week (November 17-21)

BRIDGEPORT, CT – Teachers who serve children in low-income communities often spend their own money on pencils, paper, and other basic classroom materials. To help teachers obtain the supplies they need, People's United Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of People's United Bank, has awarded \$100,000 to DonorsChoose.org for a "Uniting Cash for Classrooms" campaign in recognition of American Education Week, November 17-21.

A unique charity created to support public school teachers, DonorsChoose.org provides educators with an online venue to submit classroom project requests describing much-needed school supplies for their students. The public can then browse the projects and choose those they would like to support.

The \$100,000 grant from People's United Community Foundation will provide 50% of the cost for classroom projects that meet the foundation's criteria throughout Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. The "Uniting Cash for Classrooms" campaign will combine the People's United Community Foundation 50% contribution with public donations, until the project reaches 100% funding completion.

"We're delighted to once again partner with DonorsChoose.org," said Vincent Santilli, Executive Director of People's United Community Foundation. "This campaign is a way to support and thank teachers who are working hard to ensure our children receive a quality education. We hope the community will join us in our efforts to provide teachers with the resources they need to help students thrive academically."

The funding is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so teachers are encouraged to submit their classroom requests on DonorsChoose.org as soon as possible in order to qualify. Teachers must secure the remaining 50% of the cost to receive the classroom materials. To help a classroom in your community and bring a worthy educational initiative to life, simply log on to the [People's United Community Foundation Campaign Page](#) on the DonorsChoose.org website, or look for the People's United Community Foundation "half-off" logo when you search the site using your zip code. For more information visit [pucf.org](#).

"We're so grateful for the continued support of People's United Community Foundation," said Charles Best, founder and CEO of DonorsChoose.org. "Their generosity will inspire thousands of individuals to help us fulfill the classroom dreams of so many teachers and students."

People's United Community Foundation has partnered with DonorsChoose.org since 2010, providing \$350,000 in support of initiatives in school districts that serve low-to moderate-income students. Together, with public donations, more than 1,000 classroom projects have been funded through this partnership.

Established in 2007, People's United Community Foundation was formed to help support programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for citizens in the communities that People's United Bank serves. People's United Bank, founded in 1842 and serving customers from New York to Maine through a network of more than 400 branches, is the largest independent bank headquartered in New England. The funding priorities of the Foundation include affordable housing, community development, and youth development.

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