NEWS RELEASE DEI’s Forte for Children Foundation

September 14, 2017 Kate Dusenbury

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**DEI’S FORTE FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES $550,000 TO SUPPORT DISADVANTAGED YOUTH IN NORTH COUNTY**

*Total funds raised since inception exceed $5 Million.*

VISTA, CA- DEI’s Forte for Children Foundation distributed $550,000 of Charitable Gala proceeds in immediate grants to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Carlsbad, Oceanside, San Marcos, and Vista; The Moonlight Cultural Foundation; Solutions for Change; and Casa de Amparo. The Eighth-Annual Charity Gala was held on August 26th, 2017 at the Park Hyatt Aviara Resort in Carlsbad, Ca. Funds distributed will be used to support a variety of programs within each organization, focusing a portion of the grants on music education and therapy. Forte for Children’s mission is to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged children.

Since its inception in 2001, Forte for Children has raised over $5 million in support of local youth. The $550,000 distributed in 2017 is $230,000 more than last year’s total charitable Gala distributions of $320,000. “I am continually humbled by the tremendous support we receive year over year from our global partners and local supporters,” said Jim Minarik, chairman and founder of Forte for Children and president of DEI’s board of directors. “We look forward to seeing the funds raised this year impact the lives of many children in our community over the coming year.”

The Rhythm of Your Life Charity Gala was a spectacular event. Guests enjoyed exceptional food and drinks, participating in a vast silent auction and an exciting live auction all while sharing an evening with likeminded supporters. Additionally, the event was enhanced by entertainment provided by Bonnie Foster Productions and fantastic performances by youth from the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Marcos and Vista. This year’s Gala was made possible through the support of the 2017 sponsors. Forte for Children expresses gratitude to Co-Sponsor: The Issa Family Foundation; Diamond Sponsors: Datron, Meiloon, Nutek, Tonly & Inkel; Platinum Sponsors: Zylux America, Inc. & NAE; Gold Sponsors: Anam & Hornsonic; Silver Sponsors: Tri-City Medical Center, Wells Fargo, Marsh & McLennan, Octo Telematics, McKinsey, DTS, and The Minarik Family.

Forte for Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates as the charitable foundation for DEI Holdings Inc., allowing the company the opportunity to give back to the local community. Forte for Children is run by Executive Director Elizabeth Fox, who insures the mission, improving the quality of life for disadvantaged children in the communities in which they do business is accomplished. Forte for Children was founded in 2001 by Jim Minarik, who at the time was the CEO of DEI Holdings, Inc. DEI Holdings, Inc. is the parent company of Sound United and Directed. The Sound United Division designs and markets premier audio brands sold under Polk Audio, Definitive Technology, BOOM, Denon, HEOS by Denon, Marantz and Boston Acoustics brand names. The Directed Division is the largest North American maker of consumer-branded vehicle security and remote start systems, sold under Viper, Clifford, Python, and AutoStart brand names.

Proceeds raised at this year’s fundraising events were allocated to the local beneficiaries and invested into the foundation to ensure Forte for Children’s support of local programs for years to come. To learn more about DEI’s Forte for Children, to participate in next year’s events or help support Forte’s mission, contact Elizabeth Fox, executive director of Forte for Children.

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