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If you have questions or need additional information, you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or info@nifdi.org.

Training Institute Keynote Speaker: Tom Torkelson

NIFDI is pleased to announce that Tom Torkelson, founder and CEO of IDEA Public Schools, Inc., will be the keynote speaker for the First Annual Direct Instruction Training Institute sponsored by the National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) August 5th in San Antonio, TX!

Tom started the first IDEA Academy in Donna, Texas in 2000. Now, he oversees 28 schools located in Austin, San Antonio and along the Rio Grande Valley, with two more schools set to open in the fall of 2013. Since 2010, all elementary schools in the IDEA Schools system have implemented the comprehensive Direct Instruction (DI) model schoolwide with NIFDI support.

In 2009, Tom was featured in Time magazine as Wendy Kopp's pick for the 100 most influential global citizens. Tom is the recipient of the prestigious Peter Jennings Award for Civic Leadership (2009) and the University of Michigan Ross Business School's Social Entrepreneur of the Year (2010), among other honors.

Read more about Tom and IDEA Public Schools at <http://www.ideapublicschools.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=222>.

For more information on the First Annual Training Institute, visit <http://www.nifdi.org/training-institute>.

NIFDI Announces Revised DI Research Database

For more than 40 years, studies involving Direct Instruction curricula and its implementation have been conducted with a wide variety of populations, in different settings and within all subject areas related to the programs. The National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) makes this extensive research base more accessible to educators and researchers through a free online database of over 200 entries.

Recently, the database was revised, allowing users to narrow their queries using very specific parameters. For example, a user can search for articles that evaluate the effectiveness of DI reading programs for elementary-aged students and limit the search results to publication dates within a specified time span, such as the last five years.

Read more about the changes in the database and access it here: <http://www.nifdi.org/revised-database>.

Last Chance to Sign Up for NIFDI Leadership Institutes!

NIFDI's Leadership Institutes are quickly approaching! Many of you have already signed up. For those of you haven't yet signed up, these sessions won't be offered again until next year.

The Institutes are being held in three convenient locations:

- **San Antonio, TX (March 4-5)**
- **Atlanta, GA (March 7-8)**
- **Columbus, OH (March 11-12)**

To learn more about the institutes or to sign up, visit <http://www.nifdi.org/leadership-institutes>.



Bring the world of DI to your inbox!

Do you want to learn more about Direct Instruction? Would you like to receive current news, messages and announcements regarding DI? Sign up for our FREE service and bring the world of DI to your inbox!

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