

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Local Microsoft Executive Elected to the California Science Center Foundation Board of Trustees**

Los Angeles – Sept. 14, 2005 - The California Science Center Foundation announces the election of Sandi Thomas, General Manager of the Southern California District for Microsoft Corporation, to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is made up of business, philanthropic and community leaders who support the Science Center's mission of stimulating curiosity and inspiring science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable experiences. The California Science Center, located in historic Exposition Park, Los Angeles is considered among the premiere science centers in the nation, receiving 1.4 million visitors annually.

"We are proud to welcome Sandi Thomas to the Board. The combination of Sandi's extraordinary business and professional marketing experience, as well as her passion for providing community service will help the Science Center achieve its mission," said Science Center CEO and President Jeffrey Rudolph.

Serving as the general manager for Microsoft's Southern California District, Thomas oversees the company's sales, marketing and large business enterprise activity in all of Southern California and Hawaii.

"I am honored and delighted to serve on the Board of Trustees for the California Science Center Foundation," said Thomas. "The Science Center plays a critical role in providing science learning experiences for local youth, and I believe that this experience helps to drive Southern California's ability to serve as a hub of innovation and creativity."

Thomas holds dual bachelor's degrees from Stanford University. For part of her twelve year tenure with Microsoft, Thomas was the chief operating officer for MSBET as well as the general manager of global partners. Prior to her work with Microsoft, Thomas held sales and marketing management positions for other major technology companies including IBM and Apple.

### **About the California Science Center**

The California Science Center is a destination where learners of all ages discover the science in everyday life with free admission to more than 100 interactive exhibits. Exhibit galleries, including World of Life, Creative World and the SKETCH Foundation Gallery Air and Space Exhibits, explore life science, human innovation and powered flight. Discovery rooms provide young children with hands-on activities. Visitors can always find something new in the Weingart Special Exhibit Gallery and on the Science Center's seven-story IMAX screen. For general information, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623) or visit the Science Center website at [www.californiasciencecenter.org](http://www.californiasciencecenter.org).

### **About Microsoft**

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (NASDAQ "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and Internet technologies for personal and business computing. The company offers a wide range of products and services designed to empower people through great software — any time, any place and on any device.

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**Note to editors:** If you would like to schedule an interview with Sandi Thomas, please call Shell Amega at (213) 744-7496.

If you are interested in viewing additional information on Microsoft, please visit the Microsoft Web page at <http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/> on Microsoft's corporate information pages. Web links, telephone numbers and titles were correct at time of publication, but may since have changed. For additional assistance, journalists and analysts may contact Microsoft's Rapid Response Team or other appropriate contacts listed at <http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/contactpr.asp>.