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Big Lots Invites the Public to Vote in Lots2Give Video Contest
Twenty-six schools will share \$80,000 in cash prizes

COLUMBUS, OH (June 9, 2009) - Big Lots (NYSE: BIG) is turning to America to select the 26 winners in their Lots2Give video contest by voting for their favorite video. The contest is part of the Lots2Give program launched by Big Lots to support education.

Big Lots asked participating schools to put their creativity to the test by submitting a short video and brief essay explaining why their school is in need of financial support and deserves the \$10,000 grand prize. The cash awards include one \$10,000 grand prize, three \$5,000 first prizes, and twenty-two \$2,500 second prizes.

From June 11 through July 12, the public can vote for their favorite Lots2Give video up to 3 times a day by visiting www.lots2give.com. Those votes will determine the winners.

"Big Lots has a long history of supporting programs that enrich the lives of children," said CEO Steve Fishman. "Lots2Give is a great way to give back to local schools in need. We invite America to join us in selecting our winners and promoting an important cause."

In addition to the video contest, Big Lots established an in-store donation program to help participating schools. Now through July 12, customers can help selected schools by donating \$1 or \$5 at participating Big Lots stores. One hundred percent of donations will go to participating schools.

For more information, a complete list of participating schools, and to cast your votes, please visit www.lots2give.com.

About Big Lots, Inc.

Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Big Lots (NYSE: BIG) is a Fortune 500 company with more than 1,300 stores in 47 states. As the nation's largest broadline closeout retailer, Big Lots offers consumers a wide range of bargain-priced merchandise, including brand-name closeouts, seasonal products, consumables, furniture, housewares, toys, and gifts. The Company also sells merchandise via the Internet at www.biglots.com and through its wholesale operations which are conducted through **BIG LOTS WHOLESALE, CONSOLIDATED INTERNATIONAL**, and **WISCONSIN TOY** and www.biglotswholesale.com