

## Accelerate Learning Founder and CEO Honored as EdTech Leadership Award Finalists

Dr. Reid Whitaker and Dr. Vernon Johnson are recognized for their work in providing preK-12 schools with effective, affordable STEM programs and resources

HOUSTON — April 19, 2018 — <u>Accelerate Learning</u> today announces that Reid Whitaker, founder of the company and creator of the award-winning <u>STEMscopes™</u> digital science curriculum, and Vernon Johnson, president and CEO of the company, have been named finalists for the EdTech Leadership Award in <u>The EdTech Awards 2018</u>.

The EdTech Awards were established in 2010 to recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate the most exceptional innovators, leaders, and trendsetters in education technology. Finalists in the 2018 recognition program, which is one of the largest and most competitive in all of edtech, were selected from thousands of entries.

"Congratulations to the finalists of The EdTech Awards 2018 and may their resolve inspire others. The innovators, leaders, and trendsetters represented here are dauntless, dedicated, and determined in their work," said Victor Rivero, who as editor-in-chief of EdTech Digest, oversees the awards program. "In this age of rapidly accelerating technological growth, it might be easy to lose sight of what moves everything forward: the indomitable power of the human spirit. But in no other field is the human spirit more alive than education, where educators and supporting technologists are literally shaping our future."

"Dr. Whitaker and I are honored to be recognized for our work to solve the STEM crisis by providing schools with the most effective, affordable programs and resources to create the next generation of STEM leaders," said Johnson. "By giving students opportunities to do what real-world STEM professionals do every day, teachers can get students engaged in STEM and inspire them to pursue careers in STEM fields."

The <u>STEMscopes™ PreK-12</u> digital STEM curriculum and <u>STEMscopes™ DIVE-in Engineering</u> curriculum were also honored as Cool Tool Award finalists in The EdTech Awards 2018.

## About Accelerate Learning

Incubated at Rice University, Accelerate Learning has grown from a single product, STEMscopes, to a brand that now offers a variety of curriculum and professional development solutions that support early learning, Next Generation Science Standards, and state-aligned curriculum. STEMscopes can be used as a core science curriculum or as a supplementary or enrichment resource in traditional, blended, and 1:1 classroom environments.

For more information, visit <a href="http://stemscopes.com">http://stemscopes.com</a> or call toll-free 800-531-0864.

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