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PRESS RELEASE

KID Museum Celebrates New Flagship Location as the largest center for maker learning in the Nation

The new 28,000 square foot facility will serve more than 500,000 visitors over the next 5 years

Bethesda, Md. (May 21, 2022) – <u>KID Museum</u>, opening its new flagship location on Sunday, May 22, 2022, will be the nation's largest educational makerspace for kids focused on creativity and innovation. The new metro-accessible location at 3 Bethesda Metro Center will deliver engaging, hands-on experiences for kids, families, and educators through transformational, project-based activities in coding, robotics, electronics, textiles, woodworking, 3D printing, and more.

The museum, known for its focus on maker education and hands-on learning, will continue to offer school programs that range from introductory workshops to multi-visit, deep-dive experiences and innovative summer camps that families can continue to access throughout the year.

"The grand opening of our new location serves as a pivotal moment for KID Museum," said <u>Cara Lesser</u>, Founder and Executive Director at KID Museum. "Our new space will exponentially expand our capacity to deliver hands-on programming to more than 500,000 students, families and educators in the greater-Washington region over the next five years. We believe every kid deserves the opportunity to discover their inner maker."

KID Museum prioritizes youth that are traditionally marginalized or underrepresented in STEM, and creates programs that build economic opportunity and help diversify the talent pipeline. More than 50% of students who participate in KID Museum programs attend Title I schools or are from under-resourced communities.

In addition, KID Museum works with partners locally and nationally, catalyzing the power of school, community, and corporate investment to ensure that youth develop the skills they need to thrive in college and in the workforce of the future.

"Our partnership with KID Museum has been powerful for more than 24,000 students," said Dr. Monifa B. McKnight, Interim Superintendent at Montgomery County Public Schools. "We are incredibly fortunate to have KID Museum in our community as a place where innovation happens and look forward to continuing our partnership that will expose students to increasing opportunities in a unique environment. KID Museum exposes our students to the skills and creative thinking that is so very necessary for their future."

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"Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich said, "As a former teacher, I know the importance of having engaging learning spaces available to all students in our community. After more than two years of disrupted learning, kids desperately need to rediscover a love of learning. We can't wait to see what new programs KID Museum develops to keep our kids learning through technology and hands-on experiences, and I am thrilled that we have been able to provide support to bring these experiences to our community and the larger DMV region."

Beginning May 22, 2022, KID Museum Bethesda Metro Center will be open to the public on Sundays for general admission where kids and families can enter a magical forest of light, build a lifesize maze using cardboard and fasteners, work with visiting artists, and more. In addition, KID Museum will host 10 weeks of summer camp with activities designed and led by professional maker educators.

For more information about KID Museum or to attend the grand opening, please contact Kisella Cardenas at kisella.cardenas@smjcomms.com or (956) 402-8781.

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About KID Museum

KID Museum is an experiential, creative learning center based in the Washington, DC region. The organization fosters the "Mind of a Maker" and empowers the next generation of changemakers with the skills to invent the future. Through hands-on programs, KID Museum challenges young people to be active makers, building agency, confidence, and creative problem-solving skills. KID Museum designs and delivers programs across the full continuum of learning for K-8 students in partnership with educators and schools. KID Museum's weekend onsite programs, community events, and live, virtual sessions encourage families to learn and explore together. The organization is part of a growing movement to remake education for every young person, putting them in the driver's seat of their learning and trusting them to be agents of change. For more information, please visit www.kid-museum.org.