



## For Immediate Release

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### **KID Museum and Alpha Phi Alpha Launch Partnership During Black History Month to Provide STEM Summer Camp Scholarships**

*Collaboration seeks to expand STEM pipeline for African American youth*

**Bethesda, Md.** (February 2, 2023) KID Museum and the Montgomery County chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha are partnering during Black History Month to bring area kids to summer camps focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). More than 50 scholarships are now available for qualifying students in Grades 4-8 to participate in KID Museum's summer camp programs in Bethesda.

This partnership is the latest in KID Museum's *Access for Every Maker* which reserves 50% of all paid programming slots for students who require financial assistance to participate. By partnering with organizations throughout the DC Metro Area and beyond, KID Museum is able to provide opportunities to teachers, students, and families to participate in programming.

"Ask any scientist, engineer, inventor or maker how they got started and you'll probably hear a story from their childhood. STEM exposure has to start young, for all kids, and summertime is full of opportunities," said Cara Lesser, Founder and Executive Director of KID Museum.

Through Alpha Phi Alpha's STEM program, named for the World War II fighter pilot and Tuskegee Airman, Brigadier General Charles E. McGee, The McGee STEM Youth Scholarship program aims to expand the STEM pipeline for African American youth. Scholarships to summer camps will be awarded through this program, with priority going to families with financial need.

Applicants must complete a short online application found at [www.charlesmcgeestem.org](http://www.charlesmcgeestem.org).

Upon approval, families will be able to register for one of KID Museum's week-long summer camps for only a \$10 registration fee. Camps at KID Museum's makerspaces will explore fields

such as movie-making, community service, 3D printing, transportation, game design, art, and space exploration.

Families interested in receiving a scholarship to KID Museum's summer camps should visit [www.charlesmcgeestem.org](http://www.charlesmcgeestem.org) and complete an application. Registration opens February 1 and will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

KID Museum is dedicated to expanding access to all makers by providing free and reduced-cost ways to participate in our programming. For more information on KID Museum's *Access for Every Maker* please visit [kid-museum.org/access-for-every-maker](http://kid-museum.org/access-for-every-maker).

### **About KID Museum**

KID Museum is the DMV region's pioneering experiential museum and educational makerspace. 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](http://www.kid-museum.org).

### **About Alpha Phi Alpha**

Alpha Phi Alpha has been promoting scholarship and academic excellence since the fraternity's founding in 1906. A demonstrated community service leader for more than 50 years, the Montgomery County (Iota Upsilon Lambda) chapter has sponsored a Black Youth Achievement Awards program involving all 26 Montgomery County public high schools since 1978, recognizing nearly 3,000 students annually. The chapter established the Brigadier General Charles E. McGee STEM Youth Scholarship program in 2021, aimed at increasing the STEM pipeline for African American youth while continuing the legacy of the legendary fighter pilot, Tuskegee Airman and Alpha brother whose mantra was to perceive, prepare, perform and persevere. Among Montgomery County chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha's members are engineers, physicians, pharmacists, dentists, scientists, technology professionals, and educators who are STEM role models.