

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Monica Villafana
Director, Client Relations & Executive Services
(323) 262-0997 Ext. 103 (O)
mvillafana@greatmindsinstem.org

**Great Minds in STEM, Grifols Biological and the University of Southern California
Bring STEM Program to El Sereno**

El Sereno Middle School Students to Participate

Monterey Park, CA - May 19, 2017 – Great Minds in STEM (GMiS), Grifols Biological Inc., and USC Civic Engagement, are delighted to bring the nationally acclaimed Viva Technology program to El Sereno Middle School.

As part of GMiS' national K-12 education programs, Viva Technology engages students, teachers and parents with STEM challenges that foster awareness, build skills in the applications of science and technology and provide a STEM education and career pathway.

On Friday, May 19th, approximately 100 middle school students will take part in the Viva Technology Student Day where they will experience a full day of science and health, project-based exercises that will challenge their understanding of the Engineering and Science Design Process and expose them to a variety of STEM career options. College students majoring in STEM fields from the University of Southern California, California State University Los Angeles and University of California Merced will serve as college near peer mentors, guiding student teams through various challenges posed to them during the day.

Students and educators participating in the program will have the opportunity to interact with professional volunteers from Grifols Biological and USC Keck School of Medicine. They will also hear from two keynote speakers: Willie Zuniga, President, Grifols Biological, Inc. and Maria G. Maldonado, MPH, MPAP, PA-C – Instructor of Clinical Family Medicine at USC Keck School of Medicine. These two incredible individuals will share their journey and explore with students the vast amount of career opportunities offered by pursuing a degree in a STEM field.

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) is a 501(c)3 educational programs non-profit organization that promotes careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). With a twenty-nine-year history GMiS keeps America technologically strong through the delivery of national Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) awareness programs for students, parents and teachers in underserved communities; providing opportunities for the academic and career development of underrepresented students and professionals in STEM; and honoring the excellent contributions of our nation's Hispanic engineers and scientists. With a national presence through its education programs as well as its college and professional offerings, this stellar organization is working to ensure that the United States maintains its status as the world's technology leader.