

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Great Minds in STEM™ and Motorola Solutions Foundation Return to Chicago, IL for Viva Technology™ Program

Monterey Park, CA, May 12, 2016 – Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) and Motorola Solutions Foundation will return to Annie Keller Regional Gifted Center in Chicago, Illinois to showcase a two-part Viva Technology™ program on May 12 and 13.

As part of GMiS' national K-12 education programs, Viva Technology™ aims to engage 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 Thursday, May 12, a parent orientation session will be held, which will lend information to help parents encourage their children to excel in math and science and envision themselves as future engineers and scientists.

On Friday, May 13, approximately 100 middle school students will experience a full day of STEM project-based exercises that challenge their understanding of the Engineering and Science Design Process. Teams of middle school students will be led by local STEM college students from Illinois Institute of Technology and University of Illinois at Chicago, who will serve as their College Captain near peer mentors and guide them through the various trials. On-hand to greet and address students will be Alyssa Colyette, Software Engineer from Motorola Solutions.

Annie Keller Regional Gifted Center (AKRGC) is one of ten regional gifted centers in the Chicago Public School system. Keller services the needs of diverse, gifted and talented students, who are tested for enrollment, across Chicago. AKRGC's Lead Science Teacher, Kathleen Molenhouse, is excited for the return of the Viva Technology program and states, "I think that it is very important to allow students to participate in STEM activities so that they see that learning can be fun."

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ is a national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles County with a 28-year history of keeping America technologically strong through the delivery of national STEM awareness programs especially to underserved communities. Through the GMiS network, academic, career development and mentoring opportunities are offered to students who are underrepresented in STEM fields. The organization is focused on working to build a diverse 21st Century STEM workforce in which all citizens contribute to innovation and experience prosperity.

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