

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Great Minds in STEM™ and the Northrop Grumman Foundation Return to South Gate Middle School with Viva Technology™ Program

Monterey Park, CA, May 28, 2015 - Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) and the Northrop Grumman Foundation will return to South Gate Middle School in Los Angeles County, to conduct a three-part Viva Technology™ program. This will be the first of three programs delivered in partnership with Northrop Grumman Foundation for the 2015 academic school year.

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. Both a teacher and parent orientation will be held on Thursday, May 28. Mr. Scott Sommer, Manager of Business Development for Northrop Grumman Corporation will be in attendance to speak with educators during the Teacher Orientation. This session will provide information and materials that acquaint teachers with Viva Technology™ and affords them educational resources so they can continue to encourage their students to pursue STEM degrees and careers. The parent component will lend information to help parents encourage their children to excel in math and science and envision themselves as future engineers and scientists. Parent attendees will have the opportunity to hear from Mr. Mark Hovatter, LAUSD Chief Facilities Executive.

On Friday, May 29, approximately 120 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 STEM college students from East Los Angeles Community College, University of Southern California as well as students from several local California State University campuses, who will guide student teams through various challenges posed to them throughout the day. On-hand to greet and address students will be South Gate Middle School alum, Jose Padilla, Manager Electronics Engineering at Northrop Grumman Corporation.

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ is a national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles County with a 27-year history of keeping America technologically strong through the delivery of national STEM awareness programs for students, parents and teachers in 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. For more information please visit www.greatmindsinstem.org.