



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The State of Black Arizona and APS' Network for Urban Engagement (NUE) Group to Host Middle School STEM Summit

PHOENIX, AZ – The State of Black Arizona and Arizona Public Service's Network for Urban Engagement affinity group will host a STEM Summit for middle school students from Teleos Preparatory Academy, Black Family and Child Services and Future Stars, Inc. The STEM Summit will be at ASU Mercado Center on Saturday, March 5 from 9: a.m. – 4 p.m. Students will attend two different workshops led by African- American professionals working in STEM related careers. The focus areas will be Engineering and I.T./Technology. *NEW!* component of the summit designed by APS' NUE leadership are STEM Zones, shorter yet concise activities for more exploration to science, health, math and arts to support the continuation of STEM experiences. In addition to the workshops and STEM Zone activities, lunch, goodie bags and prizes will be given to participants.

NUE Co-Chair and Tucson event participant, Eddie Davis, states, "The next generation of entrepreneurs, philanthropists and Corporate citizens are right here eager to learn more about STEM opportunities." Kerwin Brown, President/CEO of the Black Chamber of Arizona, will wrap up the day with a presentation on entrepreneurship. Parents will be invited to participate and join their youth during this session.

The State of Black Arizona received very positive feedback from parents from last year's Summit. One parent shares, "The STEM program has been an amazing experience for my daughter and me. We are so blessed to have been a part of this for so many reasons. My daughter has been able to learn more about her possibilities and her identity. She can now see she has no limits as to what she can accomplish and strive for. Thank you for your dedication and service."

The 2015 STEM Summits was attended by more than 180 students representing 20 different K-8 and middle schools across Arizona. Survey feedback from the 2015 Summit showed that students were 36 percent more interested in engineering and 41 percent more interested in entrepreneurship after attending the summit

The State of Black Arizona would like to thank its sponsors, contributors and supporters for their ongoing support including premier sponsor the APS Foundation, ASU Office of University Affairs, Fry's Foods & Drug Stores, Inc., Black Chamber of Arizona and National Society of Black Engineers, ASU Chapter.

About the State of Black Arizona:

The State of Black Arizona represents a bridge between the academics and the community initiated to explore and better understand the status, issues, and concerns of African Americans in Arizona. The data produced as a result of this collaboration is intended to inform both decision makers and the grassroots community alike; to compel both toward more concerted action on solutions that improve the lives of all Arizonans. The State of Black Arizona is also a forum for discussion about the experiences of Blacks in

Arizona to foster deeper ties to each other and the state we've chosen to call home. For additional information and questions contact the State of Black Arizona office at 480-888-4675 or visit www.stateofblackarizona.org

About the APS Network for Urban Engagement:

The mission for NUE is to create a collaborative, professional and highly engaged network of African American employees that promotes strategic initiatives and values of APS.

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