Museum of Discovery and Science receives $50,000 from the NBCU Foundation to support APP-titude Internship Program.

Fort Lauderdale, FL April 18, 2018 – The NBCU Foundation announced that it has awarded the Museum of Discovery and Science a $50,000 Project Innovation Grant for its App-titude Internship Program, a two-year internship for high school juniors and seniors.

The APP-titude internship exposes students to careers in engineering and computer science while being introduced to coding and APP development. It also provides students the opportunity to earn volunteer service hours, college credit, and a stipend while advancing their knowledge in STEM education. Students learn through an immersion experience at the Museum during the academic year and participate in a three-week, dual-enrollment course in the College of Engineering and Computer Science at Florida Atlantic University. Upon successful completion of FAU’s college level course, students receive three semester hours of college credit. During the second year, interns mentor the incoming students, continue working on app development and introduce museum visitors to the app.

Museum President and CEO, Joseph P. Cox, said “The Museum of Discovery and Science is thrilled to have been awarded this grant by the NBCUniversal Foundation. The support strengthens our innovative APP-titude program and provides Broward County high school students the opportunity to be at the forefront of technology and innovation. This program adds a digital element to museum exhibits that cover important topics such as Everglades restoration, coastal resiliency and early childhood education. As South Florida positions itself to be at the forefront of innovation, the Museum is supporting workforce development and our local economy.”

Comcast NBCUniversal is committed to driving creativity and helping organizations use technology to develop solutions to everyday challenges in our communities. As part of this commitment, The NBCUniversal Foundation and NBC and Telemundo owned stations launched Project Innovation, a new competitive grant challenge, earlier this year to support non-profit organizations that are embracing technology and innovation to develop new community solutions.

The Foundation and NBC and Telemundo owned stations announced that a total of nearly $2.5 million in Project Innovation grants were presented to 62 non-profits during the program’s inaugural year. The winning organizations were selected by the stations for their outstanding programs that leverage technology to solve everyday problems in the areas of civic engagement, skills for the digital economy and STEM/STEAM youth programming. Locally, the stations awarded up to $225,000 in Project Innovation grants to a maximum of eight qualified non-profit organizations in each of their markets including Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Dallas/Fort Worth, Washington, D.C., San Francisco Bay Area, Boston, Miami-Fort Lauderdale, San Diego, and Hartford.
The 2018 Project Innovation grant winners feature organizations that are using mobile technology to mobilize young Latino voters, social media to crowdsource city-wide solutions, hands-on training to help individuals with autism gain competitive work opportunities, and are providing real-life work experiences to youth in technology/media and STEM fields to prepare them for successful careers, among others.

Below is a list of all 2018 Project Innovation winners in NBC 6 and Telemundo 51’s Miami/Fort Lauderdale market:

- $80,000 - Miami Foundation for “100 Great Ideas Campaign: Building a Sustainable and Resilient City”
- $55,000 - Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman JFS of Broward County, Inc. for GJFS’ Volunteer Program
- $50,000 - Museum of Discovery and Science for its “APP-titude” Internship Program
- $40,000 - Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science for “MY SLR”

About Museum of Discovery and Science
The mission of the Museum of Discovery and Science is to provide experiential pathways to lifelong learning in science for children and adults through exhibits, programs and films. Founded in 1976 as The Discovery Center, the nonprofit facility serves approximately 400,000 visitors annually. Major operational support for the Museum is provided through generous support by Leadership Guild members including JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Jet Blue and Wells Fargo.

The Museum is open seven days a week, 365 days a year; Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. The Museum of Discovery and Science is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, visitors should call 954.467.MODS (6637) or visit our web site at www.mods.org

About APP-titude
This exciting two-year internship exposes high school students to careers in computer science and engineering while being introduced to coding. Students receive volunteer service hours, college credit, and a stipend while advancing knowledge in STEM education and complete a course at Florida Atlantic University to develop smartphone apps to enhance the Museum’s visitor experience. This program is supported by United Way of Broward County.

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