



**Museum of Discovery and Science, AIDS Healthcare Foundation
Wins Four Prestigious International Awards for
Wise Bodies: HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention Program**

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (December 9, 2021) — The [Museum of Discovery and Science \(MODS\)](#) and [AIDS Healthcare Foundation \(AHF\)](#) recently received four prestigious international awards for *Wise Bodies*, a FREE virtual series that provides high school and middle school students with critical information on awareness, prevention and neutralizing stigmas related to HIV/AIDS. The organizations won a [Platinum 2021 Hermes Creative Awards](#), a [Platinum 2021 Viddy Awards](#), a [Gold MarCom Award](#) and a [silver MUSE Award](#).

“What an absolute honor for the Wise Bodies curriculum to be recognized on an international level,” said **Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO at MODS**. “HIV and AIDS awareness is a critical topic for teens across the world, and especially in south Florida. Wise Bodies is free from judgment and full of hope and encouragement. We are thankful for our partners, AHF and Broward County Public Schools, for helping to raise the profile of this vital issue. ”

- MUSE awards are given by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and recognize outstanding achievements in Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums (GLAM) media, and winners are chosen by an international group of GLAM technology professionals. MUSE awards celebrate scholarship, community, innovation, creativity, education, accessibility and inclusiveness.
- The Hermes Creative Awards, one of the oldest and largest competitions in the world, recognize outstanding work in the industry while promoting the philanthropic nature of marketing and communication professionals. The Platinum award is the highest-level designation.
- MarCom Awards is an international creative competition that recognizes outstanding achievement, hard work and generosity by marketing and communications professionals.
- Viddy Awards is an international competition honoring video excellence in a digital world.

The [12-part *Wise Bodies* virtual series](#) was produced by MODS in partnership with AHF, whose mission is to provide cutting-edge medicine and advocacy, regardless of ability to pay.

“We are grateful to receive awards that can shine a global spotlight and further the cause of HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention,” said **Ebonni N. Chrispin, AHF legislative affairs and community engagement manager**. “*Wise Bodies* encourages teens and preteens to know their body, know their status and to make a difference. The more young people we can reach and intercept with these videos, the more we can impact them to take action and end stigmas.”

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) helped shape the subject matter areas for educational use. The series and its accompanying curriculum were distributed and promoted by BCPS and made available to educators, students and parents through the District’s Canvas digital platform.

“Creating the *Wise Bodies* videos was a great collaboration with our longstanding partners at MODS. Many of the videos featured BCPS students participating in Teen Town Halls held at the Museum, giving their personal perspectives and experiences with the HIV epidemic and surrounding stigmas,” said **Susan M. Cantrick, director of applied learning at BCPS**. “The *Wise Bodies* videos and curriculum may be utilized by our high schools as resources for providing students with accurate information on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention while simultaneously making these difficult topics easier to navigate for educators and students.”

In addition to providing actionable, factual and relevant information on HIV and other communicable diseases, *Wise Bodies* also inspires students to pursue careers in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math.)

Originally taught in person in schools, the series was recreated as a virtual platform for students in 2020 and is available for viewing on the Museum’s YouTube channel and at mods.org/wisebodies.

ABOUT THE HERMES AWARD

The Hermes Creative Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (AMCP). The international organization consists of several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, media production, and freelance professionals. AMCP oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges, and rewards outstanding achievement and service to the profession. AMCP judges are industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talent exceeds a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry. Winners were selected from more than 200 categories grouped under advertising, publications, marketing/branding, integrated marketing, public relations/communications, electronic media and pro bono. For

more information visit hermesawards.com.

ABOUT MARCOM AWARDS

MarCom is one of the oldest, largest and most prestigious creative competitions in the world. MarCom is sponsored and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (AMCP), a 25-year-old international organization consisting of thousands of creative professionals. As part of its mission, AMCP fosters and supports the efforts of creative professionals who contribute their unique talents to public service and community organizations. Over the past few years, AMCP has given almost \$300,000 to charitable causes. For more information visit marcomawards.com.

ABOUT MUSE AWARDS

MUSE awards are given by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and recognize outstanding achievement in Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums (GLAM) media, and winners are chosen by an international group of GLAM technology professionals. MUSE awards celebrate scholarship, community, innovation, creativity, education, accessibility and inclusiveness, all of which are foundational values at MODS. The American Alliance of Museums has been bringing museums together since 1906, helping to develop standards and best practices, gathering and sharing knowledge, and providing advocacy on issues of concern to the entire museum community. Representing more than 35,000 individual museum professionals and volunteers, institutions, and corporate partners serving the museum field, the Alliance stands for the broad scope of the museum community. For more information, visit aam-us.org.

ABOUT VIDDY AWARDS

The Viddy Awards, formerly the Videographer Awards, is one of the most coveted awards in the video industry. Since 1994, thousands of production and communication professionals have entered their best and most creative work. The goal of the Viddy Awards is to identify and recognize the video artisans who excel in the scope of their own environment. Winners range from network news operations to local cable access, from large production companies to freelancers, and from international advertising agencies to student producers. The Viddy Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (AMCP). The international organization consists of several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, media production, and freelance professionals who have entered AMCP programs. The Advisory Board oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges, and sets standards of excellence. For more information, visit viddyawards.com.

ABOUT MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science. The Museum encompasses more than 150,000 square feet of interactive exhibits. This includes all of our permanent and traveling exhibits, as well as our outdoor Science Park. Families can enjoy super science shows and demonstrations, wild Creature

Feature animal encounters, private experiences, mind-blowing Makerspace labs, cool camps, unforgettable birthday parties, engaging field trips and STEM curricula, professional development workshops for educators, distinguished speakers, and more. In addition to daily hours, MODS is currently offering virtual and offsite programming. MODS' STEMobile delivers STEM education on location across South Florida! A STEMobile experience ranges from one-hour to full-day with programming for pre-kindergarten through adult and is available for schools, community centers, corporate team building and special events! All programs can be customized for time, group size and age group. Book a STEMobile visit today. Free programs and scholarships are available!

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, please visit mods.org or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

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Instagram: instagram.com/modsftl

ABOUT AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), the largest global HIV/AIDS organization, currently provides medical care and/or services to over 1.5 million clients in 45 countries worldwide in the US, Africa, Latin America/Caribbean, the Asia/Pacific Region and Europe. In South Florida, AHF provides services in communities across Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. To learn more about AHF, please visit our website: aidshealth.org, find us on Facebook: facebook.com/aidshealth and follow us on Twitter: [@aidshealthcare](https://twitter.com/aidshealthcare) and Instagram: [@aidshealthcare](https://instagram.com/aidshealthcare).

ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Committed to educating all students to reach their highest potential.”

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is the sixth-largest school district in the nation and the second largest in the state of Florida. The District is Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962 and has nearly 261,500 pre-K-12th grade students and approximately 110,000 adult students in 241 schools, centers, and technical colleges, and 93 charter schools. BCPS serves a diverse student population, representing 170 different countries and 147 different languages. To connect with BCPS, visit browardschools.com, follow on Twitter [@browardschools](https://twitter.com/browardschools) and Facebook at facebook.com/browardschools, and download the free BCPS mobile app.

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