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## MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY HONORS CHICAGO AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR BRINGING SCIENCE TO LIFE Graduating Seniors Receive Surprise Gift of Laptop Computers

**CHICAGO** – The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) honored 27 high school seniors from across the Chicago area for their passion for science at a June 17 event celebrating the Museum's Science Achievers youth development program.

"The amazing friends I have here and the youth development portion helped me grow into a young adult that seeks opportunities and creates a landscape that I can thrive in and connect to others in amazing ways," said Taylor Calloway, graduating Science Achiever who attended Kenwood Academy in Chicago.

MSI's Science Achievers program provides teens from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to learn about science, develop leadership and public speaking skills, prepare for college and learn more about science careers. In addition, teens earn service learning hours while engaging people in hands-on science experiments at the Museum and at community events such as programs at libraries and other locations. A few programs include:

- TESLA—a live science television show featuring the Science Achievers that airs on CAN-TV, Chicago's community access television station. On TESLA, viewers can learn about different gadgets and technology as well as take part in at-home science experiments. Teens are able to use their public speaking skills to explain science concepts to those watching.
- **Fab Lab**—teaches digital design and fabrication to the Science Achievers, helping them to develop different design skills. The teens use state-of-the-art technology such as a 3D printer, laser cutter, vinyl cutter and more.
- **Floor Programming**—teens showcase hands-on science projects that guests can learn about and engage in, such as creating their own DIY Night Light using an empty paper box, a light bulb, batteries, electrical wire, and tape.

This year's graduating seniors volunteered nearly 7,255 hours to engage people in science activities. Collectively, the seniors have been accepted to 19 universities (and counting) and have been offered more than \$463,000 in scholarships.

As a token of thanks, the Museum provided a surprise gift to the Science Achievers going on to college in the fall — laptop computers, generously provided by CDW Corporation.

"Our Science Achievers are a shining example of the many ways MSI inspires and motivates our children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering," said David Mosena, Museum president and CEO.

The Science Achievers program is part of the Museum's Center for the Advancement of Science Education (CASE). CASE programs extend the content of Museum exhibits through strategies

that empower teachers, engage the community and excite students and Museum guests. Learn more at msichicago.org/CASE.

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI), one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can't be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make you the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Center for the Advancement of Science Education (CASE), the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI's greater vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. Come visit and find your inspiration! MSI is open 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas day. Extended hours, until 5:30 p.m., are offered during peak periods. The Museum is grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit msichicago.org or call (773) 684-1414 or (800) GO-TO-MSI outside of the Chicago area.