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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The Children's Science Center Founders Event Highlights Making STEM Real**

The Children's Science Center will hold its annual Founders Society Fundraising Event on May 7 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna. The Children's Science Center is pleased to announce that the Micron Foundation is the Platinum Event Sponsor for this year's event, expected to draw more than 300 attendees.

The third annual Founders Society theme is "*Make it Real.*" Speakers will include Dr. Mark Ginsberg, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, George Mason University, Dr. Maryrose Franko, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and Kavya Kopparapu, Youth Ambassador.

The event will highlight the impact the Children's Science Center is already making on students and our community with the Museum Without Walls program and partnership events like the April 6 *NanoDays* Signature Event, also sponsored by the Micron Foundation. *NanoDays*, held on the campus of George Mason University, featured hands-on activities to teach students and families about nanotechnology.

"The Children's Science Center is making STEM concepts real for thousands of students in Northern Virginia," commented Nene Spivy, Children's Science Center president and board chair. "We are thrilled to have Micron Foundation as a partner and sponsor for the Founders Society event. Micron is an excellent real world example of the need for STEM skills in its workforce, from engineering design to production of memory chips that we use in devices every day."

Micron Technology, Inc., headquartered in Boise, Idaho, is a global leader in semiconductors, specializing in memory chips. For more than 30 years, Micron's teams of dreamers, visionaries, and scientists have redefined innovation—designing and building some of the world's most advanced memory and semiconductor technologies. With more than 1,800 team members, Micron's site in Manassas, Virginia, is the company's flagship 300mm wafer fabrication facility deploying its most advanced memory technology. The facility manufactures memory components used in cell phones, personal computers, consumer electronics, networking equipment, and servers. Micron's memory chips continue to be Virginia's largest export.

Extending beyond the boundaries of business, the Micron Foundation strives to build a strong community and promote robust education in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Through its support of local non-profits, K-12 schools and higher education institutions, the Foundation supports communities where Micron team members live, work and volunteer.

According to Zuzana Steen, Micron's University and Academic Relations manager, "We have a unique opportunity to help solve the current and projected deepening STEM skill gap and assist employers with an

employable workforce. Public-private partnerships and nonprofits, such as the Children's Science Center and its planned museum, are essential to benefit our K-12 students and, ultimately, employers."

**About the Children's Science Center**

The Children's Science Center is a hands-on, interactive museum being planned for Northern Virginia. Today, our Museum Without Walls Program brings hands-on science activities to thousands of children in our area, allowing us to fulfill our mission before our doors open, to instill a love of learning STEM in all children by providing unique opportunities to explore, create, and be inspired. In 2012, the Museum Without Walls program served 14,500 visitors. The Children's Science Center is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Learn more at:

*Web:* [www.TheChildrensScienceCenter.org](http://www.TheChildrensScienceCenter.org)

*LinkedIn:* [www.linkedin.com/company/children's-science-center](http://www.linkedin.com/company/children's-science-center)

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