

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Community Roadmap Event Highlights STEAM Opportunities in East Multnomah County

Oregon MESA partners with the East Metro STEAM Partnership and The Rosewood Initiative to host Community Roadmap

Portland, OR - August 29, 2017 - The first "East Metro STEM Community Roadmap" event will be hosted on August 31, 2017 at the Rosewood Initiative in East Portland. The event is hosted by Oregon Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) and made possible through a grant from the East Metro STEAM Partnership (EMSP). The Community Roadmap event is expected to expose hundreds of East Multnomah County students and families to education and career opportunities in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) fields.

MESA founded the Community Roadmaps event in partnership with the Port of Portland, Mt Hood Community College, and Impact NW as a project of the EMSP Pockets of Innovation initiative. "The intention of these pockets was to raise awareness of the dedicated professionals, passionate community members, and inspiring youth in the East Multnomah County area," explains Landen Zernickow, Interim Director at the East Metro STEAM Partnership. "Partnerships among industry, education, and nonprofits in STEAM have led to hours of code at Centennial Middle School, science workshops at the Multnomah County Library, school gardens in David Douglas School District, and many other showcases of STEAM in our community."

The event highlights the STEAM education and career opportunities available and accessible to community members living in East Multnomah County. The interactive event will highlight STEAM opportunities for all ages, including after school programs, job opportunities, and job training programs. Over 20 exhibitors will be present including Boeing, Girls Inc., Mt. Hood Community College, Port of Portland, and Portland State University. The event will also create a database of opportunities available in the form of informative videos that will be available to those who were not able to attend the event.

"We are excited to partner with MESA and bring this event to the families in our neighborhood," Janet Benitez of the Rosewood Navigator states. "This is definitely a great opportunity for the families and their students in the Rosewood neighborhood to explore and learn new and growing pathways to STEAM education and to get connected and feel supported in reaching their career goals. "

Oregon MESA, EMSP, and The Rosewood Initiative share a vision of equity and opportunity. The Community Roadmap event extends MESA's commitment to expanding services in the region to serve more students, families and educators. In addition to long-standing partnerships with Parkrose School District and Portland Public Schools, MESA will also be expanding to schools in Centennial, Reynolds, and David Douglas School Districts in the 2017-18 school year.

****EVENT INFORMATION:**

What: East Metro STEM Community Roadmap - Discover education & career opportunities for the whole family

When: Thursday, August 31st. 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

Where: The Rosewood Initiative - 16126 SE Stark St. Portland, OR 97233

****EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR TV AND PHOTOGRAPHY VISUALS****

About Oregon MESA

Oregon MESA's mission is to provide students underrepresented in the fields of mathematics, engineering, science and technology with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities to develop their talents, explore technology-based careers, enter college, and compete successfully in the workforce. Oregon MESA is supported by the state legislature, Portland State University, foundations, and corporations. For more information about Oregon MESA, call (503) 725-4665, or visit the Oregon MESA web site www.oregonmesa.org.

About East Metro STEAM Partnership

The East Metro Community Roadmap is funded by EMSP, whose mission is to develop and align resources through collaborative partnerships to support STEAM initiatives. EMSP does that through three focus areas: creating partnership opportunities to support formal and informal STEAM education; engaging community and business partners to support STEAM-CTE programs; and engaging stakeholders representing minority, women, persons with disabilities, and disadvantaged communities to increase participation of those underrepresented in the STEAM fields. EMSP's vision is an East Multnomah County community where children, youth, and adults have equitable access to and are engaged in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) learning that results in a skilled workforce and increased economic opportunity.

About The Rosewood Initiative

The East Metro Community Roadmap is hosted at the Rosewood Initiative, whose mission is to build a safe, healthy, respectful, vibrant and inclusive community that brings prosperity to everyone in Rosewood.

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