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GREAT LAKES BAY REGIONAL ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES 2017 STEM SUMMIT

Gerald Solomon to Keynote STEM Summit on October 20th at Delta College

(Freeland, MI) - The Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance announced today that it will be hosting its 2017 STEM Summit on Friday, October 20th at Delta College. The one-day event will include a regional STEM update, a Computer Science/Coding panel, and breakout sessions. Additional areas of focus for the summit will be math, student experiential learning/career planning, and business and education partnerships. The Alliance last hosted a STEM Summit in November 2014 to share findings of the regional STEM Impact Initiative study.

“The Great Lakes Bay Region has become a state and national STEM leader over the course of the past 3 years,” said Matthew Felan, President and CEO of Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance. “The 2017 STEM Summit will serve as the ideal setting to share regional STEM accomplishments, raise awareness of current programs, and launch future plans for STEM education initiatives in the Great Lakes Bay Region.”

Since the last STEM summit in 2014, leaders from business and education joined forces under the leadership of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance to implement programming to address recommendations from the STEM Impact Initiative study carried out by researchers from Accenture and Innovate+Educate. The long-term goal of the STEM Impact Initiative is to increase the number of students who are interested in and prepared to pursue STEM-related careers in the region.

“Delta College is proud to host the 2017 STEM Summit this fall, hosting the many business and education partners from across the entire Great Lakes Bay Region who have been addressing this important issue,” said Jean Goodnow, President of Delta College. “Since its founding in 1961, Delta College has offered educational degrees focused on training students to join the workforce in high demand STEM fields such as those in health and manufacturing. Our community has spent the past three years addressing STEM. Delta College will provide an update on new efforts within the Employer Talent Pipeline and we’re excited about hearing of other advances from thought leaders in our region.”

The 2017 STEM Summit will feature Gerald Solomon as the Keynote Speaker. Gerald Solomon has served as the Executive Director of the Samueli Foundation since 2008. He led the design and development of the Orange County STEM Initiative, the nation’s first STEM Ecosystem, which has served as the model for the development of STEM Ecosystems in 54 communities around the country. Solomon serves as co-chair of the STEM Funders Network, a collaboration of 26 foundations focused on STEM education. He also serves as co-chair of the STEM Learning Ecosystem Initiative. The Great Lakes Bay Region was designated as one of the inaugural 27 STEM Ecosystems across the country in September 2015.

Further details regarding the 2017 STEM Summit will be announced in early September. Cost of the STEM Impact Initiative Summit is \$50 per person or \$25 per person for educators/nonprofits. Reimbursements for substitute teachers will be made available to school districts across the Great Lakes Bay Region. For more details contact Lori Flippin at the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance at (989) 695-6100, ext. 4 or on the web at stempipeline.com.

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Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance

The mission of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance is to encourage, support and celebrate regional collaboration and initiatives that will improve the economic vitality and quality of life in the Great Lakes Bay Region. The Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance is comprised of 48 Board Members who represent Bay, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw counties. www.greatlakesbay.com