

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Great Minds in STEM™ and Boeing Research & Technology Bring STEM to Houston, TX**  
*Lantrip Elementary School Students to Participate*

Monterey Park, CA - May 14, 2015 – Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) and The Boeing Company's Research & Technology organization, are delighted to bring the nationally acclaimed Viva Technology™ program to Houston, Texas. This partnership, marks the first time the three-part program will be held at Lantrip Elementary School.

As part of GMiS' national K-12 education programs, Viva Technology™ aims to engage students, teachers and parents with STEM challenges that foster awareness, build skills in the applications of science and technology and provide a STEM education and career pathway. Both a teacher and parent orientation will be held on Thursday, May 14. The Teacher Orientation will provide information and materials that acquaint teachers with Viva Technology™ and affords them educational resources so they can continue to encourage their students to pursue STEM degrees and careers. The parent component will lend information to help parents encourage their children to excel in math and science and envision themselves as future engineers and scientists.

On Friday, May 15, approximately 100 elementary school students will take part in the Viva Technology™ Student Day where they will experience a full day of STEM project-based exercises that challenge their understanding of the Engineering and Science Design Process. Local STEM college students from the University of Houston and Texas A&M University will serve as college near peer mentors, guiding student teams through various challenges posed to them throughout the day.

Teachers, parents and students participating in the various program components will have the opportunity to hear from various representatives from The Boeing Company. They are David Davila, Boeing Test & Evaluation, Sr. Test Manager, China Lake; Rosa Avalos Chumpitazi, International Space Station Engineer, Boeing Space Exploration; Eduardo Lopez, Space Launch Systems Engineer, Boeing Space Exploration; and Juan (Tony) Castilleja, Jr., Systems Engineer, Boeing Space Exploration and 2014 HENAAC Award Winner. Serving as the Student Day key note speaker will be Dr. Greg Hyslop, Vice President and General Manager, Boeing Research & Technology.

**About Great Minds in STEM™**

Great Minds in STEM™ is a national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles County with a 27-year history of keeping America technologically strong through the delivery of national STEM awareness programs for students, parents and teachers in underserved communities. Through the GMiS network, academic, career development and mentoring opportunities are offered to students who are underrepresented in STEM fields. The organization is focused on working to build a diverse 21<sup>st</sup> Century STEM workforce in which all citizens contribute to innovation and experience prosperity. For more information please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org).

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