



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mahdi Chambers

mchambers@hackhustleacademy.org

732-995-0958

Underserved Youth In Charlotte Benefit From Hack & Hustle Academy's 4th Annual STEM Program this Summer

Charlotte, NC. In partnership with Wells Fargo Foundation, Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation, Tech Rising "Tech Idea Incubator," and Parham Family Charitable Fund, Hack & Hustle Social Entrepreneurship Academy, based in Charlotte, NC. is continuing its STEM Workforce development and entrepreneurship training for the fourth consecutive year. The program will be a hybrid experience (virtual and in-person) and begins July 5th and ends July 29th. Hack & Hustle Academy has also partnered with the West Boulevard Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, MeckEd Career Pathways, and the Equus Works NextGen program to realize the goals of this hybrid experience.

The program includes training in such areas as how to pursue an IT career path, robotics, software programming, computer hardware training, software architecture, solar energy, electrical engineering, and artificial intelligence. Scholars receive a stipend for participating in the program. Hack & Hustle Academy provides laptops for participants who need a computer.

Scholars are prompted to come up with STEM-based products and services to pitch to a panel of judges during the entrepreneurship challenge, which occurs at the end of the program. This is an opportunity for scholars to win cash prizes for their participation in the entrepreneurship pitch competition. The program also includes invaluable Hip Hop life lessons and mentorship sessions. We encourage participants to write and perform rap songs that incorporate what they have learned throughout the program. This culminates in the Hip Hop challenge where youth perform a song they worked on during the course to a panel of judges. Winners of the Hip Hop challenge have a second opportunity to win cash prizes.



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mahdi Chambers

mchambers@hackhustleacademy.org

732-995-0958

Mentorship is a pivotal part of the training we provide throughout the Hack & Hustle Academy program. We share life lessons that can apply to scholars' work in STEM and their entrepreneurial endeavors, and provide soft skills youth may apply to any situation. Our program highlights African-American inventors who serve as STEM role models for participants, instilling pride and confidence in them and expanding their vision of what they can aspire to become in life.

We believe exposure to the STEM industry and entrepreneurship opportunities can break the cycle of poverty in one generation for underserved youth in Charlotte. Serving as an on-ramp to a path of STEM and entrepreneurship, the content of the program engages scholars at several levels as they learn about the field of STEM, how to create and build a business, how to make a pitch for funding, and how to use the life and career lessons of role models they are generally not exposed to through traditional academic programs.

Space is still available to enroll. For full details about the program visit our website at <https://www.hackhustleacademy.org/>

Launched in 2017 as a self-funded pilot program, Hack & Hustle Academy brings the world of Hip Hop, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and entrepreneurship together. STEM projects expose underserved youth, ages 16-24, to career choices they might not otherwise consider. To help us break the cycle, invest in Hack & Hustle Academy. For more information visit: <https://www.hackhustleacademy.org/invest.html>

-END-