



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2016

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AMEREN POWERS UP “STEM” PROGRAMS AT THE MAGIC HOUSE

Grant Promotes Learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

ST LOUIS (September 15, 2016) – The Magic House recently received a \$25,000 grant from Ameren Corporation Charitable Trust to provide educational field trips and outreach programs focused on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to underserved students in the St. Louis community. The grant will enable The Magic House to provide free field trips to the Children’s Village Electric Company as well as other STEM learning environments in the Museum, and present STEM-related outreach programs to schools, libraries and community centers throughout Ameren’s service area.

The Magic House offers guided field trip programs on STEM topics such as *Bright Ideas*, where students conduct hands-on learning experiences with electricity; *Science Detectives*, where children use forensic science skills to crack an art forgery case and *Wonder Works* where students explore their natural curiosity in the world. For students unable to come to the Museum, The Magic House comes to them with hands-on outreach programs in their own classrooms. These include *Watt’s Up with Electricity?*, an investigation of electricity and magnetism; *Force and Motion*, which brings Newton’s laws to life; *WaterWorks*, which explores the properties of water; and *Saving the Great Outdoors*, which illustrates the impact of human activity on the environment. All programs satisfy state standards, and provide free access to the Museum’s resources.

The grant will provide free STEM programming January through December 2017 and has the potential to reach 8,700 underserved students.

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About The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum

The Magic House is a not-for-profit participatory museum that provides hands-on learning experiences for children and families and encourages experimentation, creativity and the development of problem-solving skills within a place of beauty, wonder, joy and magic. Regular Museum admission is \$10 per person. Children under the age of one are free.

The Magic House is located at 516 S. Kirkwood Road, one mile north of Highway 44 in historic downtown Kirkwood. Hours during the school year are Tuesday through Thursday, 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm; Friday, 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am to 5:30 pm; and Sunday, 11:00 am to 5:30 pm. The Museum is closed on Mondays during the school year. Parking is always free at The Magic House. For more information, please call 314.822.8900 or visit The Magic House online at www.magichouse.org.

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