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**Worcester Public Library Awarded Grant to Host
"Explore Tech: Engineers Make a World of Difference"**
The traveling exhibit and programs will visit January 13 through March 9.

Worcester, MA – The Worcester Public Library is one of fourteen sites across the country chosen to host *Explore Tech: Engineers Make a World of Difference*, an exciting new traveling exhibition opening on Saturday, January 13, 2018. The exhibit shows how engineering provides solutions to better meet human needs and develop sustainable innovations for the future, and how engineers create new technologies to solve problems. The exhibit features hands-on and multimedia components that allow exhibit visitors to interact with exhibit content in a dynamic way, encouraging new perspectives about engineers and their vital work.

"We are very excited that our library was chosen as one of the sites for this new exhibit focused on the role engineers play in our lives and how critical they are to solving many problems in the world today," said Geoffrey Dickinson, Head Librarian. "The Explore Tech exhibition will help our patrons explore global issues affecting our planet, as well as the National Academy of Engineering's (NAE) 14 Grand Challenges for Engineering, critical issues that must be addressed in the 21st century."

Explore Tech includes three areas: Engineering: Past, Present, and Future; High Tech/Low tech; and Power Up! Creating a Sustainable Energy Future. The exhibit will include a touchscreen computer kiosk that contains several games that will engage children and adults. Some of the interactive experiences include Game Changers, which is about NAE's Grand Challenges, along with a Quiz game.

Exhibit visitors will also learn about the fundamental principles of energy, become aware of their own energy use, understand the impact of engineering on societies over time and place, and the importance of energy in modern society.

"This is a fascinating exhibit with hands-on activities for everyone, and we hope the whole community will be able to see the exhibit, participate in the programs the library has planned, and recognize the important role of engineers everywhere," said Cynthia Bermudez, Youth Services Coordinator.

The Worcester Public Library is sponsoring a number of free programs and other events for the public in connection with the exhibit. The opening celebration will be held on Saturday, January 13 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. *Explore Tech* will be on display at the library until Saturday, March 9, 2018.

Editor: Please do not delete sponsorship credits: *Explore Tech: Engineers Make a World of Difference* was organized by the Space Science Institute's National Center for Interactive Learning, the American Library Association's Public Programs Office, the Lunar and Planetary Institute and the Afterschool Alliance. This project was made possible through the support of a grant from the National Science Foundation.

For more information on the Worcester Public Library and a complete list of events and programs visit mywpl.org. For more information on the *Explore Tech* program at the Worcester Public Library contact Linnea Sheldon, Community Relations and Communications Manager, at 508-799-1654 or lsheldon@mywpl.org.

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