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## Let Your Imagination Run Wild!™ WonderWorks and Park Maitland School Team Up to Encourage STEM Programs

**Orlando, FL** (April 17, 2017) – WonderWorks on I-drive has partnered with the Park Maitland School to reward students for their hard work on STEM educational projects. On April 20, Park Maitland's 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who placed first in their category will be presenting their science fair projects to guests inside of WonderWorks. Presentations will cover a bold spectrum of ideas such as 3D Glasses that dissolve color blindness, all natural skincare made for those allergic to sunscreen, and a shatter proof shipping container used to send food to military families.

Park Maitland designed a STEM program that expands the way their students explore a different area of science each year starting from grade 1. By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, their pupils can explore what they are passionate about and present their idea at the school's own Science Expo. During the process of creating their prototypes, students connect with field experts including surgeons, lawyers, bloggers, local business owners, and even Google employees, to perfect their ideas and then present them. First, second, and third place winners are awarded within their school and now, they are also rewarded by WonderWorks. The top placed projects will be shared with the public, and each child and their family will be invited to spend a day enjoying the amusement park for the mind.

"All of our faculty and students wish to express our gratitude to WonderWorks for championing our student Passion Projects and collaborating with us to showcase extraordinary student innovation," said Innovation Coach and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Maker Space Teacher at Park Maitland, Evelyn McCulloch. "We know this partnership will enrich and inspire our students, and everyone who is able to come in that day and discover these projects."

WonderWorks, which offers STEM based exhibits in its unique three-floor, upside-down structure, was built as more than just a tourist attraction. The team's overall goal is to help young minds discover that there are interesting and entertaining elements to be found while learning about science. This partnership with Park Maitland, is exactly the kind of progress the team behind WonderWorks hopes to accomplish in their local community and in the STEM education world.

"Being able to reward creative young minds in hopes to develop future astronauts or engineer is exactly what our WonderWorks team desires. We are so impressed by Park Maitland's science program, and the original projects their students present," said Janine Vaccarello, Chief Operating Officer. "We are thrilled to welcome the students and faculty to WonderWorks and to recognize the hard work of these talented young minds."

Park Maitland students will present from 1pm-3pm on April 29 inside of WonderWorks. Guests are encouraged to interact with the students to learn more about their unique discoveries.

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<u>WonderWorks</u> the upside-down adventure, is a science focused, indoor amusement park for the mind, that holds something unique and interesting for visitors of all ages. Guests enter through an upside-down lobby with the ceiling at their feet and the ground above their head and must pass through an inversion tunnel to be turned right side up. There are three floors of non-stop "edu-tainment," with over 100 hands-on and interactive exhibits that serve a STEM educational purpose to challenge the mind and spark the imagination. WonderWorks Orlando is also home to The Outta Control Magic Comedy Dinner Show. WonderWorks has locations in Orlando, Pigeon Forge, Myrtle Beach, Panama City Beach, and Syracuse.