



## E3 Camp—Empowering Excellence Through Exploration

May 15, 2019

Dear Friends,

Only 8% of African-Americans make up the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) workforce. The Empowering Excellence Through Exploration Camp (E3 Camp) was established in order to introduce students of color to hands-on experimental activities, art skills and STEM field trips. The primary goal of the program is to provide opportunities for individuals to become productive citizens in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce. Seventeen campers (middle and high schoolers) attended the first E3 Camp in July 2018. An array of well-known community presenters inspired campers and assisted in helping make each camper's experience a success.

After receiving inspiring information from camper's post- surveys, Lee Moavenzadeh and I felt compelled to have another camp this July. We would like to increase the number of campers from seventeen to thirty, from three field trips to six and extending the camp from five days to fifteen days. The U.S Department of Education reports that "success is driven not only by what you know, but by what you can do with what you know." It's more important than ever for our youth to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to solve tough problems, gather and evaluate evidence, and make sense of information. These are the types of skills that students learn by studying science, technology, engineering, and math—subjects collectively known as STEM. We feel that by exposing students of color to these opportunities will begin the journey for a more level playing field. We realize that economic resources are limited.

However, we offer an opportunity that will directly impact students in our communities, neighborhoods, and school district. We humbly request for you to help close the opportunity gap of many students in Chapel Hill. We hope you feel strongly about E3 Camp and will give a tax-deductible contribution towards our \$8,000 camp budget. The camp is sponsored by Kamal Academy, an interfaith **S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics)** school.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. Checks can be made out to Kamal Academy – place on memo line, E3 Camp. For more information please contact:

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