FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Molecular Biology Initiative Named a STEM Education Awards Finalist

Technology Association of Georgia Recognizes Award Finalists focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education

ATLANTA (September 8, 2014) – The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG), the state’s leading association dedicated to the promotion and economic advancement of Georgia’s technology industry, today announced that the Molecular Biology Initiative has been named as a Finalist in the Post-Secondary Outreach category for the 2014 STEM Education Awards.

The Technology Association of Georgia’s 3rd STEM Education Awards recognizes schools, programs, and companies for outstanding efforts and achievements in supporting and promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education in Georgia.

The Molecular Biology Initiative (MBI) partners with regional teachers to bring hands-on, relevant science to students (biotechnology, chemistry, physics, biology, forensics), including applicable technology and math skills. “This program represents a true partnership between university and school expertise, resulting in high-impact, sustainable outcomes for STEM education and student learning,” said Dr. Laura Regassa, MBI Director.

“It is exciting to see the progress we are making with STEM education in Georgia. The increase in nominations each year and the quality of the nominations made it difficult for our judges,” said Michael Robertson, Executive Director of TAG Education Collaborative. “Congratulations to the Finalists! Your work engaging these students in STEM will benefit the students you touch for years to come with challenging and exciting careers.”
This year’s Finalists were chosen in 8 different categories:

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Post Secondary Outreach
- Extracurricular Program
- STEM Certified School Outreach
- Corporate Outreach
- Best STEM Day Activity

Winners in each category will be officially honored at The 3rd Annual STEM Education Awards event held on September 26th at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center in Savannah, Georgia. The event is presented by TAG, the TAG Education Collaborative (TAG-Ed), a non-profit 501c3 dedicated to advancing STEM education in Georgia, and TAG Savannah.

“STEM occupations will increase in Georgia by more than 22,000 during the current decade,” said Tino Mantella, president & CEO of TAG. “The finalists of this year’s STEM Education Awards are helping to prepare the tech-ready workforce needed to fill these jobs and we applaud them for standing out as leaders in Georgia’s educational community.”

For more information about TAG and the 3rd Annual STEM Education Awards or to attend the event, visit http://bit.ly/STEMinfo2014

About MBI

The Molecular Biology Initiative targets STEM education and workforce needs at multiple levels in Southeast Georgia to ensure a real and lasting impact. Participants include in-service teachers, K-12 students, and students pursuing advanced STEM degrees. Each semester, the program partners graduate student fellows with in-service high school teachers, and together, they bring technologically relevant, hands-on science to over 1000 students on a weekly basis. For more information, visit www.georgiasouthern.edu/mbi or contact Janee Cardell at (912) 478-1923.
About TAG Education Collaborative

TAG Education Collaborative is dedicated to developing science, technology, engineering and math initiatives in Georgia. Through partnerships with statewide STEM programs, TAG-Ed fosters student interest in STEM in order to increase appreciation for the opportunities available through technology careers. TAG-Ed hosts an internship program for high school students, two web-based team challenges for students interested in Health IT and web design, and the Vine Event, an annual fundraiser benefiting STEM education. For additional information, visit TAG Education Collaborative or contact Michael Robertson at (404) 920–2038 or mrobertson@tagonline.org.

About The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)

The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG) is the leading technology industry association in the state, serving more than 24,500 members and hosting over 200 events each year via 6 chapters across the state including Metro Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Macon/Middle Georgia and Savannah. TAG serves as an umbrella organization for 34 industry societies, each of which provides rich content for TAG constituents. TAG’s mission is to educate, promote, influence and unite Georgia’s technology community to foster an innovative and connected marketplace that stimulates and enhances a tech-based economy. The association provides members with access to networking and educational programs; recognizes and promotes Georgia’s technology leaders and companies; and advocates for legislative action that enhances the state’s economic climate for technology. For more information visit the TAG website at www.tagonline.org or TAG’s community website at www.TAGthink.com.

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