

For immediate release

## Innovative Program Prepares Youth for the Rapidly Growing Field of Biomedicine

Bay Area, CA – Calculus Roundtable announces the official launch of its anticipated biomedical career path program which combines real-world exploration led by biomedical and biotechnical professionals with foundational math and science. Available on the Calculus Roundtable STEM Broadcasting Network (SBN), this series of biomed-focused Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) classes, resources and support is specifically designed to prepare youth for opportunities in the expanding biomed and biotech industries.

Partnerships with top biomedical companies and organizations, digital delivery and generous sponsorship help reach students from underserved communities who may otherwise not have access to high-level and interactive programming. Carl Davis Jr of the Silicon Valley black chamber of commerce calls the program, “The most innovative biomedical program for youth in the nation.”

Employing the same tools used by professionals in hospitals and labs, students collaborating alongside their mentors engage in activities that immerse them in the challenges and find solutions to real and imagined problems.

One example is the “BLOC by Block” biomedical program produced in conjunction with Life Science Cares - a nonprofit collective of life science companies dedicated to eliminating the impacts of poverty on our communities. the Biopharma Leaders of Color (BLOC) operating in Oakland, Richmond and San Jose support courses that mix DNA research, engineering, programming, biology, and career exploration with scientists, geneticists, doctors, and medical engineers of color.

“Our biomedical science students are tackling challenges that biomedical professionals overcome which builds curiosity and engages them in deep learning at a critical young age,” says Calculus Roundtable Executive Director, Jim Hollis. “While gaining a deeper understanding of importance of innovation and the scientific method, our students are expanding their believe in their own capability to achieve whatever goal they set their mind to. And that’s a huge piece of success.”

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 6% growth in biomedical engineering jobs in the next year, with new openings averaging 1,400 yearly over the next decade and similar employment growth is expected for biomedical equipment technicians. However, people from communities of color are vastly underrepresented in lucrative STEM fields. Holding an average of only 9% of all STEM related jobs, the percentage of black workers in STEM jobs has changed little since 2016, according to Pew Research. Factors include the lack of access to high-quality math and science in school.

Calculus Roundtable has an exceptional track record for challenging these odds. Since founded in 2016, CR has been at 47 school districts and served over 20,000 students, 90% children of color. One hundred percent of the program's first cohort of graduates completed college degrees and a significant percent were awarded scholarships in STEM fields.

Key to CR's success are teachers, tutors, professionals and leaders of color who serve as role models for students. Interacting with instructors who look like them has been shown to inspire and encourage young people to pursue their dreams while inciting them with a passion for science and innovation.

"By investing in initiatives like Calculus Roundtable which are a gateway to establishing solid support systems for cultivating talent, we can encourage more people in historically excluded communities to choose a career in STEM, building a better, more diverse workforce. Programs proven to help K-12 students from historically excluded populations enrich STEM curricula in a meaningful way," writes Dr. Tunde Bello Vice President Clinical Pharmacology, Pharmacometrics, QSP and PBPK at Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Only through the generous support of our sponsors is any of this all possible. We thank **Cellevolve**, **Bristol Myers Squibb**, **Lam Research**, **HELLMAN FOUNDATION**, and **Bio-Rad Laboratories** for stepping up as partners in this ambitious endeavor to expand diversity in STEM.

Media contact: Jim Hollis [calcround@gmail.com](mailto:calcround@gmail.com)

To learn more about, Calculus Roundtable, visit [www.calcround.org](http://www.calcround.org)

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