For Immediate Release July 13, 2011

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Wade Edwards Learning Lab Summer Program:

## Partnering with Shodor Foundation to provide STEM Computational Modeling Workshops Wake County and with Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to offer hands-on Farm to Table Workshop Series

The start of a blazing hot week saw the Wade Edwards Learning Lab (WELL) launch its 2011 Summer Program Workshop Series. Workshops are open to all high-school students, including rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Under the direction of WELL director Steven Killion, Wake County teens are participating in workshops that focus on developing and retaining academic skills as well as pursuing artistic expression and marketable skills.

For a complete list of workshops and information about registering, please see: <u>http://wade.org/pages/summer2011.html</u> A few are at capacity and have a waiting list; these are notated in red.

Among this summer's wide-ranging series of workshops are several brand new offerings that are the result of exciting new collaborations with other community agencies. Among these, two stand out as they offer unique hands-on opportunities for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) learning.

Building on both local and national efforts to create awareness of the basics of nutrition and food sourcing, already under way is a free of charge two-week **"Farm to Table / Cooking Matters" workshop series** that is the result of a partnership with the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle. Led by chefs, nutritionists, and farmers, this exciting interactive workshop series will take students to visit the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle farm and local farmer's markets to learn about nutrition and work side-by-side with celebrity chefs to prepare healthy recipes. Highlights that would be great opportunities for media coverage include:

July 12, Culinary Lesson 1

Location-Inter-Faith Food Shuttle Kitchen, 1001 Blair Drive (off Centennial Parkway) Chef Terri – Cook with produce acquired at the Food Shuttle Farm; nutrition lesson Food Groups/MyPyramid

July 13, State Farmer's Market and Food Processing Ford's Produce at State Farmer's Market, 1109 Agriculture Street

July 14, Culinary Lesson 2 Inter-Faith Food Shuttle Kitchen, 1001 Blair Drive (off Centennial Parkway) Chef Todd Whitney of J. Betski's cooking with Farmer's Market Product

July 19 – Culinary Lesson 3 Zely & Ritz, 301 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 100 Chef Sarig Agassi

July 21 – Culinary Lesson 4 Inter-Faith Food Shuttle Kitchen, 1001 Blair Drive (off Centennial Parkway) Chef Carrie Gephardt of Crumb For Immediate Release - page two July 13, 2011

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In another new partnership, the Wade Edwards Foundation is partnering with the **SHODOR Foundation** (<u>www.shodor.org</u>) to bring to Wake County for the first time two four-day **Computational Modeling Workshops**. In these workshops, young learners will explore STEM subjects in a way that is not only "hands on" but also "minds on." They will create computer models that explain population dynamics, predator-prey relationships, and the spread of disease, and they will work alongside SHODOR scientists and interns to apply these skills in creating computational solutions to group-selected problems.

Patrick Royal, a former Broughton High School student and WELL employee who now attends Duke University and works at Shodor Foundation during the school year, will be a guest instructor for these workshops and others. Patrick writes of a workshop conducted in Durham earlier this year in which "Students also worked with a concept relevant to the modern world of H1N1 and SARS outbreaks - the Disease Model. This computer simulation allowed students to create a disease, set its qualities (spread, length of time, fatality rate, etc.), and then watch it spread or be eradicated in a model population. This helped students to realize that a function doesn't have to be just a simple, mechanical process. Even when students input the same settings for their diseases, they would often get different results due to the randomness introduced to these 'functions."

These innovative Shodor workshops will run will run July 25-28 and August 15-18 from 9am-noon. There is a moderate fee for the Shodor workshops (all other summer program workshops are free of charge), but scholarships are available. No student who wishes to attend will be turned away.

## http://wade.org/documents/SHODOR.pdf

More information about the Wade Edwards Learning Lab can be found at wade.org.