

## MHP, STORY TAPESTRIES COLLABORATION TO ENHANCE MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS STORYTELLING, LITERACY SKILLS

Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP) and Story Tapestries (ST) are partnering this school year to bring arts-based 21st Century media creation capabilities to the middle-school students enrolled in MHP's afterschool enrichment program known as Future Leaders of the World, or FLOW.

This program is addressing gaps in technology and media access with a learning experience that combines storytelling, drama, and 21st Century media literacy skills with traditional academic skills support. The program will work toward three primary goals: youth will improve their academic school grades; students will learn how to express themselves creatively and constructively; and the community will be able to hear and follow their stories.

FLOW students will receive iPads that will allow them hands-on use of technology. The program will include workshop sessions led by Story Tapestries teaching artists to develop storyboards, conduct interviews, and film/edit public-service announcement style videos. Students also will take virtual field trips, meeting professionals from Telemundo and other media businesses who can become role models. These lessons and experiences will help students envision a future where they are an active part of the innovative, tech-enabled workforce.

The program is made possible through a generous grant from the NBC Universal Foundation.

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*MHP is a nonprofit dedicated to providing more than 2,100 quality affordable homes to more than 4,000 area residents. The organization offers student enrichment programming to over 400 young MHP residents. For more information about MHP, contact Charlotte Garvey, communications manager, 301.807.8819.*

*Story Tapestries is a nonprofit that seeks to: strengthen communities by helping partners build self-sufficient, sustainable arts-based programs; increase access to arts integration programs to high-need communities; and become a resource for arts integration in education and community development online and in person. For more information about Story Tapestries, contact Steven L. Barker, Managing Director, 301.916.6328, [steve@storytapestries.org](mailto:steve@storytapestries.org).*