

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Meryl Hellring
Communications Director
O (412) 745-5510
C (412) 657-0894
meryl@ticketsforkids.org

For Immediate Release

Tickets for Kids[®] Charities receives Bayer grant to support STEM learning

Pittsburgh — (**September 16, 2015**) Tickets for Kids® Charities (TFK) has received a \$150,000 grant from the Bayer USA Foundation to facilitate a new initiative of its *Making Science Make Sense*® (MSMS) program, which will provide meaningful, hands-on science learning experiences for in-need and at-risk children. Utilizing TFK's national network of more than 3,000 social service agencies, children will receive no-cost tickets and admissions to venues offering programming in science, technology, engineering and math.

This funding expands the reach of *Making Science Make Sense*[®], which was established to advance science literacy across the United States. To celebrate the program's 20th year, Bayer is asking people of all ages to share a "thank you" message at SayTkU.com or via social media at #SayTkU, acknowledging someone who has inspired scientific imagination and helped to make science make sense in their life.

For each "thank you" message shared from September 9 through October 30, Bayer will provide free admission to a STEM venue for a child (up to 25,000 admissions). These experiences, which may include a day-long adventure at a local science museum or other place of scientific discovery, are intended to not only educate, but also inspire further science-focused exploration and spread the message that science is, truly, all around us.

"We're honored to be partnering with Bayer USA Foundation to mark this important milestone," said Tickets for Kids' Executive Director Jason J. Riley. "The opportunities that have been created over the last 20 years through the *Making Science Make Sense*® initiative speak directly to our mission – to create equitable access for all children to experiences that inspire. We're grateful for this support and look forward to the many new opportunities it will provide."

About Tickets for Kids® Charities

Founded in 1994, Tickets for Kids® Charities (TFK) is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit organization committed to enriching the lives of in-need and at-risk children and their families by providing no-cost tickets to a variety of events and activities. Tickets are acquired through donors and distributed to children served by thousands of nonprofit social service agencies and community groups across the U.S. Since its inception, TFK has distributed more than 1.8 million tickets. For more information, call 412-781-KIDS (5437) or visit www.ticketsforkids.org.