



For Immediate Release

Growing Together: Lafayette Preparatory Academy Joins the Green House Venture Urban Agriculture Education Program

St. Louis, Mo., November 26, 2024 -- The Green House Venture (GHV) is thrilled to welcome Lafayette Preparatory Academy in St. Louis as the newest member of its Urban Education Alliance. This exciting partnership offers a rich new learning environment for the Academy's students, blending GHV's hands-on bioscience and urban agriculture experiences with the school's already impressive science program.

Students in Lafayette Prep's 5th-grade classes are currently working on experiments utilizing GHV's computerized indoor Growth Chamber to test plant growth in various soil types, combined with their current lessons on photosynthesis. In spring, the students will join peers from other Urban Education Alliance schools for hands-on planting experiences at the GHV Campus.

"Our kids are really getting into it," says Olivia Pocost, Lafayette Prep's dedicated science teacher. "We plan to continue doing more experiments with the Growth Chamber throughout the semester and we're eager to bring more kids into the program in the future. I'm especially thrilled about the program offering a multi-year curriculum. That's going to be a powerful learning opportunity for our kids. We're really excited to be part of the Green House Venture."

Lafayette Preparatory Academy joins three other City elementary schools currently participating in the GHV program, including Mullanphy Investigative Learning Center (St. Louis Public Schools), St. Margaret of Scotland School (parochial) and Tower Grove Christian Academy. Serving approximately 415 students from kindergarten through 8th grade from every zip code in the city, Lafayette Preparatory Academy embodies the diverse spirit that GHV cherishes.

"We wanted a charter school with a diverse student body to join our Alliance, and Lafayette's academic excellence is reflected in their stellar math scores, which rank among the highest in the state," said Professor Donald Stump, Vice President of GHV. "The proximity to the

GHV Campus is an added bonus, making it easy to access future on-site activities at the Venture's Terrace Garden and Embankment Greenway.”

Science education at Lafayette Prep is already a cornerstone of the curriculum, with daily dedicated classes for grades 5-8 and an integrated approach with social studies for younger students. The partnership with GHV will elevate their program, providing exciting new opportunities for hands-on learning and real-world application of scientific principles and practices.

About Green House Venture

The Green House Venture is an innovative STEM education program dedicated to educating and inspiring elementary students to create a sustainable world. Through hands-on experiences in bioscience and urban agriculture, the GHV equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to address pressing challenges in science, nutrition and dietetics, and urban agriculture. The organization aims to make a meaningful impact on the future of education and sustainable practices. For more information about The Green House Venture, visit www.greenhousetl.org or send an email to craig@workman-company.com.

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