



Mississippi Science Fest Presented by C Spire Hosts Fourth Annual C3 Jr Coding Challenge at the Mississippi Children's Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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C Spire's C3 Jr Coding Challenge Kicks Off MS Science Fest

Jackson, Miss. (Sept. 19, 2023) – On Thursday, 20 teams from across the state participated in C Spire's C3 Jr Coding Challenge at the Mississippi Children's Museum in Jackson and Meridian.

C3 Jr is a coding challenge uniquely designed for elementary age students to learn 21st century technology skills. Teams comprised of four fourth grade students were guided through coding challenges by a C Spire Mentor, treated to lunch compliments of C Spire, and participated in an awards ceremony at the conclusion of the challenge.

During the challenge, teams used critical thinking and problem-solving skills to design an obstacle course and code a robot to complete the course. Awards were given to team members who showed an awesome attitude, team spirit, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills during the challenge. The top three teams received trophies and tech-related prizes.

Schools who participated at MCM-Jackson: Northwest Rankin Elementary, St. Andrews Lower School, Madison Crossing Elementary, Spann Elementary, Barak H. Obama Magnet School, First Presbyterian Day School, Highland Elementary, McWillie Elementary, Lake Elementary, and McLeod Elementary.

Schools who participated at MCM-Meridian: Lamar Elementary, Enterprise Elementary, Clarkdale Elementary, Parkview Elementary, Poplar Springs Elementary, Newton County Elementary, and Northeast Elementary.

The mission of Mississippi Science Fest is to showcase STEAM subjects and engage students and educators across the state in a fun, interactive learning environment that promotes science education and workforce development. On Saturday, guests explored all four LeFleur Museum District museums for one low ticket price of \$10!

The 8th Annual Mississippi Science Fest was held on Saturday, September 16. Children and families had the opportunity to interact with nationally renowned STEM professionals, engage in hands-on activities, and explore exciting experiments and exhibits. This year's festival featured special guests from Jackson Roller Derby, **Magicians and Ag Aviation experts** to share a fun approach to learning Science.

MCM-Meridian held the third annual Science Saturday in conjunction with the Mississippi Science Festival. Events taking place during the three-day festival welcomed over **5,000 guests** in Jackson and Meridian.

About the LeFleur Museum District

The LeFleur Museum District (LMD) promotes four uniquely different museums and is located at a one-quarter mile stretch, just off I-55 and Lakeland Drive in Jackson, MS. Featuring the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum, the Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum, the Mississippi Children's Museum, and the MDWFP's Mississippi Museum of Natural

Science, the LMD's mission is to inspire visitors from around the region and nation with a sense of wonder. LMD creates opportunities for growth for all museums involved through joint events and cross-promotion of individual activities. Associations like the LeFleur Museum District are important developments to this region's creative economy. The district partners with nearby restaurants and hotels to build the area as a premier destination for visitors. For more information, visit LeFleurMuseumDistrict.com.

About C Spire and the C Spire Foundation

C Spire is a diversified telecommunications and technology services company that provides world-class customer- inspired service and a superior comprehensive suite of wireless communications, high-speed Internet access and a range of other telecommunications products and services to consumers and businesses. The C Spire Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and its mission is to support STEM education that strengthens digital literacy, technology, and professional skills development for students in grades K-12 and at institutions of higher learning in Mississippi. For more information about C Spire or the C Spire Foundation, visit www.cspire.com or follow on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cspire or Twitter at www.twitter.com/cspire.

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