

Media Release
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BP supports the Challenger Learning Center of Alaska's STEM education mission

Working together to build a future of innovative learning and provide viable career pathways for Alaska's students!

Kenai, Alaska- The Challenger Learning Center of Alaska (CLCA) announces BP's donation of \$30,000 to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) enrichment through critical thinking with Challenger's unique teaching model using simulated space missions and other hands-on exploration programs. As a stand-alone 501(c)(3) which receives no federal, state, borough, or city funding sources for operational costs, Challenger relies on the generosity and foresight of corporate donors like BP, to continue fostering awareness, engagement, and understanding of how vital STEM education is at the pre-college level.

BP's employees contribute to more than 700 community and education organizations and more than 230 youth teams throughout Alaska. They also contribute thousands of volunteer hours. The company supports these efforts through matching employee donations, volunteer hours and fundraising efforts. Last year, BP provided more than \$5 million to support nonprofit and educational organizations and programs in Alaska. Only with the support of organizations such as BP can CLCA interconnect with the emerging and existing workforce, keeping Alaskans competitive in a rapidly changing 21st century marketplace.

Challenger is in a unique position to be the leading resource in STEM education and survival training for Alaska's diverse population and is dedicated to maintaining the highest standards for academic and training excellence.

Challenger Learning Center of Alaska is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in operation since April 2000. CLCA was created to meet the educational needs of students throughout Alaska providing a vital and valuable educational resource for our state and is dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence. CLCA is in a unique position to be the leading resource in STEM education for Alaska. For 15 years, CLCA has increased awareness of STEM and inspired over 100,000 Alaskans to develop interests in STEM fields through simulated missions, workshops, custom programming, distance-based learning and outreach. Programs also include inventive and engaging methods to strengthen workplaces by offering communication and team-building activities. The most recent expansion of services includes a critical lifesaving training hub for the community and industry in the survival sciences and cold-water training with our CSET division..

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