

## News Release

August 28, 2018

### SparkShop Receives Motorola Solutions Foundation Grant

Chicago, IL – 08/28/2018 – SparkShop, an immersive and interactive STEM program, today announced it has received a grant from [Motorola Solutions Foundation](#), the charitable arm of [Motorola Solutions, Inc.](#)

Through the grant, SparkShop will be able to provide free or discounted programs to 6 low-income classrooms around Chicago. Motorola Solutions Foundation awards grants each year to organizations, such as SparkShop, which support and advance public safety programs and technology and engineering education initiatives.

“With the help of the Motorola Solutions Foundation grants program, SparkShop will help provide underrepresented and underserved students across the Chicago with technology and engineering learning,” said Tiernan Murrell, co-director of SparkShop.

SparkShop transforms school classrooms into engineering labs and makerspaces where students can follow their curiosities, get their hands dirty, and ask questions. Their curriculum contains a dynamic mix of experiments, discussions, demonstrations, and problem-solving designed for 4th–5th graders. With the support from the Motorola Solutions Foundation grant, SparkShop will be able to bring their premium program to schools in low-income neighborhoods.

This year, Motorola Solutions Foundation grants will support programs that help more than 3 million students, teachers, first responders and community members around the globe. There is a specific focus on providing grants to programs that impact underrepresented populations, including females, minorities, people with disabilities, veterans and others.

“The Motorola Solutions Foundation is honored to and privileged to support the work of SparkShop said Matt Blakely, executive director of the Motorola Solutions Foundation. “We believe in organizations that are fostering innovation, building partnerships and driving change, and we’re proud to be part of the positive impact they’re making in communities.”

- For additional information on Motorola Solutions Foundation grants program, visit: [motorolasolutions.com/foundation](http://motorolasolutions.com/foundation)
- For more information on SparkShop please visit [www.sparkshop.org](http://www.sparkshop.org)

#### About SparkShop

SparkShop is a Chicago-based non-profit run by a team of engineers-turned-educators. After working in industry, they were inspired to make engineering an approachable and attainable future for more students. Their innovative program empowers students to apply their skills to engineering challenges and see their value in STEM fields. The curriculum contains a dynamic mix of experiments, discussions, demonstrations, and problem-solving designed for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. SparkShop aims to build the initial enthusiasm that prepares students to pursue more STEM activities later in their learning careers.

#### About the Motorola Solutions Foundation

The Motorola Solutions Foundation is the charitable and philanthropic arm of Motorola

Solutions. With employees located around the globe, Motorola Solutions seeks to benefit the communities where it operates. The foundation achieves this by making strategic grants, forging strong community partnerships and fostering innovation. Motorola Solutions Foundation focuses its funding on public safety, disaster relief, employee programs and education, especially in science, technology, engineering and math. For more information on Motorola Solutions Corporate and Foundation giving, visit our website: [www.motorolasolutions.com/foundation](http://www.motorolasolutions.com/foundation).