



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The St. Louis Blues, Aquarium Foundation, Magic House and KidSmart Partner to Support Elementary Students' At-Home Learning *Activity Kits Distributed to Children in Need*

ST LOUIS (April 29, 2020) – What do you get when you take the Stanley Cup winning team, add a little water and sprinkle some magic? A powerful partnership that helps connect kids in need with educational materials during this challenging time. The Saint Louis Blues, St. Louis Aquarium Foundation and The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum have created an educationally-based activity packet for children with limited internet and computer access.

In partnership with KidSmart who is providing school supplies and distribution of the packets, over 12,000 kits will be distributed to students in pre-K through second grade in the St. Louis area. Distributed with meals as a part of the free and reduced lunch program at Ferguson-Florissant, St. Louis Public and other school districts, families will have easy access to their copy of the activity book.

"We are excited to work with the St. Louis Aquarium Foundation, The Magic House and KidSmart to create an educational tool to use at home," said Chris Zimmerman, St. Louis Blues President and CEO. "We hope this provides support for St. Louis families who are experiencing an unprecedented time in their child's education."

About Blues for Kids, Charitable Trust of the St. Louis Blues

Blues for Kids, the charitable trust of the St. Louis Blues, has a mission to positively impact programs and services that improve health and wellness of youth in the St. Louis area.

Thanks to the commitment of Blues players, alumni, volunteers and fans, Blues for Kids has contributed more than \$5 million to the St. Louis community.

Blues for Kids focuses on four areas of giving, which include cancer care and awareness, health and wellness, education and youth hockey development.

For more information visit stlouisblues.com/community.

About the St. Louis Aquarium Foundation

As the nonprofit partner to the St. Louis Aquarium at Union Station, the Aquarium Foundation engages the community through providing Aquarium access to the underserved, STEM-based education programs, and a robust volunteer program. Through its free-admission Conservation & Education Center – located near the Aquarium entrance – visitors participate in interactive science-based exhibits while learning more about our local waterways, water conservation, the effects of plastic pollution, and meet some animals that call our local rivers home. For additional information, please visit www.stlaquariumfoundation.org or email info@stlaquariumfoundation.org.

About The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum

The Magic House is a not-for-profit participatory museum that provides hands-on learning experiences for children and families and encourages experimentation, creativity and the development of problem-solving skills within a place of beauty, wonder, joy and magic. Serving more than 550,000 visitors annually, The Magic House operates two locations including the 55,000 square foot flagship location in Kirkwood, a suburb of St. Louis, and an all-new satellite makerspace in the City of St. Louis on Delmar Boulevard, located between the Central West End and the Delmar Loop. For additional information, please call or text 314.822.8900 or visit The Magic House online at www.magichouse.org.

About KidSmart

KidSmart is a not-for-profit that equips 75,000 low-income students in the St. Louis area with millions of free school supplies throughout each school year. KidSmart partners with teachers in 4000 local classrooms, in 12 area school districts, to ensure students living at or below the poverty level are equipped with all the educational tools needed to learn and succeed. KidSmart operates a Free Educational Supply Store and also directly distributes school supplies to equip 100% of the students in the most high need classrooms in our community. KidSmart responded immediately to the increased demand for

services, due to the COVID-19 emergency, by distributing \$2 million in free, essential supplies to equip students in need for learning at home. To support emergency response and back to school efforts, please visit kidsmartstl.org or call (314) 291-6211.

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