



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STEMACTION, INC. PROGRAMS ACQUIRED BY  
UNIVERSITIES SPACE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**

GLENWOOD, MD (June 1, 2017) – STEMaction, Inc. announced today that its operations and programs have been acquired by the Universities Space Research Association (USRA), based in Columbia, MD. With the acquisition, USRA expands its range of activities to inspire, engage, and develop the next-generation science and technology workforce through K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs. Effective June 1, 2017, STEMaction, Inc. is dissolved as a corporation and its operations and programs continue through the USRA STEMaction Center.

Bill Duncan, Executive Director of STEMaction, stated, "We're delighted that USRA has chosen to build upon our efforts as a partner for *FIRST* robotics programs in Maryland, the new Maryland Tech Invitational tournament, and as founding sponsor of the Maryland STEM Festival. We're proud of what's been accomplished in the five years since STEMaction's founding and look forward to USRA offering an even broader range of great STEM activities to the region's students and families."

Jeff Isaacson, President and CEO of USRA added, "USRA is committed to growing its role as an innovation hub hosting an expanding array of inspirational, educational, and accessible STEM and workforce development programs for a diverse community." Based out of the 18,000 square foot USRA STEMaction Center at USRA's headquarters in Columbia, MD, these programs reach throughout Maryland and the greater Washington, DC, region.

STEMaction, Inc. has been the Founding Sponsor and partner of the Maryland STEM Festival since its outset in 2015. Phil Rogofsky, Director of the Maryland STEM Festival, notes, "As we prepare for the third annual Maryland STEM Festival, we are pleased that the USRA STEMaction Center will continue to provide a base for our operations and finances in coming years." The 2017 Maryland STEM Festival, October 31 through November 12, is slated for more than 600 independently produced STEM events throughout the state, reaching more than 50,000 attendees.

Staff and associates of STEMaction, including Mr. Duncan, Mr. Rogofsky, and Jenny Beatty, Volunteer Director, will become Senior Advisors to USRA's staff for continuing STEM activities. The USRA STEMaction Center website is [www.stemaction.usra.edu](http://www.stemaction.usra.edu). Correspondence should be directed to:

USRA STEMaction Center  
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046



## **ABOUT STEMaction**

STEMaction ignites and nurtures a lifelong passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through events and activities for youth and their families. We support *FIRST's* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) progression of K-12 robotics programs ([www.FIRSTinMaryland.org](http://www.FIRSTinMaryland.org)) as well as other great STEM activities. STEMaction is the official Affiliate Partner for the Maryland/DC *FIRST* Tech Challenge and Maryland *FIRST* LEGO League Junior programs, and host of the new Maryland Tech Invitational tournament June 24-25, 2017 ([www.mdtechinvitational.org](http://www.mdtechinvitational.org)). STEMaction is Founding Partner for the Maryland STEM Festival (October 31 - November 12, 2017, [www.MarylandSTEMFestival.org](http://www.MarylandSTEMFestival.org)) and the Howard County STEM Festival (June 4, 2017). [www.stemaction.org](http://www.stemaction.org)

## **About USRA**

Founded in 1969, under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences, Universities Space Research Association is an independent, nonprofit research corporation which offers an avenue for government and industry to engage the expertise of the academic community together with USRA's own technical leadership, innovative R&D, operational excellence, management of premier facilities and education programs to advance space- and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration. USRA works across disciplines including biomedicine, planetary science, astrophysics, and engineering and integrates those competencies into applications ranging from fundamental research to facility management and operations to develop and deliver sophisticated, forward-looking solutions to Federal agencies and other government sponsors. [www.usra.edu](http://www.usra.edu)