



PUBLIC RELATIONS

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**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE PARTNERS WITH PBS'S *HISTORY MAKERS* TO
HOST A TWO-DAY PROGRAM GEARED AT SHOWCASING
EXEMPLARY SCIENTISTS OF COLOR DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Philadelphia, PA, January 26, 2011 — On February 11-12, The Franklin Institute, in partnership with PBS's *History Makers*, will host a Black History Month program entitled, "***The Color of Science***". This two-day event is aimed at increasing public awareness of an extraordinary group of scientists, and demonstrating to our next generation the incredible opportunities in a variety of careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

The program kicks-off on Friday, February 11 with an already filled evening panel discussion among four *ScienceMakers*®, and hosted by The Franklin Institute's Chief Astronomer Derrick Pitts. The Saturday portion of the program is a free day of student interactive activities featuring the four featured scientists and other notable scientists of color. The Franklin Institute has invited local youth programs at the Philadelphia Zoo, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the New Jersey Aquatic Center, the Please Touch Museum and the Philadelphia Art Museum to participate in Saturday's event. The specific purpose of the youth program is to increase awareness of scientists of color and provide mentorship and role models for the K-12 community.

Friday, February 11, 2011 | 5:00pm

One-on-one interviews followed by a panel discussion featuring:

- **Dr. Sharon Haynie**, Principal Investigator, DuPont Company
 - **Dr. Chad Jenkins**, Associate Professor of Computer Science, Brown University
 - **Dr. Edward Tunstel**, Senior Robotics Engineer, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 - **Professor James West**, Research Professor, Johns Hopkins University
- Moderated by: **Derrick Pitts**, Chief Astronomer, The Franklin Institute

Saturday, February 12, 2011 (open to school and youth groups only)

- **9:30 ScienceMakers® Laboratory**
Students receive a passport stamp as they travel through the museum to experience hands-on science demonstrations by various scientists.
- **12:00 Lunch with ScienceMakers®**
Students join scientists at round tables to learn about careers in science and discuss pathways to becoming a scientist.

- **12:45 ScienceMakers® Forum**

Learn more about the ScienceMakers® program. ScienceMakers® YouTube competition finalists will be featured, followed by a panel discussion with four ScienceMakers®.

The events are on Friday are free and open to the public, however space is limited. Advance registration is required; please call (215) 448-1254.

About *The HistoryMakers*

The HistoryMakers is a national, 501(c)(3) non-profit educational institution committed to preserving, developing and providing easy access to an internationally recognized archival collection of thousands of African American video oral histories. The purpose of this archive is to educate and to show the breadth and depth of this important American history as told by the first person; highlight the accomplishments of individual African Americans across a variety of disciplines; showcase those who have played a role in African American led movements and/or organizations; and preserve this material for years and generations to come. *The HistoryMakers* is committed to creating and exposing its archival collection to the widest audience possible using collaborations as well as the Internet, a digital archive and other new technologies.

About *ScienceMakers*

ScienceMakers, which is part of the *HistoryMakers* effort, is an innovative African American media and education initiative focused on capturing and preserving the stories of African Americans in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) professions. It will also disseminate these stories broadly to youth, public and professional audiences using the Internet, a unique digital video oral history archive, public programs, exhibits, radio, TV, print and other new technologies.

About The Franklin Institute

Founded in honor of America's first scientist, Benjamin Franklin, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. It is dedicated to creating a passion for science by offering new and exciting access to science and technology in ways that would dazzle and delight its namesake. For more information, please visit www.fi.edu.

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