

Ecotek Lab Delegation Participates in My Brother's Keeper Event



Above: Ecotek Lab delegation at STEM Illumination Seminar (l to r): Demarius Clemons, Damon Rogers, Chandler Harris, Joshua May, Mr. Young, Jayshaun Prince, Miles Frierson, Colin Wilson, Malik Bassett, Dhareus Franks

On April 26, 2014 the young men at Ecotek Lab participated in the first annual STEM Illumination Seminar at the Michigan Science Center. The seminar was hosted by the Morehouse College Alumni Association-Michigan Chapter and the Michigan Science Center. Event funding was provided by not-for-profit donors to support the White House's My Brother's Keeper Initiative.

The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Louis Sullivan, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during President George H. W. Bush's Administration and was Founding Dean of the Morehouse School of Medicine. He shared information with attendees regarding his career path and experiences in science. In addition to Dr. Sullivan, the young men heard from Dr. Tonya Matthews, President of the Michigan Science Center along with other positive role models.

There were over 150 registered participants for the event. African American young men from communities throughout Southeastern Michigan were in attendance. During the morning sessions the student scientists from Ecotek Lab participated in mentoring breakout sessions where they learned about planning for college and leadership skills. During the afternoon session the young men from the lab took center stage in the Toyota Theater where they conducted experiments and shared information about their experiences in science. For example, Damon Rogers, a junior at Detroit Edison Early College of Excellence, discussed his research on nitrogen variability on Lake Ontario, while Joshua May, a freshman at Renaissance High School, discussed his research on using robots to detect airborne bio-pathogens in healthcare facilities.

Having the young men from Ecotek Lab participate in the STEM Illumination workshop provided them with an opportunity to expose their peers to the benefits of STEM. It also gave them an opportunity to network with other successful and forward thinking African American male role models in the region.



Jayshaun Prince learning about cryogenic physics



Dr. Sullivan (center) along with Dr Jackson (right) and Morehouse College alumni rep



Breakout session leader speaking to event attendees regarding decision making and the importance of role models

About the Ecotek Science Program

Ecotek is a science research lab program for young inventors and researchers in grades 5 thru 12. Student scientists work on projects aligned with the issues being addressed by world leaders at the United Nations. To learn more about Ecotek Lab go to <http://www.ecotek-us.com>