

## WE Day Community: St. Louis celebrates young change-makers with Millie Davis, Larry Hughes, Martin Luther King III, Marcus Scribner and more

Backgrounders, photos and more are available on the <u>Electronic Press Kit</u>
 WE Day Community: St. Louis will stream live at 10:00 a.m. CDT on April 3, 2019 at <u>WE.org/watchweday</u>
 WE Day Community: St. Louis is free to thousands of students thanks to partners led by National Co-Title Sponsor <u>The Allstate Foundation</u>

St. Louis, MO (April 3, 2019) – Today, for the first-time ever in the state of Missouri, WE Day makes its debut at Stifel Theatre in St. Louis. Celebrating young people committed to making a difference, WE Day Community: St. Louis, brings together 2,500 students and educators from over 80 schools from across the state. This inspiring youth empowerment event was made possible in part by supportive members of the St. Louis community, including WE Day Community: St. Louis co-chair Jennifer Hillman. WE Community: St. Louis features renowned speakers, innovative thought leaders and dynamic performers including Larry Hughes, Martin Luther King III, Kechi Okwuchi, with WE co-founder Craig Kielburger alongside co-hosts Millie Davis and Marcus Scribner and more. WE Day is free of charge to students and educators across the U.S. thanks to the generous support of sponsors led by National Co-Title Sponsor The Allstate Foundation.

"I'm proud to be here today with so many powerful young people from across Missouri," said actor, Marcus Scribner. "Their voices matter, and today's event is a reminder that together they're creating real change in America – it's such an incredible thing."

Speakers and performers at WE Day Community: St. Louis energize the crowd through a day filled with powerful educational speeches, inspirational moments and empowering performances. A few must-see highlights include:

- NBA veteran/owner of Larry Hughes Basketball Academy, Larry Hughes, takes the stage to discuss
  the importance of hard work and determination in attaining your goals, and why youth today should
  give back in their local communities.
- Inspirational keynote speaker, award-winning singer and burn survivor advocate, Kechi Okwuchi, motivates the WE Day crowd about looking beyond individuals' physical attributes and performs her song 'Don't you Dare'.
- Civil rights activist, global humanitarian and political leader, **Martin Luther King III**, encourages the crowd about the importance of finding your voice and using it in the name of change.

More than a one-day event, WE Day is connected to the free, yearlong educational program <u>WE Schools</u>, a program designed to enhance a school or community's existing social initiatives or spark new ones. WE Schools provides participants with curriculum, educational resources and action campaigns, encouraging students to further their curricular learning and develop life skills to succeed beyond the classroom. In the 2017/2018 school year, over 120 schools and school groups across Missouri improved the world through WE Schools, volunteering over 1,775 hours and raising more than \$16,000 in support of over 700 local and global causes, including creating awareness of environmental issues, access to education, digital responsibility, combatting global hunger and clean water initiatives.

"I'm thrilled to be at WE Day Community: St. Louis to recognize and celebrate the work of the thousands of incredible young leaders here today. Each student and educator have challenged themselves to give back in remarkable ways and make a real difference in their local and global communities," said **Craig Kielburger**, co-founder of WE. "We're honored to provide tools to build the confidence, self-esteem and leadership skills of young people and to encourage the next generation of engaged citizens. From tackling the stigma surrounding mental health, to fundraising to improve access to clean water and eliminating local







homelessness, today's young change-makers are more fearless than ever when it comes to taking action on timely issues. Their unwavering commitment to doing good never ceases to inspire me and all of us here today to support them."

WE Day is free of charge to students and educators across the U.S. thanks to the generous support of sponsors led by National Co-Title Sponsor <a href="The Allstate Foundation">The Allstate Foundation</a>. This means students can't buy a ticket to WE Day Missouri—youth from across the state earn their way by taking action on one local and one global issue of their choice.

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## **About WE**

WE Day is part of WE—a family of organizations that makes doing good, doable. WE is made up of WE Charity, empowering domestic and international change, ME to WE, a social enterprise that creates socially conscious products and experiences to help support the charity, and WE Day, filling stadiums around the world with the greatest celebration of social good.

WE Charity was founded in 1995 by then 12-year-old Craig Kielburger with a mission to fight child labor. WE has since grown and evolved to address the root cause of child labor—extreme poverty. In the past 24 years, WE's programs have empowered over one million people with clean water, built 1,500 schools and schoolrooms overseas, and empowered more than 200,000 children with access to education.

WE enables young people and families to better the world—supporting 7,200+ local and global causes by volunteering millions of hours of social action, shopping daily with an impact, and raising millions of pounds that directly benefit their local communities and the world. Join the movement today at WE.org.

**About The Allstate Foundation** 

www.AllstateFoundation.org

For more information of WE Day or to request an interview, please contact:

Katie Watkins Associate Director, PR & Publicity 1.416.209.8870 katie.watkins@we.org



