

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Courtny Brooks Brand Manager Phone: (907) 550-8412

Email: cbrooks@alaskapublic.org

# Alaska Public Media Announces Education Partnerships for 2023

Diverse partnerships create new opportunities for innovative education aimed at Alaska's youth

**ANCHORAGE**, **AK** – **January 16**, **2023** – Alaska Public Media (AKPM) is pleased to announce partnerships with Joint Base Elmendorf Library, Boys and Girls Club-Alaska, Mountain View Elementary School and the Alaska Literacy Program in 2023. The partnerships are designed to develop a "Learning Neighborhood" that fosters a community-wide culture of learning at home, in the neighborhood, and within local systems and spaces. The work will extend the reach and impact of Alaska Public Media's Education Engagement efforts, and for the first time reach small rural Alaska communities, military families and children, and expand its reach to immigrant families by bringing programs to families at the school in their community.

"Working with diverse partners provides the station an opportunity to enrich communities and provide hands-on learning opportunities anywhere, anytime," said Stephanie McFadden, Director of Education and Engagement at AKPM. "As a retired Navy Chief Petty Officer, I especially appreciate being able to provide educational resources to military families."

"The JBER Library is thrilled to partner with AKPM to bring an exciting new level of education and entertainment to our programs," said Joseph O'Neil, Chief, Force Development, JBER. "The resources and innovation AKPM brings to our efforts will significantly enhance learning outcomes, increase parents' awareness of critical support programs outside our gates, and infuse a ton of fun into each child's education experience. We thank AKPM for their sponsorship and support to the JBER Library." \*

"Boys and Girls Clubs-Alaska is excited to continue the partnership with AKPM to address academic inequity through expanded STEM programming," said Jen Patronas, CEO, Boys and Girls Club-Alaska. "These fun, hands-on activities, designed to ignite a passion for learning help bridge the academic and digital divide. AKPM has a niche in finding innovative ways to help Alaska's young people reach their full potential!"

"Mountain View Elementary is proud of this partnership that puts parents as a priority in their children's education," said Dr. Clare Hill, Mt. View Elementary School Principal. "We're one of the most diverse schools in the nation. Strengthening and empowering our families is only going to help their scholars achieve."



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"Alaska Literacy Program is grateful for and looking forward to the new partnership with Alaska Public Media and our Family Literacy Program, bringing exceptional early learning media to newly arriving Alaskan families," said Lori Pickette, Executive Director, Alaska Literacy Project. "Through family workshops and professional development for our staff, Peer Leader Navigators and volunteers, we will work together to bring fun and engaging learning to our immigrant families and support Anchorage's rich diversity and our multilingual neighbors."

The programs underway with these partners are made possible in large part by a <u>Ready To Learn Grant</u> from the <u>Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)</u> and PBS in addition to grants from the <u>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</u> and <u>Richard L. and Diane M. Block Foundation</u>.

## Photos for media use

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\*No Federal endorsement is intended with this statement.

### **About Alaska Public Media**

Alaska Public Media (AKPM) is a shared Public Broadcasting System (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) member and a 501(c)(3) organization. Committed to meeting the needs of our community and state, AKPM produces and presents news and content that provides lifelong learning opportunities in public affairs, health and leisure, science and nature, economic and social development, civic engagement, and world events. The company is located in Southcentral Alaska and is comprised of KSKA radio, KAKM-TV, Create TV, PBS KIDS, PBS KIDS 24/7, and alaskapublic.org. Alaska Public Media also operates the Statewide News network and a shared television service with KTOO in Juneau and KYUK in Bethel.

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