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**PRESS RELEASE**

May 22, 2018

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## **EducationWorks is Named a Finalist for \$50,000 Grant**

*A public vote, open from May 22-June 15, determines the recipient of  
The 2018 Wawa Foundation Hero Award.*

**PHILADELPHIA** – [EducationWorks](#), a nonprofit provider of out-of-school, in-school, and career development programming for young adults, was named one of four finalists for [the Wawa Foundation Hero Award](#).

In its third year, the Wawa Foundation Hero Award is bestowed to a nonprofit organization that is committed to serving the Philadelphia area by assisting others and building strong communities through preserving independence, protecting our safety, and education and inspiring our youth. After a public voting period, the Wawa Foundation will announce the results and the recipient of the award on July 4 during a morning ceremony at the Wawa Welcome America festival.

EducationWorks, the largest provider of out-of-school time (after-school) programming in Philadelphia, aims to empower young adults by providing “Opportunities for Learning and Skills for Life.” The nonprofit works to engage young adults and make the school day whole through high-quality educational programs and to reengage disconnected young adults through education and career readiness programs. By focusing on topics like literacy, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM), social-emotional and experiential learning, on-the-job training, and career exploration, EducationWorks provides approximately 12,000 young individuals annually with the tools needed to be successful in school and life.

“Our programming exposes young people to new experiences and gives them a chance to learn what they like and what they don't, and more importantly, the ability to dream big, to seek opportunities outside of their day-to-day experiences, and to fail without fear,” said Miles Wilson, President and CEO of EducationWorks. “For anyone voting, the funds from this award will continue to provide these experiential learning opportunities to our students, and as a result, will shape youth that are confident, empowered, and a superhero at school, at home, and in the community.”

Online voting is open from May 22-June 15. The organization receiving the most votes will be presented to the Wawa Foundation Hero Award Panel for final approval, and the recipient of the award will receive a \$50,000 grant; the three runners up will each receive \$10,000 grants. To vote, the public can visit [thewawafoundation.org/hero-award/](http://thewawafoundation.org/hero-award/)

### **About EducationWorks**

EducationWorks provides high quality educational programs that make the school day whole and re-engages disconnected young adults to education and career readiness. EducationWorks is a nonprofit organization that provides academic support, career readiness, and enrichment programming for children and young people throughout Greater Philadelphia. By focusing on topics like literacy, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM), and social emotional learning, EducationWorks equips approximately 12,000 students annually with the tools needed to be successful in school and life. Additionally, through experiential, on-the-job training, shadowing, and career exploration, EducationWorks creates Opportunities for Learning and Skills for Life. Learn more about EducationWorks at [educationworks.org](http://educationworks.org).

### **About The Wawa Foundation**

The Wawa Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded by Wawa, Inc. to support the company's charitable giving and philanthropic activities, and ultimately to help build stronger communities. The Wawa Foundation focuses its support on organizations committed to health, hunger and everyday heroes through local, state and national grants and / or in-store fundraising, such as, donation boxes and point-of-purchase scan materials.

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