

PRESS RELEASE

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CVB Offers Scholarship for STEM Teachers

West Monroe, LA—Two scholarships are available for local teachers to attend the Christmas Expo held in Chicago, IL, on July 12-16. The Monroe-West Monroe Conventions and Visitors Bureau (MWMCVB) invites STEM teachers of the Monroe City School system and Ouachita Parish School system to apply for this opportunity. Applications are due June 17.

The intention for establishing this scholarship is to integrate technology and creativity in developing an attraction during the holiday season that draws visitors to the area. Currently, there are 6 to 8 locations of lighted areas within the Parish at Christmas time. The CVB hopes to have more collaboration with local talent to create light shows that people are talking about and want to come see.

“With this scholarship we hope to further expand our Christmas on the River festival. This will be a great opportunity for teachers to lead their students in creating something unique that will contribute to our community,” Alana Cooper, president of the MWMCVB said.

The teacher will be able to utilize the numerous lights and displays that the MWMCVB owns to develop light shows similar to those seen on YouTube and “The Great Christmas Light Fight” television series once training is complete.

The Christmas Expo takes place over three days and includes decorating ideas and education on creating outdoor holiday displays. This scholarship also includes Light-O-Rama, a two-day pre-show workshop with Drew Hickman for a full Light-O-Rama Immersion experience.

The scholarship covers registration fees for the conference, airfare to Chicago, transportation to the hotel and back to the airport, hotel accommodations for the training time frame of July 11-17, meals that are included with registration, and an additional meal allowance of up to \$50 per day for 6 days. The recipient will be notified no later than Friday, June 17, 2016.

Visit www.monroe-westmonroe.org for more information and to apply.

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