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GLOW Academy Announces Grant and Partnership with Sony Pictures Entertainment and the Sony Global Social Justice Fund to Develop Media Technology Curriculum and Studio

Sony Pictures' Partnership with GLOW seeks to build diversity in crew and talent for North Carolina film, TV and journalism industries

Cast and Crew of Netflix' Hit Series "Outer Banks" will mentor GLOW students during 21/22 academic year

Wilmington, NC – August 11, 2021-- The Girls Leadership Academy of Wilmington (GLOW Academy), North Carolina's only single-gender public charter school is partnering with Sony Pictures Entertainment and the Sony Global Social Justice Fund to develop the first of its kind media technology curriculum and studio on GLOW Academy's campus. The new course of study will begin with the 2021/22 academic year introducing GLOW's middle and high school students to film and television production, digital media and journalism. Sony Pictures' financial contributions to the program will be used toward the build-out, operation and staffing of an on-campus multimedia studio and to support GLOW Academy's College Bound program and the school's endowment. GLOW Academy opened in August 2016 and will graduate its first class in the 2022/23 academic year.

"We are thrilled to bring this opportunity to our students," said GLOW Academy Principal Kate Tayloe. "Sony Pictures' investment in GLOW's media technology curriculum and studio will prepare our students for further study and careers in media, journalism and film production, industries that are thriving here in Southeastern North Carolina and around the world." Sony Pictures has also provided the school with technology and equipment for GLOW's media technology studio.

GLOW Academy has been working with local film industry leaders, as well as administrators and faculty in the film and communications departments at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and Cape Fear Community College to guide the program's development and ensure a pipeline of opportunity for graduates of GLOW Academy. Television Producer and Director Jonas Pate is already developing such opportunities, announcing that the cast and crew of the hit series "Outer Banks" will serve as mentors to GLOW's media technology students working via Zoom and on GLOW's campus.

The first classes to be offered in the media technology curriculum include Adobe Visual Design, and Exploratory Media, including an introduction to video cameras and editing, storytelling and sound capture and editing. Michael Frederick, a digital communications and video production specialist, will lead the program as GLOW's first media technology instructor.

ABOUT GLOW ACADEMY:

The Girls Leadership Academy of Wilmington is North Carolina's only single gender public charter school. The school opened in August, 2016, with its inaugural sixth grade class, adding a new sixth grade each successive academic year. The first class of students will graduate in the 2022/23 academic year. With a focus on providing a single-sex educational choice for students from predominately underserved communities who are often the first in their families to attend college, the 6th thru 12th grade school is part of a nationwide network of 16 groundbreaking and successful single-gender schools. This Young Women's Leadership Network is guided by a proven educational model focused on academic rigor, personal responsibility, leadership and college preparedness. At GLOW Academy, she will: graduate, go to college and succeed in life. For more information about GLOW Academy, visit www.glowacademy.net or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GlowAcademy1/>

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