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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrating the Grand Collaboration Championing Education and the East Texas Community

"This is another great day for Longview," stated Richard Manley, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Longview Chamber of Commerce. "The Chamber took the lead in convening key stakeholders to address one of the workforce issues in our area. Improving the workforce by providing the skills necessary to fill jobs for our companies is a win-win for East Texas. This collaboration between business and education has brought about the East Texas Manufacturing Academy (The Academy). Now it's time to celebrate this achievement!"

This celebration for the Academy is to recognize its supporters, the facility, new equipment, the students, and the Academy's benefits to the East Texas Community. This takes place Friday, January 11, 2019, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at 519 W South St, Longview, Texas, 75601. The celebration kicks off with a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening, followed by lunch and tours of the facility.

"The students graduating from the Academy will be qualified for good paying jobs that will enable them to live a good life in our community. The objective of this partnership is to grow manufacturing skills to supply capabilities for the existing East Texas industry base, attract new industry and provide students with pathways to industrial jobs that will earn competitive wages," stated Richard Manley.

The Academy provides high school students an opportunity to obtain training in Instrumentation and Electrical Technology, and earn dual-credit with Kilgore College, and Precision Machining Technology, earning dual-credit with Texas State Technical College. This facility is open to junior and senior students from Pine Tree, Longview, Hallsville and Spring Hill high schools. Other area high schools will have the opportunity to enroll students as well. The Academy serves as a training center for local industry by providing a gateway to industry certifications, Associate's degrees, and Bachelor's degrees in the greater Longview area as well as an adult education center for retraining the workforce.

For more information about the Academy, call 903.381.2200. For more information on how your organization can join the educational movement with these organizations and the Longview Chamber of Commerce, contact Misty Amaya, Education and Workforce Manager, at 903.237.4041, or at mamaya@longviewtx.com.

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The Longview Chamber of Commerce (LCC) is regarded as the leading business resource in Gregg County. We are a member-driven organization that regularly assesses the needs of local business owners and executives. Our programs, products and events are created to deliver the strategic business solutions our members need. Our mission is to engage in and promote projects that have a positive impact on the Longview Trade Area

Visit the Longview Chamber of Commerce website at
<http://www.LongviewChamber.com>