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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 20, 2022 CONTACT: ALYSON FREEDMAN (202) 558-8866 <u>afreedman@chemed.org</u>

CEF and Brenntag Work Together to Build the Future STEM Workforce



ARLINGTON, VA – The Chemical Educational Foundation[™] (CEF) and Brenntag announced a new project to increase awareness of CEF's *You Be the Chemist*[®] Activity Guides with the aim of encouraging K-8 students to pursue science-related education throughout high school, skilled trades, and college.

Research shows that if more students are to enter the STEM academic and workforce pipeline, access to STEM resources must begin early for all students when enthusiasm is high.ⁱ

You Be the Chemist Activity Guides, presented by Brenntag, are hands-on, parent and educatorfriendly STEM lessons that use common, inexpensive household items so all students can explore foundational science concepts in the classroom and at home.

Brenntag Vice President of Corporate Relations and Government Affairs and CEF Board Vice President Bob Moser stated, "As a company that understands the value of STEM education in local communities, Brenntag is proud to assist parents and teachers with access to resources that will help students grow their knowledge and passion for science through accessible, fun, and engaging activities. We look forward to welcoming these students to Brenntag and STEM industries in the years ahead!"

CEF's programs and resources help reach and support students where they are, recognizing equity gaps exist in the education system. Through the Brenntag relationship, CEF will:

- Expand free access to STEM resources for students, parents, and teachers, inside and outside the classroom
- Ensure alignment to the most recent science standards
- Enhance student awareness of the range and variety of STEM employment opportunities

"The future STEM workforce is critical to the economic prosperity of communities across the U.S. and Canada. CEF's relationship with Brenntag will help us continue our efforts to increase early interest in STEM, and build the STEM pipeline," said CEF Executive Director Dwayne Sattler.

For more information about CEF's *You Be The Chemist* programs and resources, visit <u>www.chemed.org</u>, and stay connected on social media (<u>@LinkedIn</u>, <u>@Twitter</u>, <u>@Facebook</u>, and <u>@Instagram</u>).

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About Brenntag

Brenntag is the global market leader in chemicals and ingredients distribution. The company holds a central role in connecting customers and suppliers of the chemical industry. Headquartered in Essen, Germany, Brenntag has more than 17,000 employees worldwide and operates a network of about 700 sites in 78 countries. In 2021, Brenntag generated sales of around 14.4 billion EUR. The two global divisions, Brenntag Essentials and Brenntag Specialties, provide a full-line portfolio of industrial and specialty chemicals and ingredients as well as tailormade application, marketing and supply chain solutions, technical and formulation support, comprehensive regulatory know-how, and digital solutions for a wide range of industries. In the field of sustainability, Brenntag pursues specific goals and is committed to sustainable solutions in its own sector and the industries served. Brenntag shares have been listed at the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since 2010, initially in the MDAX and since September 2021 in the DAX. In addition, the Brenntag SE shares are listed in the DAX 50 ESG and DAX ESG Target. For more information, visit www.brenntag.com.

About CEF

Founded in 1989, CEF's work inspires students to be innovators and STEM leaders, engages educators, and strengthens communities to build a better world through the science of chemistry. For more information on CEF, please visit <u>www.chemed.org</u>.

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ⁱ Laura Avendano, Jessica Renteria, Sarah Kwon & Kamal Hamdan (2019) Bringing equity to underserved communities through STEM education: implications for leadership development, Journal of Educational Administration and History, 51:1, 66-82, DOI: 10.1080/00220620.2018.1532397