



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 16, 2017**

**ManuFest 2017 Invites Middle and High School Students and Parents to Explore Career Paths with Area Manufacturers**

**Registration Now Open for Fourth Annual Event**

**Montgomery County, PA ( February 16, 2017)** - On Saturday, March 11, 2017, middle and high school students, their parents, and educators from across the region will gather at ManuFest 2017 to learn about one of the in-demand employment sectors for the next generation workforce: manufacturing.

While manufacturing employers struggle to fill open positions with qualified candidates, the vast, growing, well-paid opportunities available in manufacturing remain virtually unknown to the next generation of the workforce. The Montgomery County Commerce Department and the Montgomery County Workforce Development Board, Bucks County Workforce Development Board, Manufacturing Alliance of Bucks and Montgomery County, in partnership with MidAtlantic Employers' Association, have teamed up to change that.

“We want to make sure that the young people of Montgomery County are aware of all possible options for future career paths. Manufacturing is a growing sector that continues to play a critical role for our economy. Well-paying, innovative, and competitive jobs are waiting to be filled and we think that ManuFest is a great first step in boosting awareness of the opportunities the manufacturing sector has to offer our young people,” said Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners.

Now in its fourth year, the free event will include demonstrations of products made right here in our region, as well as opportunities to hear from and speak with leaders in various manufacturing areas. The day includes separate sessions geared toward parents and educators. Keynote speaker John Shegda, M&S Centerless Grinding, will add a jolt of energy to power the day.

ManuFest 2017 will be held at Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell, PA. Free busing is available for students and parents through participating school districts.

To register, please go to [www.manufest.org](http://www.manufest.org)

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