

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EIGHT GRADE MACON YEA! ALUMNA, MACY FULLER NOW A PUBLISHED AUTHOR

Macon, GA (January 15, 2019) Eight grade YEA! Macon Alumna, Macy Fuller is now a published author and you can find her book Stringtopia: "We Are All Tied Together" on Amazon. Fuller's story invites children to take a proactive stance when it comes to courage and standing up for what you value. The story takes the reader on an adventure with a little stringling named Caramel, who has to overcome bullying and self-esteem issues on her way to reuniting Stringtopia and defeating the mysterious Knot.

Macy was a graduate of the inaugural YEA! Macon class of 2016-2017, just a 6th grader at the time. Macy's parents, Eric and Myrja Fuller told us that Macy was able to finance the cost associated with publishing with the investor panel funding she received in 2017. But funding was not all that Macy benefited from as a YEA! Macon student. The Fullers stated, "additionally, she [Macy] learned so many valuable skills that will benefit her for a lifetime. Presently, we are working with Barnes & Nobles in order to have a book signing to celebrate her wonderful accomplishment!"

Nadia Osman, former YEA! Macon Director was not at all surprised to learn that Macy's work had been published. Osman witnessed first-hand, the talent and determination of her youngest student. "Macy's success reaffirms the importance of this Chamber program. The intention of launching Georgia's first YEA! was to make a lasting impact on the Greater Macon community, instilling entrepreneurial values and skills in our youth that they carry forward and benefit from for a lifetime. The success Macy and other YEA! Macon graduates have had with their ventures continues to demonstrate how valuable the program is to our region's economy, as we make strides toward becoming a hub for startups," said Osman.

Jennifer Baggarly, current YEA! Macon Director, just weeks away from experiencing her first investor panel event states, “Macy’s good news will undoubtedly motivate this year’s students to continue forging ahead with an increased level of focus and energy, two things they will need to plenty of ahead of the upcoming Investor Panel event on March 20. We are so excited to see what the former graduates and future graduates of the YEA! Macon program will craft for our community to enjoy and celebrate.” Baggarly goes on to say, “of course none of these stories of success would ever be possible without the support of community sponsors, year after year. This year’s YEA! Macon program sponsor, LBA Ware, has stepped up to the plate to continue affording kids in our region the opportunity to make their dreams a reality, just as young Macy has.

About the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce

Established in 1861, the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce is the area's largest business services organization and primary advocate for the Macon business community. The Chamber supports the growth and development of business by offering networking and marketing opportunities, providing valuable benefits to its members, advocating for legislative issues that will promote a healthy business climate, and participating in the economic development efforts for Macon-Bibb. For more information, visit maconchamber.com.

About the Macon Economic Development Commission (MEDC)

A public-private partnership funded by the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce and the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority. MEDC leads the Workforce Readiness, Talent Attraction/Retention/Development efforts; Identifies current and future skills gaps with our existing companies; and supports Entrepreneurship/Small Business growth in Macon-Bibb County, Georgia. www.maconworks.com.

About the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!)

A 501(C) 3 offering groundbreaking year-long classes that teach middle and high school students how to start and run their own businesses. Throughout the class, students develop business ideas, write business plans, conduct market research, pitch their plans to a panel of investors for startup funds, and launch and run their own, fully formed companies and social movements. The project-based program empowers students to take charge of their futures.

About LBA Ware™

Located in thriving downtown Macon, GA, LBA Ware is a leading software development company for the U.S. mortgage lending industry. LBA Ware’s software plays a key role in our clients’ success by enabling them to motivate, incentivize and better leverage the human potential within their organization. Founded in 2008, LBA Ware has built a culture that promotes creativity and innovation with a stellar team, drawing talent locally from Mercer University and Georgia College. For more information about LBA Ware, the software, and career opportunities, visit www.LBAWare.com.

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About Macy Fuller

Macy Elyse Fuller is an eighth grader at First Presbyterian Dayschool who enjoys writing and creating dolls on the weekends when she has spare time. During the week, she’s busy with cross country and volleyball in the fall, and robotics and theatre in the winter and tennis in the spring. She is very diligent in her school work and has managed to achieve all A’s since elementary school. Macy lives in middle Georgia with her older sister and parents. She began writing at a young age, at first practicing writing in a journal regularly in school and then later branching off and writing in her own journals as well. Writing has been a creative outlet for her (that doesn’t make a mess) that she finds to be one of her favorite and probably most productive hobbies. You can find Macy’s book, Stringtopia: “We Are All Tied Together” on Amazon.



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