For Immediate Release

Augusta Technical College and the Downtown Development Authority of Augusta officially launch Accelerate Augusta

Augusta, Georgia - December 21, 2023

Augusta Technical College, in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority of Augusta, proudly announces the official launch of Accelerate Augusta, the region's newest small business incubator and microenterprise center.

This transformative initiative is made possible through the generous allocation of \$2.3 million in congressional funding secured



by Senator Raphael Warnock. The collaboration extends heartfelt appreciation to Senator Warnock for his commitment to fostering local economic development.

The success of Accelerate Augusta is further attributed to the dedication and support of key contributors, including Margaret Woodard, the DDA Board, Augusta Technical College Board and Trustees, and the Augusta, Georgia Government. This joint effort underscores the power of collaboration in driving positive change within the community.

Accelerate Augusta is poised to become a cornerstone for small business development, providing a dynamic space for entrepreneurs to thrive. Housed in the renovated I. M. Pei Building, situated in the heart of Downtown Augusta, the center will offer essential resources, mentorship, and opportunities for growth.

"We are thrilled to embark on this journey with Accelerate Augusta, empowering thousands of small businesses with the resources they need to flourish. This initiative symbolizes a commitment to fostering innovation, collaboration, and economic prosperity within our community," said Dr. Jermaine Whirl, President at Augusta Technical College.

"We are excited to see Accelerate Augusta, a collaborative project with our partner, Augusta Tech come to fruition. This central hub aims to provide guidance and resources to entrepreneurs and small business owners and our ultimate objective is to facilitate small business growth and investment in downtown Augusta," stated Margaret Woodard, DDA of Augusta Executive Director

As Accelerate Augusta opens its doors, it marks a significant milestone in supporting the economic vibrancy of the region. The partners anticipate a positive impact on local entrepreneurship and look forward to witnessing the success stories that will emerge from this vibrant hub of innovation.

Click here to view event photos.

About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

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