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For Immediate Release

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**CHOCOLATE UNIVERSITY'S INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS IMMERSION
RELAUNCHING WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TRAVEL TO TANZANIA IN SUMMER 2023**

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Springfield, Missouri - Askinosie Chocolate, The Askinosie Foundation and Drury University are partnering again to offer an exciting learning opportunity, Chocolate University, to high school juniors and seniors across southwest Missouri. After a two-year hiatus due to world health concerns, Chocolate University will resume the program in 2023. Applications are now being accepted through 5pm on December 5, 2022 at chocolateuniversity.org. School leaders and community members are asked to encourage outstanding young people in their lives to apply.

Since 2008, Chocolate University has made six trips with more than 80 student travelers, sharing the Askinosie Chocolate business model through this unique international business immersion program. Applications from current high school juniors and seniors (graduating years 2023 and 2024) will be carefully selected to join a class of 12-14 and participate in a six-month preparatory course culminating in a 10-day international immersion traveling alongside an award-winning bean-to-bar craft chocolate maker on a cocoa bean buying trip. The experience delivers lessons in entrepreneurship, problem-solving through innovation, craft chocolate, cacao agronomy, Tanzanian culture, leadership, personal reflection, and vision setting for their futures.

New this year, high school students from a larger geographic area - all of southwest Missouri - are now eligible to apply. Additionally, 417-land business and community leaders have generously supported the program enabling all members of Chocolate University's Class of 2023 to receive a scholarship for the program. Both changes create an inclusive and equitable learning opportunity for the most qualified students to participate.

Students complete the Chocolate University program with a new outlook on business's role in the local and global community, how to vision about the future, and find a deeper sense of themselves and their ability to impact others. The most important Swahili word students learn is 'kujengana' which translates 'to build each other up.' Students return home with an improved understanding of their place in the world and their unique potential to impact their local, regional, and global communities.

Visit chocolateuniversity.org for more information, application link and media resources.

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