

Arkansas STEM Coalition eNews - April 2018 Issue 24



STEM Starters+ Shines on NSTA TV

STEM Starters+ is a five-year, \$2.5 million project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Jacob K Javits Gifted and Talented Students program. The project, based in the Jodie Mahony Center for Gifted Education at UA Little Rock, provides elementary teachers with the professional development training, curriculum materials and classroom support needed to effectively facilitate engineering design challenges as well as an introduction to locating and developing talents in young children from low-income households.

The Engineering is Elementary Curriculum Units used in the project, developed by the Museum of Science, Boston, expose young children to the creative problem-solving skills integral to the engineering design process. STEM Starters+ also includes STEM biographies about scientists, engineers, or inventors supported by teacher guides developed at the Mahony Center. Project results have demonstrated that students who participated in the engineering investigations demonstrated greater gains in science achievement and engineering knowledge with high levels of engagement compared to students who did not participate in the program. Evidence from the research also suggests the intervention functioned as a talent-spotting tool.

This past winter, the success of project gained the attention of the National Science Teachers Association leading to an invitation to participate in the creation of a film segment featuring STEM Starters+. The film debuted as a

component of NSTA-TV during the national convention in Atlanta, Georgia in March.

Please click the link for an opportunity to view the five minute informational film on STEM Starters+. <https://youtu.be/cLMrbHsRkC4>



NCSM and NCTM releases a new Position Statement- Building STEM Education on a Sound Mathematical Foundation

National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics(NCSM) is a mathematics education leadership organization that equips and empowers a diverse education community to engage in leadership that supports, sustains, and inspires high quality mathematics teaching and learning every day for each and every learner.NCSM and NCTM worked together to create a position paper to highlight the importance of mathematics in STEM activities.

Building STEM Education on a Sound Mathematical Foundation

<https://www.mathedleadership.org/docs/resources/positionpapers/NCSMPositionPaper17.pdf>



STEM Think Tank for Business, Education and Community Partnerships

INVITATION TO REGISTER: You are invited to participate with the Arkansas STEM Coalition, the A-State Delta STEM Center, and the Marion and West Memphis Chambers of Commerce in an exciting and innovative meeting titled “Think Tank for STEM Partnerships in Eastern Arkansas: Connecting STEM Needs to Business, Education and Community” which will take place on Friday, May 11, 2018, from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm at the Marion Performing Arts Center, #1 Patriot Drive, Marion, Arkansas.

If you are interested in finding engaging ways to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in eastern Arkansas, please plan to attend the DELTA Regional Arkansas STEM Coalition meeting. Improving STEM education will foster learning and will be a catalyst for growth in regional economy. It is imperative that we join together to form business-education partnerships that will stimulate learning and economic development. Please see the link for the agenda and registration form below.

Registration fee: \$40 if invoiced or payment is received by May 8th. Cost is \$50 on May 11th at the door.

Agenda Link: <https://goo.gl/XGThkG>

Registration Form: <http://goo.gl/7DMgTG>

| May 2018 | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

Arkansas STEM Quarterly Meeting!

When: Friday, May 18, 2018 from 11am to 1pm

Where: University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College Campus Center
Grand Hall B, 3000 W Scenic Dr., North Little Rock, AR 72118

Registration in the Foyer outside Grand Hall A/B

Registration fee: \$25 if invoiced or payment is received before May 17, 2018, cost is \$30 on May 18 at the door.

You may prepay with a credit card, by mailing a check or requesting an invoice.

Details are available on the registration form <https://goo.gl/ehf7Fq>.

Come learn about the latest in STEM activities in the state at the Spring

Quarterly Meeting. **The most up-to-date agenda:** <https://goo.gl/GERH1T>.

STEM GIRLS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES SPRING 2018

The Arkansas STEM Coalition partnered with the Arkansas Department of Career Education to implement STATE & TARGETED STEM LEADERSHIP FOR GIRLS Conferences on college campuses. The conferences promote interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for girls grades 7-12. Nine conferences have already taken place, 12 more will be implemented in the spring 2018. See below.

STATEWIDE STEM GIRLS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

April 13, 2018 - University of Arkansas at Little Rock

April 18, 2018 - University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

TARGETED STEM GIRLS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

April 2 - Arkansas State University-Delta for Trumann School District

April 13 - Henderson State University for DeQueen School District

April 13 - University of Arkansas at Little Rock for Rural, Charter, and Private School Girls

April 18 - Southern Arkansas University for Camden, Ashdown, Southwest Coop, Texarkana SD

April 20 - Southern Arkansas University for Camden, Ashdown, Southwest Coop, Texarkana SD

April 20 - University of Arkansas at Monticello for Southeast Coop

April 26 - University of Arkansas at Monticello for El Dorado SD

Visit <https://arkansasstemcoalition.com/contact/locations/> to contact STEM Centers to sign-up and for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE
COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION CONFERENCE
JULY 1-2
HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY**



Upcoming Events

April 10, 2018 - [Computer Science Coding/Professional Development HSU K-4 Bootcamp](#)

April 12, 2018 - [Scott Family Amazeum – Tinkering 101 Workshop](#)

April 13, 2018 - [Digital Portable Planetarium Showcase](#)

April 13-15, 2018 - [Vintage Girl Scouts Spring Encampment](#)

April 19, 2018 - [Science Olympics HSU](#)

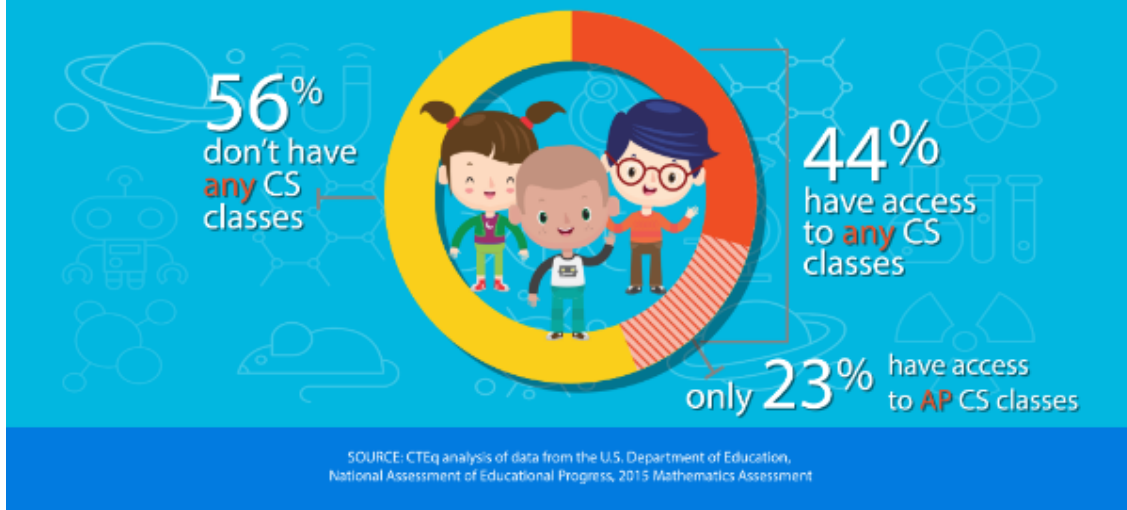
April 24, 2018 - [Kindergartners Earth Day at Botanical Gardens](#)

April 25, 2018 - [Grades 1st - 3rd Earth Day at Botanical Gardens](#)

April 27, 2018 - STEM Teaching Seminar - University of Arkansas - Pulaski Tech College, North Little Rock, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

If we are missing your event, please send the information including a contact person to info@arkansasstemcoalition.com.

NO COMPUTER SCIENCE IN MOST U.S. SCHOOLS



Southern Arkansas University STEM Center Focus

The SAU STEM Center for K-12 Education is housed in the College of Science and Engineering at Southern Arkansas University. The STEM acronym stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The mission and objective of the SAU STEM Center is to provide assistance for K-12 STEM teachers in the region with assistance in their classrooms, in their districts, and to provide professional development workshops in the SAU STEM Center.

SAU has allocated over 6000 square feet of laboratory and classroom space for the STEM Center in Childs Hall on the SAU campus. The space is divided into three teaching laboratories, one chemical preparation/research laboratory, a computer classroom, office space and teacher-equipment storage.

For more info on SAU's STEM Center, click the logo below.

