

## CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER OF THE TWIN TIER REGION

182 East Union Street, Suite 2 Allegany, NY 14706

<u>Director</u>; Reann Ehman Director@challengertwintiers.org

T 716.379.8686 F 716.379.8687 www.challengertwintiers.org

In the aftermath of the Challenger STS-51L tragedy, the crew's families came together, firmly committed to carrying on the spirit of their loved ones by continuing their education mission. In April 1986, they created Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

The vision of the families was to build an inspirational place for children where they could experiment, collaborate, and immerse themselves in space-like surroundings. Their goal was to spark an interest and joy in STEM. A spark that could change the trajectory of children's futures.

In 2002, a group of dedicated individuals came together with a shared vision of creating a unique and unparalleled educational experience to inspire and empower future generations. The result of their efforts was the establishment of the Challenger Learning Center in the Twin Tier Region. Challenger Center of the Twin Tier Region held its first mission in June 2009.

Since our first mission, we have catered to the needs of over 42,000 students from 31 schools across six counties in New York and Pennsylvania. Of these schools, 81% have returned annually over the last five years, which is a testament to the satisfaction and trust in our programming.

We have not wavered in our mission: Engage students and teachers in dynamic, hands-on exploration and discovery opportunities that strengthen knowledge in STEAM, inspire students to pursue careers in these fields, and provide an outlet to learn and apply critical life skills.

We continue to strive to bring students a STEAM experience that is up-to-date in technology. That is why our Capital Campaign is essential. After 15 years, it's time to revamp and renew our Challenger Learning Center. By replacing our flooring and updating the Mission Control room, we can continue to inspire and educate the next generation of explorers with renewed passion and enthusiasm. Purchasing additional items, such as new doors, an outdoor awning, and worn furniture, will help us achieve our goal.

Our mission is to inspire a love for learning and create an environment where individuals are enthusiastic about gaining knowledge and developing new skills. We believe education is key to unlocking one's full potential and are committed to providing resources and support to help others achieve their goals. Would you join us in our efforts to inspire a lifelong love of learning?

Sincerely, Reann Ehman Director

Rean Ehman