

2025-Rural STEM Summit

Times are subject to change

Wednesday Aug 27, 2025

Time	Room	Activity
7a-8a	114-115	Breakfast
8a-8:15a	111-113	Welcome - Kal Mannis, Jeremy Babendure, Beth Nickel
8:15 - 9a	111-113	Opening Panel - <i>DoD STEM Ambassadors and DCEC Impacts on STEM opportunities</i> Kim Alvin de Lara, Brianne Loya, Jenny Frank, Jeremy Babendure. Moderator: Kal Mannis
9a-9:30a	109-110	Break with Exhibitors
9:30a-10:30a	111-113	Ashley Marquez - <i>STEM Unplugged: Igniting Curiosity Through Hands-On & Minds-On Learning</i>
	107	Cori Araza, PhD - <i>Expanding STEM Access: University Outreach to Rural K-12 Communities</i>
	108	Laurie Altringer - <i>Authentic Research supported by local advocates</i>
10:30a-12p	111-113	Donna Smith - <i>How Optics Education Can Impact Your Community</i>
	107	Cindy Schluckebler - <i>Super-Charged Career Self-Efficacy: Develop Students' Transferable Skills</i>
	108	Joseph Urbaszewski - <i>STEM Education: Using Capture the Flag (CTF) Competitions to Engage Rural Students</i>
12p-1p	114-115	Lunch and Table Talk
1p-2p	111-113	Flash Talks - Elaine Mollindo, Sophia Bagody, Bethaney Allison - <i>The Indigenous STEM Project: A Journey of Collaboration and Impact</i> Shelly Seitz - <i>Changing Lives – Building a Future in the Trades</i> Tom Mehlert - <i>Digital Equity Solutions for Underserved</i>
	107	Emi Iwatani - <i>How to blend problem-solving, heritage and computational thinking into K-12 content areas</i>

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1p-2p (continued)	108	Brenna Chambers-Follett - <i>Empowering Communities Through Collaboration: Innovative Partnerships Between Arizona Libraries and the Arizona Science Center</i>
2p-2:30p	109-110	Break with exhibitors
2:30p-3:30p	111-113	Cori Araza, DaNel Hogan - <i>Breaking Down Barriers: Guided Networking and Relationship Building</i>
3:30p-4:00p	Break	Refresh Break
4:00p-5:00p	111-113	Max Cawley - <i>Unincorporated in STEM: Navigating Political Disenfranchisement in Rural STEM Education</i>
	107	Todd Hunter - <i>Beyond Keychains: Impactful 3D Design & Printing in STEM</i>
	108	Megan Lasly and Timara Crichlow - Community Forestry: tools, resources, and funds to increase the tree canopy in your community.
5:00p-5:10p	111-113	Close of the Day, Surveys, Raffle

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7:30a-8:30a	114-115	Breakfast
8:30a-9:00a	111-113	Welcome to Day 2 & Housekeeping
9:00a-10:30a	111-113	Annette Koweeck - <i>Fishing for a Fortune of Scientific Literacy! Experience Sensemaking Tools to Help Build Understanding of Phenomena</i>
	107	Meghan Smart - <i>Clear Skies, Bright Minds: Hands-On Air Quality Exploration with PocketLab</i>
	108	Lisa Lewis - <i>Creating STEM Connections in the Maker Space World</i>
10:30a-11a	109-110	Break with Exhibitors

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11a-12p	111-113 107 108	Jenny Frank - <i>STEM Ecosystem Basics</i> Leslie Bell - <i>The BioConnect Kit: Sustainable Biomimicry Design Inspired by Nature</i> Eric Proctor - <i>Integrating Wildlife Education</i>
12p-1p	114-115	Lunch and Table Talk
1p-2:30p	111-113 107 108	Alecia Henderson and Marisa Tualla- <i>Extreme Makeover: Math & EdTech</i> Sheryl Roehl - <i>Unlocking Data Insights with AI for Rural Educators</i> Alex Martin - <i>Sidewalk Science Center: integrating Educational experiences into public spaces</i>
2:30p-3:30p	111-113 107 108	Loretta Cheeks - <i>Empowering Rural Arizona Youth Through Design Thinking: A STEAM Activation Lab</i> Rae Mask - <i>Empowering All Learners: Leveraging Technology for Inclusive Education</i> Flash Talk - Max Cawley - <i>Museums as Second Responders: Responding to the Urgent Hazards Posed by Extreme Heat to Rural Communities</i> Mike Bechtel - <i>Aquaponics for Everyone</i> Yoonhee Lee - <i>Minecraft for Chemistry</i>
3:30-4:00p	109-110	Final Break with Exhibitors
4p-5p	111-113 107 108	Michael Bechtel - <i>Hands-on STEM Activities for a Sustainable World</i> Matt Cass - <i>The Impact of Place-Based Education on Rural STEM Identity</i> Jarrell Brown - <i>Data Mapping to Navigate Barriers in Rural STEM</i>
5p-5:15p	111-113	Closing Remarks, Survey, Raffle
6p-8p	Conference Center Atrium	Reception

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Friday August 29, 2025

8a-9a	114-115	Breakfast
9a-10a	111-113 107 108	Tina Harte-Ballinger - <i>Bridging the Gap with NASA STEM</i> Alyssa Roanhorse - <i>Partnerships for Greater Collective Impact in Rural STEM Education</i> Ty White, Jennifer Petersen - <i>Developing Rural Research Resources and Results</i>
10a-10:15a	Break	
10:15a-11:15a	111-113	Closing Featured Speaker - Dr. Melissa Sadorf
11:15a-11:30a	111-113	Q&A with Featured Speaker
11:30a-11:50a	111-113	Summit Closing Remarks, Survey, Raffle