

Greetings from STEMS4Girls, Inc. Board of Directors

We want to share our news and the excitement we felt during this past school year. It was the nearly nonstop new and engaging projects which have kept us from communicating with you all as often as we would like to. So first and foremost, I thank each and everyone of you for your prayers, and well-wishing in support of the organization's tasks and overall endeavors. We are especially grateful to those participants who continue to show academic excellence, increased self-confidence, and a new sense of belonging in STEM careers. All this is possible because of your generous support. Moving forward, we are delighted to present a three-part series, updating you on how important your support has been. It has added value in shaping and sustaining our three active programs:

1. STEM Literacy
2. Volunteers
3. Community Engagement

We welcome back all students and educators, and we hope that you will have a successful school year!



PART 1 OF 3



OUR STEM LITERACY PROGRAM

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Opportunity, Access, Exposure & Engagement

The STEM Literacy initiative seeks to find creative ways to expose children and youth to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through our Saturday and Summer STEM Enrichment and STEM+ Tutoring services. We are actively seeking and encouraging participation from those residing in underserved and under-resourced communities. We provide the materials and activities that will allow young children and youth to explore their STEM identity, and then we nurture their attitudes, interests, and engagement in STEM literacy. We use Florida State standards to offer a variety of activities across multiple levels of complexity in order to empower our youth to believe that through engaging in structured practice, they can develop the academic skills needed to reach their potential in science, technology, engineering, and math. Our free tutoring services is offered to students in grades k thru 12.

What separates us from other STEM afterschool learning experiences? We are convinced that the research showing that an integrated STEM learning approach fosters an inviting STEM-rich environment and experience which is essential for our participants to cultivate critical thinking skills, engagement, and a strong sense of confidence that they belong in STEM fields of study. Secondly, STEMS4Girls, is deliberate and calculating about keeping our programs and services accessible and affordable by not charging families that do not have the economic resources to pay \$400 for tutoring and/or STEM camps. Finally,

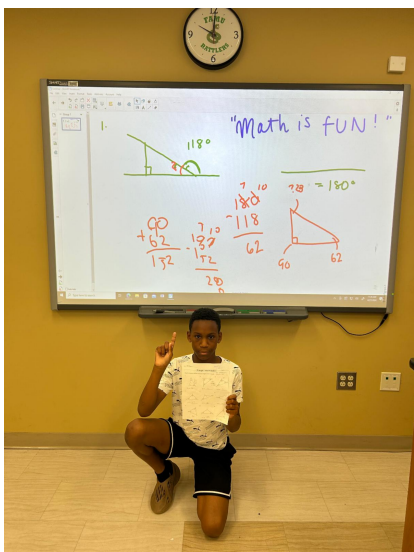


We were also blessed to hold our sessions on Saturdays from 10 until 3 pm at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). Professor David White at the School of Education, who also serves on STEMS4Girls board of directors, graciously offered space to hold our Saturday sessions at the Chevron STREAM Fab Lab which is located in the School of Education at FAMU. This collaborative partnership has paved the way for our participants to engage in 3D printing and a wealth of other cutting edge tools that enhance not only STEM studies and activities but also the learning of math, science, and language arts more efficiently.

There were many success stories to be told throughout the year. Special moments that tipped the scale for me were listening to the participants declare their STEM identity, "I want to be a mechanical engineer," said one student, or when a student was excited to share how they had improved their grade in math, or watching the intensity on students' faces when working collaboratively to solve a problem. We ended the school year with a big party at DOMI Station, where the participants had

STEMS4Girls is dedicated to ensuring our services are staffed with a diverse representation of volunteers who reflect the demographics of the population we serve.

Are we on the right track? Our recent parent survey and the steady increase in our student numbers suggest that affordability and convenience was important to all surveyed parents. They also said that they saw improvement in their children's efforts and progress. During the 2023-24 academic school year, we experienced a 75% increase in student enrollment, from 20 students to 35, all participants attending regularly were promoted to the next grade level, and 65% showed significant improvement in confidence, knowledge of STEM concepts and participation in STEM-related discussions.



a lot of fun making root beer and ice cream and sharing their stories. Overall, for 7 years our STEM literacy program has been turning stumbling blocks into ladders of success one step at a time.

STEMS4Girls offers opportunity, access, exposure, and engagement to children and youth living in Leon County who might not otherwise have the resources to participate in other high-quality STEM enrichment afterschool programs.

Parent testament: "Since the beginning of the school year my son has struggled with Math. When he started the program in January he scored a level 2. When he tested again in April he scored a level 4!"



SEPTEMBER	2	Labor Day
	7 YEARS FUNDRAISER	\$7 a-month Fundraiser
	4	STEM Literacy Begins
OCTOBER	11	Patriot Day 911 Youth Service Day
	12	3RD ANNUAL FRENCHTOWN RENAISSANCE AND 4TH ANNUAL STREET CORNER
	19	Tallahassee Science Festival
	24	S4G Annual Lights on Afterschool Celebrations - STEM IN TALLAHASSEE
	NOVEMBER	5 - YEAR STRATEGIC PLANNING
DECEMBER	1	Kick off Year-End Fundraiser
	2	Annual Giving Tuesday Gala

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