



## The CA STEM Network Talks Network Updates, Initiatives, and Opportunities

**Student Leadership Summit - Empowering the Future of STEM:** Sara Ortega, Children Now's manager of Policy and Engagement, provided insights into the upcoming 2023 Summit for Student Leaders. Set to take place on October 6th and 7th, this event promises to be a catalyst for change. High school and college students from across California will convene for the 2023 Summit for Student Leaders, offering a unique platform for them to collaborate, learn, and inspire each other to shape the future of STEM in our state. If you're interested in getting more involved with The Summit, or have any questions, please reach out to Sara Ortega at [sortega@childrennow.org](mailto:sortega@childrennow.org).

**California's Vision for Career Education:** Jessica Sawko, the California STEM Network Director, discussed the executive order signed by Governor Gavin Newsom, calling for the creation of a master plan for career education in the state within the next 13 months. While not explicitly focusing on STEM, the order emphasizes alternative pathways to careers, which align with our STEM objectives. It's essential to note that this initiative starts in high school, raising questions about its impact on elementary education. Tzipor Ulman, Founder and CEO of Science is Elementary, and Christina O'Guinn, Sr. Director of Educational Partnerships at the tech Museum of Innovation, emphasized the critical role of early exposure to STEM education. Research shows that children decide their interests and capabilities by age 8. Leveraging this insight, we aspire to play a meaningful role in the governor's career education plan and contribute to the conversation surrounding early STEM exposure.

**Legislative Updates:** Jessica provided a legislative update, noting the legislature concluded for the year on September 14th before entering an Interim Study Recess for the duration of 2023. One bill of note, AB 694, which aimed to establish an apprenticeship teacher pathway, became a 2-year bill, and will be picked up again once the legislative sessions resume in January of 2024. Unfortunately, AB 1054 the bill proposing computer science courses in all high schools did not make it through legislation.



**PLEASE  
JOIN US**

CA STEM Network  
Meeting October 3,  
2023 @ 2:00 pm  
[Register Here](#)



Both SB 444, the bill addressing MESA programs, and AB 285 which focuses on climate change education, made it through to the governor's desk and await action.

**Opportunities for the CA STEM Network:** Katherine Goyette, Computer Science Coordinator for the California Department of Education (CDE), shared information about the CDE's resources on AI skills for educators and students. [Learn More](#).

Emily Dilger, the CEO at Ignited, highlighted learning opportunities for teachers to connect with industry professionals and enhance their subject knowledge. [Learn more](#).

Teresa Barnett, the Executive Director at Community Resources for Science, invited 4th-grade teachers to participate in field testing units on climate change and justice. You can connect with writing teams for K-12 by emailing [teresa@crscience.org](mailto:teresa@crscience.org).

Carol Fry Bohlin, a Professor at California State University Fresno, informed the network about MSTI's free, online, interactive CSET Mathematics and Science fall workshops. [More details here](#).

As we embark on the next chapter of STEM education in California, we look forward to your continued engagement and collaboration. Together, we can inspire the next generation of STEM leaders and drive positive change in our communities.



Virtual Summit: Evening of October  
6th and Full Day of October 7th

[Register Here](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- [October 3, 2023](#): CA STEM Network Meeting - Virtual
- [October 5, 2023](#): The Early Math Fall Forum
- [October 19, 2023](#): CASE Pre-conference Event for district-level science coaches, science leaders, and TOSAs
- [October 20 – 22](#): California Science Education Conference – Palm Springs
- [October 21 - 22, 2023](#): Fall CUE - Stockton
- [October 25-27](#): CS For All Summit 2023
- [October 26](#): Lights On Afterschool - Nationwide
- [November 3 – 4](#): 64th CMC-South Annual Mathematics Conference

## Unlock the World of Actuarial Science at the MTFC Student Workshop – October 27th!

Are you ready to embark on an exhilarating journey into the world of actuarial science? California State University, Fullerton, invites high school students to join us on campus for the Modeling the Future Student Workshop on Friday, October 27th. This exclusive, in-person event promises a day filled with insights, inspiration, and hands-on experience that will leave you and your students excited about the limitless possibilities of actuarial science.



**What to Expect at the MTFC Student Workshop:** At the MTFC Student Workshop, high school students will immerse themselves in the captivating field of actuarial science and gain valuable knowledge about the Modeling the Future Challenge (MTFC). Here's a glimpse of what your students can look forward to:

- **Hands-On Learning:** Your students will have the opportunity to practice a qualifying scenario for the MTFC, guided by experienced actuaries, dedicated faculty, and actuarial student leaders from California State University, Fullerton. This is a unique chance to apply mathematical modeling skills to real-world challenges.
- **Discover Actuarial Science:** Actuarial science is all about using mathematics and data analysis to assess risk and make informed decisions. Your students will gain a deeper understanding of this exciting field and how it impacts various industries.
- **College Experience:** By attending the workshop, your students will get a taste of college life as they step onto the CSU Fullerton campus. They'll have the chance to explore the campus, interact with college students and professors, and learn about the Actuarial Science Program at CSUF.
- **Project Preparation:** Receive guidance on preparing for the Modeling the Future Challenge, from identifying project topics to mastering the qualifying scenarios and project phases. This workshop will equip your students with the skills and knowledge they need to excel in the competition.
- **Career Insights:** Learn about the rewarding careers in Actuarial Science, meet practicing actuaries, and engage with professors who are experts in the field. This is an invaluable opportunity to gain insights into potential career paths.

**Benefits for Educators:** As an educator, you can play a pivotal role in shaping your students' futures. By bringing your mathematics or computer science class to the MTFC Student Workshop, you will:

- **Motivate Analytical Skills:** Inspire your students to apply their analytical skills to solve real-world problems, fostering a love for critical thinking and problem-solving.
- **Increase Interest:** Ignite your students' interest in Mathematics, Analytics, and Actuarial Science, showing them the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.
- **Learn and Teach:** Gain insights into the MTFC and how to guide your students through qualifying scenarios and project phases. This knowledge will empower you to support your students in their MTFC journey.

**How to Register:** Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to prepare your students for success in the Modeling the Future Challenge while introducing them to the world of actuarial science. [Click here to learn more.](#)



# PUSH-ing Toward a More Equitable Future in College Admissions & STEM

Join the STEM PUSH Network – the first-ever national network of pre-college STEM programs –for a conversation about more equitable ways to increase the number of Black, Latina, and Indigenous students in post-secondary STEM.

October 11 at 1:00 PM ET

[Register Today!](#)

[www.stempushnetwork.org](http://www.stempushnetwork.org)

The California After School Network  
*presents:* [STEAM Newsletter](#)

Stay up to date with STEAM-focused Expanded Learning and out-of-school time information by signing up for the monthly newsletter. This newsletter will be sharing content from the Million Girls Moonshot and other STEAM initiatives that support STEAM in our Expanded Learning programs.

[Click Here to Subscribe](#)



**FALL/WINTER PROFESSIONAL  
LEARNING CATALOG 2023/2024**

**NURTURING INNOVATION IN EDUCATION SINCE 2000**

[CLICK TO  
DOWNLOAD](#)





# NATIONAL STEM CHALLENGE

PRESENTED BY EXPLR

Entries Open October 4

STUDENT & TEACHER PRE-REGISTER

## EXPLR is hosting the 2024 National STEM Challenge

This is a chance for U.S. students in grades 6-12 to unleash their creativity and innovative thinking!

The mission? Craft a STEM project that tackles a real-world challenge. Choose from one of the 2024 themes listed below and use the scientific method or engineering design process.

Create a PDF presentation about the project, keeping it to three pages maximum with a minimum of 12-point font. You may include text and images to explain your ideas, but no faces or names in your PDF. Your project should be tested (if using the scientific method) or constructed (physically or digitally if using the engineering design process). Theoretical projects will receive lower scores.

### Challenge Themes: Environmental Stewardship:

Design a project that promotes environmental stewardship and responsible use of natural resources. This could include conserving water and energy, preserving habitats and ecosystems, or mitigating the impact of climate change.

Projects could also explore socioeconomic factors contributing to environmental issues and scalable solutions to address them.

The best projects from all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories will become Challenge Finalists with the opportunity to advance to the next level by submitting a video in the second round. Up to 200 National Champions will win a trip to the National STEM Festival in Washington, D.C., in April 2024.

There, Champions will showcase their projects to some of our nation's most influential leaders. The Festival is co-presented by the U.S. Department of Education and [EXPLR](#). [Click Here to Learn More.](#)