

E-blast # 2 January 2012

The WWII Museum has launched their STEM Field Trip for middle and high school Science and Math Students. Here is a direct link to a Museum blog post that gives all the relevant information: <http://www.nww2m.com/2012/01/museum-to-offer-students-stem-based-field-trip/>.

Information on the following items is found following the list.

1. Gr K-8 NEA Foundation – Nickelodeon Big Help Grants: Deadline February 1
2. Research Experience for Teachers National Solar Observatory: Apply by Feb 20
3. Intel Schools of Distinction Program Application: Deadline February 23
4. Gr 6-8 Students Sustainable Future Challenge: Deadline February 24
5. Disney Friends for Change Grants: Deadline February 24
6. Gr 9-12 National Geographic Student Expeditions Scholarships: Deadline March 1
7. K-12, JASON Project Contests: Deadlines begin March 1
8. Samsung Sharing the Wonder of STEM Deadline: March 12, 2012
9. Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation Life Science Awards
10. K-12 Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge: Deadline March 15
11. Gr 9-12LSU Department of Mathematics Student Challenge March 17
12. Fr 9-12 ACS-Hach Chemistry Grant Deadline: April 1, 2012
13. HS Srs ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarships: Deadline April 2
14. Teachers Helping Teachers Award Deadline: Ongoing
15. Gr 6-12 Toshiba American Foundation Grant Deadline: Ongoing
16. Endangered Species Information Available to Science Teachers
17. Explania Interactive Animated Heart
18. Learnerstv.com downloadable videos sciences, mathematics, Engineering, & more
19. Exploriments site for Physics, Chemistry and Math
20. Websites for weather topics
21. Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics & Science Teaching
22. Teach STEM? NASA Explorer Schools Can Help With That!

1. NEA Foundation- Nickelodeon Big Help Grants are available in the form of student achievement grants to K-8 public school educators. The Big Help Grants program is dedicated to the development and implementation of ideas, techniques, and approaches for addressing four key concerns: environmental awareness, health and wellness, students' right to a quality public education, and active community involvement.

Proposals for work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement, or other challenging curricula are particularly encouraged. Practicing U.S. public school teachers, public school education support professionals, and faculty and staff members at public institutions of higher education may apply. The maximum grant amount is \$5,000. Deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 15 each year. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/nea-foundation-green-grants>

2. The National Solar Observatory seeks middle and high school teachers of science and mathematics who would be interested in participating in the Summer 2012 NSO Research Experience for Teachers (RET) Program. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the Research Experience for Teachers Program supports active participation of K-12 teachers in research and education projects with the intent of facilitating professional development of K-12 teachers through strengthened partnerships between institutions of higher education and local school districts. The Observatory, with facilities in the Sacramento Mountains in south-central New Mexico and at Kitt Peak in south-central Arizona, has on-going research programs in solar physics, solar-terrestrial physics, solar-stellar physics and instrumentation. Prospective participants in the NSO Summer 2012 program could work on one or more of a number of projects. <http://eo.nso.edu/ret/>  
A stipend of \$875/week for up to 10 weeks will be provided. Travel funds are available, depending on need. Deadline for applications is February 20, 2012

3. The Intel Schools of Distinction Program honors schools in the United States that have demonstrated excellence in math and science education. To be considered as an Intel School of Distinction, schools must develop an environment and curricula that meet or exceed benchmarks, including national mathematics and science content standards. Up to three schools at each level—elementary, middle and high school—will be named as finalists in the math and science categories. The 18 schools will receive a cash grant of \$5,000 from the Intel Foundation and a trip to Washington, D.C., for a four-member team from their school and district. Six winners will be selected from the finalists and will receive an additional \$5,000 cash grant for a total of \$10,000. One of these winners will be selected as the Star Innovator and will receive an additional \$15,000 grant for a total of \$25,000. All five winning schools and the Star Innovator will also receive products and services from program sponsors. The deadline to apply is February 23, 2012. For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.intel.com/about/corporateresponsibility/education/soda/index.htm>

4. Sustainable Future Challenge for Middle School Students  
<http://www.isweeep.org/3e-contest>

The ISWEEEP 3E Sustainable Future Challenge is a national contest for middle school students that aim to create a platform for young researchers in which they present their innovative projects to take on today's challenges in energy, engineering, and environment. Applications deadline February 24, 2012

5. [Disney Friends for Change Grants](#)

Disney Friends for Change Grants offer young change-makers an opportunity to receive

a \$1,000 grant to help make a lasting, positive change in the world. Applications due Feb. 29, 2012.

6. [National Geographic Offers Student Expeditions Scholarships](#)

The National Geographic Student Expeditions Scholarship Program provides financial support to high school students who are seeking educational summer experiences they otherwise could not afford. The program seeks to provide opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds and to enhance the group dynamic and learning opportunities for everyone involved. Deadline: March 1, 2012

7. The JASON Project and its Immersion Learning Program are sponsoring three exciting contests for kids and young adults in 2012:

"Wrecks of the World" Art Contest (grades K-12) Entries due March 1

Goldfish Training Contest (grades 4-8) Entries due March 15

JASON/Immersion Carbon Rally Contest (grades K-12) Contest ends May 1

Read more about each contest below, and find complete details on the [JASON Contests webpage](#).

8. Sharing the Wonder of STEM Deadline: March 12, 2012

<https://pages.samsung.com/us/sft/home.htm>

Description: Samsung and its partners are asking teachers to participate in its contest which will address a key academic challenge in our country: to increase the pursuit of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education. With Samsung and schools joining together, we're looking to foster interest in these subjects among students and illustrate the practical impact applying these subjects can have. By filling out the application, you will be entered in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. Twenty-five teachers will be chosen to have their classes create videos addressing the challenge, "Show how STEM can help improve the environment in your community." All 25 chosen teachers will be sent a video creation kit to help complete the task. These 25 teachers' schools will then be in the running to win technology for their school, with at least 12 receiving a technology grant. The top 12 videos will be voted on by consumers and a panel of education experts. Five grand finalists will be invited to an awards ceremony with education thought leaders and celebrity supporters.

Funds: \$70,000 to \$100,000.00

9. Gr 9-12: Nominations needed to honor biology teachers

The Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, a Federal government agency, is now accepting Nominations for four Agriscience Awards and four Life Sciences Awards. A copy of each Award's Call for Nominations is available online. Nominations are accepted online only.

Agriscience Awards: due March 13, 2012 at: [www.agriscienceawards.com](http://www.agriscienceawards.com)

Life Sciences Awards: due March 27, 2012 at: [www.ccolumbusfoundationawards.org](http://www.ccolumbusfoundationawards.org)

Please share the information about these awards with the staff at your school, friends and associates. Encourage anyone you know in fields of life sciences, agriscience or homeland security to enter the applicable competition. The Agriscience Awards and Life Sciences Awards competitions each have components for a scientist; a high school educator; and two high school students.

Contact Judi Shellenberger, (315) 258-0090 or email: [judithmscolumbus@cs.com](mailto:judithmscolumbus@cs.com)

#### 10. Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge

This is a premier national environmental sustainability competition for grades K-12. Through project-based learning, students learn about science and conservation while creating solutions that impact their planet. Challenges close March 15, 2012.

11. On March 17, 2012, the LSU Department of Mathematics will host its eleventh high school mathematics contest. It is a chance for students to test their mathematical mettle in individual competition, for students to engage in team competition, and for teachers to meet and mingle with colleagues and LSU faculty. [contest@math.lsu.edu](mailto:contest@math.lsu.edu)  
<https://www.math.lsu.edu/~contest/2012/rules.html>

#### 12. ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Grant Deadline: April 1, 2012

[http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?nfpb=true&pageLabel=PP\\_SUPERARTICLE&node\\_id=2245&use\\_sec=false&sec\\_url\\_var=region1&uuid=3d916dec-220c-40ff-b788-818ee5aedf42](http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?nfpb=true&pageLabel=PP_SUPERARTICLE&node_id=2245&use_sec=false&sec_url_var=region1&uuid=3d916dec-220c-40ff-b788-818ee5aedf42)

Description: This grant is awarded to U.S. high school chemistry teachers seeking funds to support ideas that transform classroom learning, foster student development, and reveal the wonders of chemistry. The grant funds laboratory equipment and supplies, instructional materials, professional development, field studies, and science outreach events. Funds: \$1,500.00

#### 13. ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarships

<http://www.cgcs.org/cms/lib/DC00001581/Centricity/Domain/19/ExxonMobil%20%202012%20Scholarship%20Application.pdf>

The ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship is an opportunity especially for African American and Hispanic students. ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarships are available to 2012 graduating high school seniors in school districts represented by the Council of the Great City Schools.

Four scholarships for two males and two females of \$5,000 each will be awarded to two African American and two Hispanic students on behalf of the former NASA astronaut, physician and businessman, Dr. Bernard Harris. The application submission deadline is April 2, 2012.

14. Teachers Helping Teachers Award Deadline: Ongoing

<http://www.lefbooks.org/teachers-helping-teachers/>

Description: Literacy Empowerment Foundation would like to acknowledge the many early elementary educators who help other educators. Examples of good deeds include starting a website that shows different and exciting ways of teaching specific subjects, presenting at conferences, mentoring new teachers, or volunteering with extracurricular activities. Individuals may nominate an educator for an award. Every week, a new award winner will be chosen.

Funds: LEF will send each winner \$100.00 worth of books for their school, along with a certificate that acknowledges their achievement.

15. Toshiba American Foundation 6-12 Grant Deadline: Ongoing

<http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

Description: Do you teach 6-12 science or math? Do you have a wish list of instructional equipment that will make learning more exciting for your students? If the answer is yes to these questions, Toshiba America Foundation would like to hear from you. Grade 6-12 applications for \$5,000.00 or less are accepted on a rolling basis, throughout the calendar year. Summer projects or after school programs cannot be considered.

Salaries, facility maintenance, textbooks, video production, audio-visual equipment (e.g. electronic white boards, document projectors, student response systems) and education research will not be funded. No grants are available for computer hardware. No single school may receive more than one grant at a time.

Funds: \$5,000.00

16. Endangered Species Information Available to Science Teachers

Biology, ecology, general science and other teachers will find a variety of resources about teaching endangered species preservation on the Endangered Species Day web site's ([www.endangeredspeciesday.org](http://www.endangeredspeciesday.org)) Teacher Resource Center.

The seventh annual national Endangered Species Day will take place May 18, 2012.

The Teacher Resource Center features:

\*A comprehensive lesson plan for teaching about endangered species preservation.

\*An art lesson plan to help students create endangered species artwork.

\*A series of pod casts providing information on endangered species preservation and everyday actions to help.

\*Video showing how one teacher taught endangered species conservation in his biology class.

The Endangered Species Day web site also offers details about the 2012 Youth Art Contest (March 15, 2012 is the deadline for entries.) and a Toolkit that provides a variety of materials to assist teachers in celebrating Endangered Species Day with their classes. The latter includes a "Planning an Endangered Species Day Event" fact sheet, stickers, posters, bookmarks, and a coloring/activity book for children, which can be downloaded and printed.

For more information, contact David Robinson, Endangered Species Day Director:

[drobinson@stopextinction.org](mailto:drobinson@stopextinction.org)

#### 17. Interactive Animated Heart

[Explania](#) a resource for animated explanations of topics in technology and science. Some of their offerings are videos and some of their offerings are interactive animations. One of their interactive animations that could be quite useful for biology teachers and health teachers is [The Human Heart](#). The Human Heart animation allows visitors to learn about the parts and functions of the human heart by clicking on different parts of the heart to find short explanations of that part's function. Your students can access the interactive animation on the Explania website or you can embed the animation into your blog or website.

<http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2012/01/interactive-animated-heart.html#.TweKCVE1TrM.facebook>

18. Learnerstv.com is a comprehensive site providing thousands of downloadable Video lectures, Live Online Tests, etc. in the fields of Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Engineering, Medicine, Management and Accounting, Dentistry, Nursing, Psychology, History, Language Training, Literature, Law, Economics, Philosophy, Astronomy, Political Science etc FREE to its visitors... This site provides free video and audio lectures of whole courses conducted by faculty from reputed universities around the world. Science Animations provide students with fun and innovative ways of learning. Free live timed online tests with instant feedback and explanations will help you refine your test taking skills. Most of the materials offered are licensed by the respective institutes under a Creative Commons License.

<http://www.learnerstv.com/index.php>

19. This site has great stuff for Physics, Chemistry and Math.

<http://www.exploriments.com/main/mainframeset.htm>

#### 20. Two Websites for weather topics

A compilation of teaching websites to teach climate change issues, includes comprehensive websites as well as teaching activities that address specific issues of climate change such as impacts on coral reef, forests etc.

[www.Members.peak.org/~laimons/climate\\_Change/urls2011.pdf](http://www.Members.peak.org/~laimons/climate_Change/urls2011.pdf)

The other URL will take you to a discussion of the recent numbers of extreme weather events and how these are tied to the drivers of global weather such as the Arctic Oscillation and El Nino and La Nina which have also reached record levels of strength.

[www.Members.peak.org/~laimons/climate\\_Change/urls2011.pdf](http://www.Members.peak.org/~laimons/climate_Change/urls2011.pdf)

NOTE both of the above are PDF files. If they do not open they may download into desktop files.

#### 21. [Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#)

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is the highest recognition that a mathematics or science teacher may receive for exemplary

teaching in the United States. Nominations are now open for outstanding mathematics and science educators teaching in kindergarten through grade 6 with five years or more teaching experience. Applications must be completed by May 1, 2012.

## 22. Teach STEM? NASA Explorer Schools Can Help With That!

Teachers across the country, regardless of school size, type, or geographic location, have seen the benefit of participating in the [NASA Explorer Schools](#) (NES) project. These teachers have access to free NASA classroom materials and student engagement activities, as well as educator support resources, through the NES Virtual Campus. NES classroom resources are designed to help teachers increase student interest and achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Are you looking for fun, exciting and interactive ways to connect your students to NASA? Designed for teachers in grades 4–12, NES provides a forum for accessing free lessons, student engagement activities, and professional development opportunities centered on NASA missions and STEM topics and careers. NES also offers multiple pathways for you to connect with other motivated STEM educators across the country to share best practices and classroom implementation ideas. Visit the NASA Explorer Schools website to read firsthand stories from participating teachers about the benefits of joining the NES project and implementing NASA resources in the classroom!