

# LASER

March 2024

LSTA NEWSLETTER




Louisiana science educators dedicated to the advancement of scientific literacy at all levels, and encouraging lifelong learning.

## What's In This Month's Issue:

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# President's Message

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Members of Louisiana Science Teachers Association,

Goodbye, February. Hello, March! Soon we will set our clocks forward, the days will get longer, and before we know it Spring Break will be here. With "testing season" approaching, the LASER will take a break from featuring our Regional News Reports. Our newsletter will continue to be delivered to your inbox; however, it will only be featuring the Professional Development Opportunities and Resources. Please keep an eye out for these monthly updates as they feature several events statewide that will allow you to continue supporting our science education community.

Speaking of our science community, the NSTA National Conference, will be held November 6-9, 2024 in New Orleans at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Don't forget to save this date and plan on joining us! The call for reviewers and proposals will open soon, so continue to check your inbox for updates. LSTA will be promoting the NOLA 24 Conference at the NSTA National Conference in Denver, Colorado on March 20-23, 2024. If you are an LSTA member who is planning on attending, contact me if you are interested in volunteering at this event.

With testing right around the corner, now is the time for science educators from around our state to play an important role in the future of science assessment in Louisiana. Educator input is essential to the assessment development process to ensure that these assessments are fair, valid, with reliable metrics of student growth and achievement. In order to accomplish this task, LDOE is recruiting educators to serve on a variety of assessment content review committees. Committee members may review newly developed test items, provide guidance on scoring student responses to constructed-response and extended-response test items, and/or help determine cut scores. Committee members will also confirm that tests are aligned to the Louisiana science standards, items are suitable for the grade or course, and appropriate for all Louisiana students. Additionally, the educators who do this work learn how to use assessments more effectively in their classrooms or school systems. Access the document titled "Assessment Content Educator Review Committees" [here](#), or visit the Assessment Guidance Library to learn specific information about the committees, convening dates and locations, travel and reimbursement information, and how to apply to participate. I highly encourage teachers of science from across the state to apply.

These LDOE Educator Review Committees are one of the many opportunities that will be available this summer. If you would like to hear about more summer opportunities, please join us via Zoom on March 16, 2024 at 9:00 am for our Coffee Talk. Visit our [site](#), to sign up. We will be featuring several organizations from across the state who will discuss training dates, times and details. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

*Bianca Deliberto*

Dr. Bianca Deliberto



# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



## About the Professional Development



Science and social studies teachers will participate in hands-on fieldwork and learn skills for teaching English Language Learners. Teachers will explore the historical and ecological changes in the Pontchartrain Basin due to climate change and its effect on the environment. In addition to the summer workshop, teachers will participate in two (compensated) virtual trainings throughout the following year.

## Program Highlights



- Learn skills and strategies for teaching ELLs
- Work alongside subject matter experts
- Explore the different habitats in the basin and examine the changes that have occurred
- Have facilitated, guided lesson plan development
- Receive continuing education credit
- All lodging, meals, and activities are included at no cost to the participant
- \$300 in participant stipends (per year)

## Registration



Dates:

- Northshore — May 30 - June 2, 2023
- Southshore — July 23-26, 2024

To register: [https://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3OuXBGbZgQSlpcy](https://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3OuXBGbZgQSlpcy)  
Due to limited spaces, the priority deadline is April 1, 2024

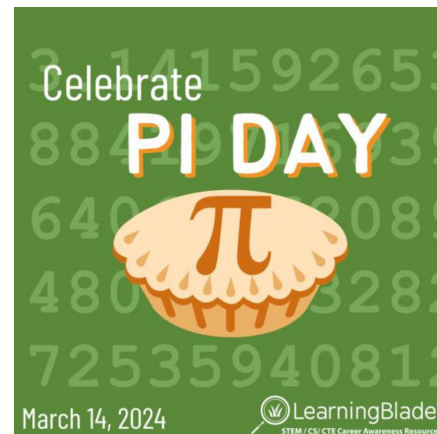


# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources

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## Celebrate Pi Day with Learning Blade!

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th around the world. Pi Day is an annual opportunity for math enthusiasts to recite the infinite digits of Pi, talk to their friends about math, and even eat pie! Among other uses, scientists use the constant pi to gauge the dimensions of surface features on both extraterrestrial bodies and Earth while conducting studies on their surfaces.



Check out these lessons in Learning Blade:

- Mission: Car Manufacturing, Lesson Name: "The Great Shape Up"
- Mission: Fresh Food, Lesson Name: "Water your Work- Building a Drip Integration System"
- Mission: Transportation Congestion, Lesson Name: "As the Crow Flies"

Would you like to learn more about these lessons? Schedule your FREE professional development [here!](#) Check out a few of our lessons that address Pi by signing up for your free account [here!](#)

## T3 Tinkering Time with Teachers – Knock Knock Children's Museum

### PreK – 3rd Grade Educator & STEM Coordinator Workshop

Have you ever turned a banana into a piano or used playdough for a game controller? Get ready to unleash your creativity using Makey Makey, a simple invention kit that is designed to trick your computer into thinking that almost anything is a keyboard. By using materials such as a graphite pencil, playdough, fruits, vegetables, foils, or anything conductive, you will learn how to craft controllers and then use them to make music and play games.

In this highly interactive 2-hour STEAM workshop, you will take a journey into the world of circuits and invention literacy using the fascinating tool of MaKey MaKey. You will learn how to integrate MaKey MaKey into all subject areas from early literacy to physical education and unlock possibilities for building and interacting with both the physical and digital realms.

Interested in more information? Register [here.](#)





# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources

PROVIDING  
HIGH-NEED  
CURRICULA



& TRAINING  
HIGH-NEED  
EDUCATORS

AT NO COST TO  
HIGH-NEED  
SCHOOLS

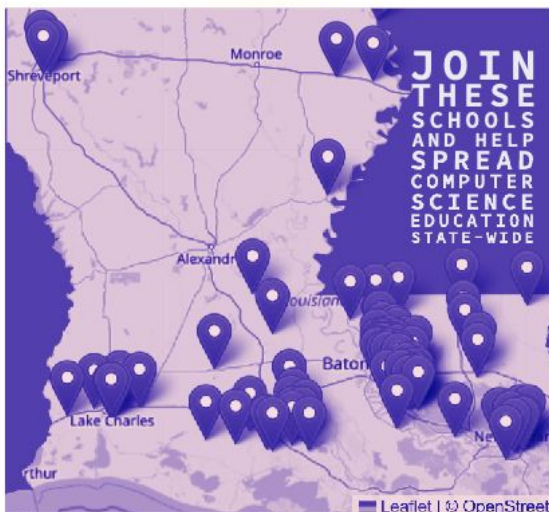


LSU's BRBytes program offers stipends for training on hands-on, **project-based, computing courses** at **no cost** to the district/school. The courses are designed for both college and career bound students.

**BATON ROUGE:  
BRINGING YOUTH  
TECHNOLOGY,  
EDUCATION AND  
SUCCESS**

OFFER CURRICULA  
DEVELOPED BY BRBYTES:

- Introduction to **Computational Thinking**
- **Cyber Security**



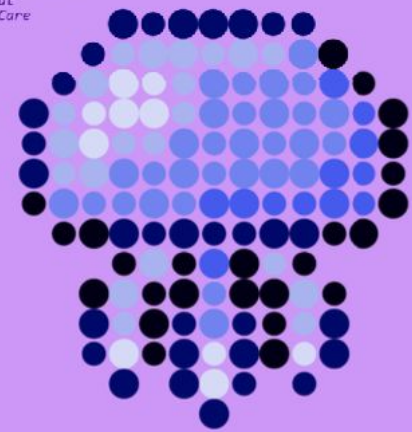
CsforALL

ADDRESS THE  
MATHEMATICS  
COMPUTING  
AND EQUITY  
GAPS OF TODAY



FOR THE COMPUTER  
SCIENTISTS,  
DATA ANALYSTS,  
AND DIGITAL  
CREATORS OF  
TOMORROW

*Jellyfish:  
the only creature who can  
Float like a Butterfly,  
and Sting Like a Bee,  
all without  
a Single Care*



**TEACHERS  
AT QUALIFIED SCHOOLS  
MAY BE COMPENSATED  
UP TO \$4,100**  
FOR ATTENDING TRAINING.  
EMAIL [INFO@BRBYTES.ORG](mailto:info@brbytes.org)  
ASAP FOR MORE INFORMATION.

↙ A SEGMENT OF THE CODE A STUDENT  
WROTE TO DRAW THE JELLYFISH

```
--Jellyfish
fish = combined[white, lb2, lblue, medBlue, darkblue, black]
fish2 = combined[white2, lb22, lb12, medBlue2, darkBlue2, black2]
--Darkblue
darkblue = combined[colored(dotSize4(0,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
colored(dotSize4(1,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
colored(dotSize5(2,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
colored(dotSize5(3,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
colored(dotSize5(-1,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
colored(dotSize4(-2,0), rgb(4, 0, 111)),
```



Explore More:  
[WWW.BRBYTES.ORG](http://WWW.BRBYTES.ORG)





# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



## 2024 Louisiana Energy Education Workshop

**Mark your Calendars!**

### About the National Energy Education Development Project

The NEED Project designs and delivers teacher- tested educational materials, evaluation techniques and tools, recognition of student achievement, and professional development for educators. NEED materials and training programs provide comprehensive, objective information about the scientific concepts of energy and the sources of energy – their use and their impact on the environment, the economy and society.

### ABOUT THE SPONSOR



Louisiana State Energy Office

### Date and Location

March 11, 2024

SOWELA Technical Community College  
Jennings Multi-Purpose Room  
3820 Sen J. Bennett Johnson Avenue  
Lake Charles, LA 70615

### For The Attendees:

- FREE to attend, thanks to Energy Office support!
- Breakfast and Lunch Provided
- Substitute Reimbursement provided
- Science of Energy Kit delivered post-workshop
- Teaching tips and creative ideas
- Louisiana standards aligned curriculum

### How Can You Attend?

Register Today! Don't Wait!

Go to

<https://needorg.my.salesforce-sites.com/event/home/la031124>

and complete your registration!

### Questions

Contact Wendi Moss at [wmos@need.org](mailto:wmos@need.org) or call 1-800-875-5029



# WETshop 2024

July 14–19, 2024

LDWF Marine Research Lab, Grand Isle, LA

Application Due:  
May 10, 2024

Number of Participants: 15 Teachers  
Registration Fee: \$50.00

## What is WETshop?

A week-long coastal awareness workshop for teachers. Through WETshop, teachers work with scientists and educators to learn about Louisiana's coastal wetlands and become wetland stewards. Implementation of a six hour wetland stewardship project for students, teacher, and/or community in your parish after completion of the summer workshop is encouraged.

## Highlights & Experiences:

- Fisheries management
- Research trawling and seining
- Barrier island and their role in coastal health
- Coastal botany and ornithology
- Visits to transitional coastal ecosystems
- A tour of one of the largest oil ports in the US
- Visits to coastal restoration and oil spill impact sites
- The role of invasive species in coastal land loss

## Participants Will Receive:

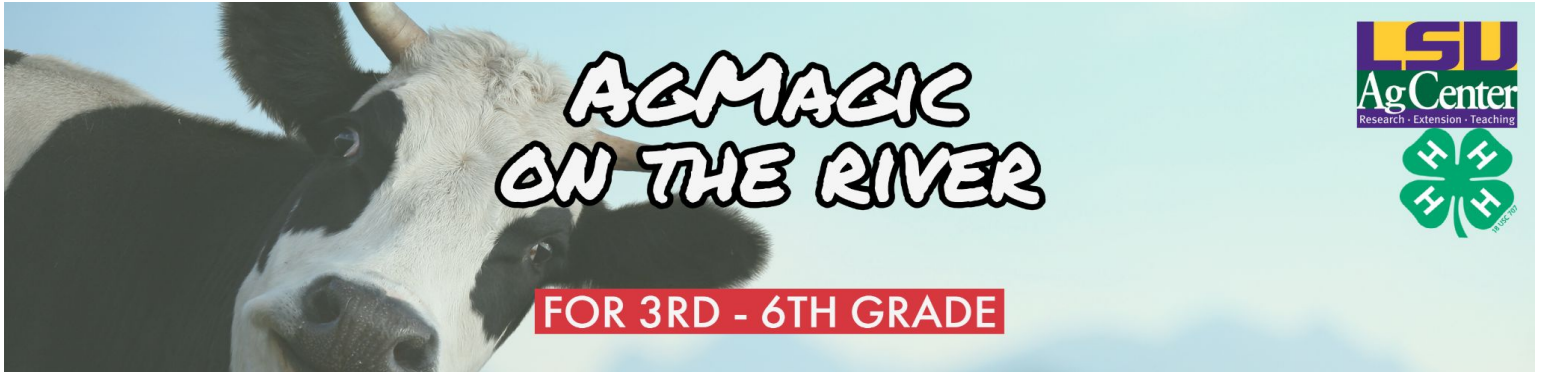
- Wonders of Wetlands Teacher Guidebook
- Up to 61 professional contact hours
- Numerous classroom resources



Contact: Lindsay Seely at [Lseely@wlf.la.gov](mailto:Lseely@wlf.la.gov)  
Apply at [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/for-teachers](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/for-teachers)



# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



Ag Magic on the River is a four-day educational event that takes hundreds of students on an interactive journey of Louisiana agriculture and food. Docville Farm in Violet hosts the project, a collaborative agreement between the Meraux Foundation and the LSU Ag Center. Third through sixth grade students from St. Bernard, Jefferson, Orleans, and Plaquemines parishes will have the opportunity to tour the farm and learn about the importance agriculture plays in their lives.

March 19-22 school tours are available.  
March 23 is open to the public.

For more information/registration contact Lainie Selle at 504-736-6519 or [aselle@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:aselle@agcenter.lsu.edu)



## EcoRise K-12 Student Climate Action Workshop

EcoRise is hosting a workshop for K-12 teachers focusing on Student Climate Action March 6th 6-7pm CDT. This online, virtual session will focus on climate change and climate resilience through the lens of student action. We will explore opportunities to engage students through classroom activities and EcoRise student-led micro-grant opportunities that help empower students. For more information visit the site [here](#).

## PAID TEACHER WORKSHOPS

### Coastal & Environmental Education with CWPPRA's WaterMarks360



**June 18, 2024 10AM–2:30PM**

\$100 stipend and activity kit for  
participating teachers

Limited Seats Available/Open to Middle  
School Teachers in GNO STEM Region

**UNO Oliver St. Pe' (TRAC Center)**

**New Orleans, LA 70148**

Take your students on the WaterMarks360: Our Changing Delta Virtual Field Trip! This resource highlights the scientific, economic, and cultural outcomes that are directly tied to Mississippi River delta management and the regions geologic history. WaterMarks360 uses online resources (website, videos, and a virtual tour), a physical kit of supplies, and printed materials to immerse middle school learners in this critical area of environmental science. Participating teachers will receive access to all online materials, a stipend, and a free classroom activity kit supporting 6 classroom activities.

Interested teachers can register at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/830482444347?aff=oddtcreator>

More information available at at <https://gnstem.org/>



# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



with **ENGINEERING DESIGN** and **REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS**  
For Middle and High School Teachers



## GNO STEM Center

University of New Orleans  
Oliver St. Pe' Center (TRAC)  
2000 Lakeshore Drive

**April 6, 2024**

**8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

- *Provided by SeaPerch Master Trainer*
  - *Free of charge*
  - *Receive Kits for your class*
  - *\$100 Stipend for Participants*

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips educators and students with the resources they need to build an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV) in an in- or out-of-school setting.

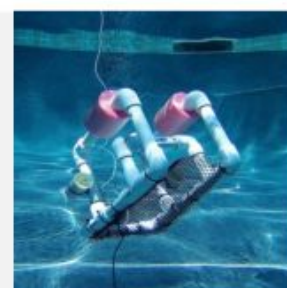
As an integrated STEM education program, SeaPerch aims to reduce traditional barriers to participation in robotics programs and promotes opportunities to engage students and educators in inquiry-based learning with real-world applications.

This workshop introduces basic engineering and science concepts and fosters key 21st century skills including critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity.

**REGISTER TODAY!** <https://seaperch.org/dsec-grant-program/>

### What Educators Say About SeaPerch:

*"SeaPerch is everything a teacher could want to implement into their curriculum and classroom. It provides all students an opportunity to experience something that might otherwise never be offered until later in their educational careers. It can create a spark within a student early so that he or she may develop a love for math and engineering and choose classes, books, experiences accordingly."*







**STEM**



## GNO STEM & LIGO Present *Forces, Motion & Energy* Workshop



**FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**INVESTIGATE FORCES, MOTION AND ENERGY USING HANDS-ON INQUIRY. LEARN HOW LIGO USES THESE CONCEPTS TO EXPLORE THE COSMOS.**

**DATE:**

Mon July 15th – Fri July 19th  
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

**LOCATION:**

GNO STEM (2 days – UNO)  
LIGO (3 days – Livingston, LA)

**TO REGISTER:**

<http://gnostem.org/>  
Numbers are limited.  
Register soon!

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

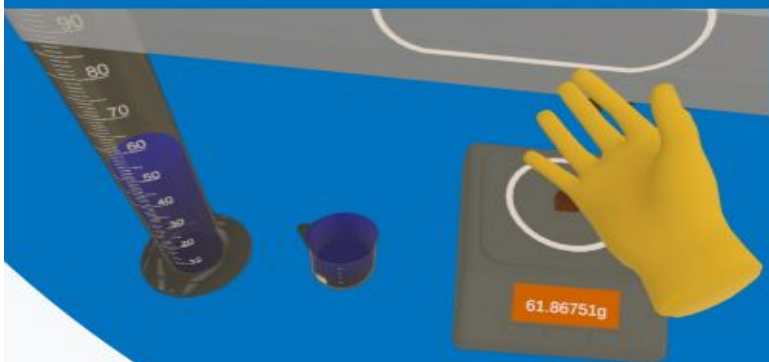
[outreach@ligo-la.caltech.edu](mailto:outreach@ligo-la.caltech.edu)  
225-686-3193

**BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPANTS:**

- Stipend Offered – \$100 per day
- Priority for booking field trips
- Financial support for field trips in the 2024-2025 academic year
- LIGO Materials Kit for hands-on activities
- Gain invaluable insight to enhance classroom instruction

## GNO STEM & *BeyondReality@UNO* Present

### *Virtual Reality Labs Workshop*



**FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**BRING VIRTUAL REALITY TO YOUR STUDENTS!  
*BEYONDREALITY@UNO* IS A VR MAKER SPACE THAT ALLOWS YOUR STUDENTS TO USE VR TOOLS TO ENHANCE LEARNING.**

**DATE:**

June 13th & 14th  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm

**LOCATION:**

University of New Orleans

**TO REGISTER:**

<http://gnostem.org/>  
Numbers are limited.  
Register soon!

**BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPANTS:**

- 2 VR labs for your students – Density and Materials
- Teachers can bring students to VR maker space or use equipment at their schools
- Follow-up hands-on labs
- Enhance classroom instruction with VR experience
- \$200 Stipend Offered



***BeyondReality@UNO***

THE UNIVERSITY of  
NEW ORLEANS

FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION



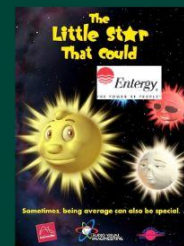


## MARCH SCHEDULE

11 A.M.

### THE LITTLE STAR THAT COULD

Join Little Star, an average yellow star, in search of planets of his own to protect and warm. Along the way, meet other stars, learn what makes each star special, and discover that stars combine to form star clusters and galaxies.



12 P.M.

### PERFECT LITTLE PLANET

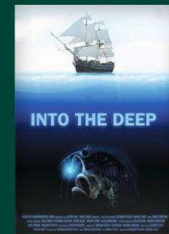
A family from another star system searches our solar system for the perfect vacation spot. Visit all of the planets and enjoy exotic locales on the vacation trip of a lifetime! Where will our family of aliens end up?



1 P.M.

### INTO THE DEEP

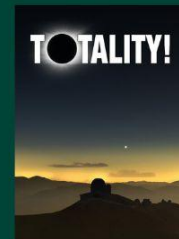
Dive into the fascinating world of deep-sea exploration. Journey from the RMS Titanic to the famed Galapagos "black smokers" and observe bioluminescent life forms.



2 P.M.

### TOTALITY

Two solar eclipses will cross the U.S. soon—an annular on October 14, 2023 and a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024! In this show, learn how eclipses happen, how to safely view one, and where these two eclipses take place.



3 P.M.

### ELECTROPOP

Party to a mix of popular musical artists through this dazzling display of laser light and animations! Song selections include hits from Lady Gaga and Lil Jon to Katy Perry, Demi Lovato and more!



Adults - \$6.00    Children/Seniors \$5.00



50 TEAMS  
6 STATES  
5 COUNTRIES



FREE  
Family Friendly  
Fun!

PRESENTED BY ENTERGY

APRIL 5-6, 2024  
THE PONTCHARTRAIN CENTER  
KENNER, LA





## Hands-on STEM Summer Camps

GNO STEM's **hands-on summer camps** offer fun and **engaging hands-on experiences** in STEM— science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Campers work individually and in teams as they sharpen their **critical thinking and communication skills** and learn to think like scientists. Plus, campers meet and learn from **STEM industry professionals** who share their expertise and introduce STEM opportunities and careers in Louisiana and beyond.

### Engineering, Circuitry & Robotics Camp! June 10 – June 14 | 9 am – 2 pm For students entering grades 4 – 6

Explore electrical circuitry, LED projects, roller coaster design, coding robots, vehicle crash safety, and more! Students will use the Engineering Design process to design and create various projects throughout the weeklong, hands-on camp.



### SeaPerch & Underwater Robotics STEM Camp – Build & Test Underwater SeaPerch ROVs June 17 – June 21 | 9 am – 2 pm For students entering grades 6 – 9



Campers will be guided through real-world engineering and design projects centered around building an underwater ROV. The program uses hands-on methods to equip students with the resources needed to learn basic science and engineering concepts like **tool safety, technical applications, problem-solving, and teamworking skills**. Upon build completion of the SeaPerch ROVs, students will be challenged to compete in various underwater obstacles with their robot.

### ASTRO Space Camp – Explore the Mysteries of Space | ALL NEW ACTIVITIES! July 8 – July 12 | 9 am – 2 pm For students entering grades 3 – 6

Explore the mysteries of space as we take spacewalks in virtual reality, launch rockets, shoot for the stars, log your missions, and collaborate as a crew to complete challenging space missions.

In partnership with **NASA, GNO STEM** and **Central Creativity, Astro Camp®** gives ALL students the chance to get involved in and experience STEM, inspiring future astronauts and engineers to learn about space through hands-on NASA activities.





# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



## Engineering Challenge Camp — Let's Build!

July 15 – July 19 | 9 am – 2 pm  
For students entering grades 3 – 6

Campers explore the six simple machines – the inclined plane, lever, pulley, screw, wedge, and wheel and axle. Hands-on activities will highlight each simple machine and how they are used in everyday products and devices in our daily lives.

**The competition is on!** At the end of the camp week, campers will be challenged to put what they've learned to use and design their own machine that employs all six types of simple machines.

## Urban Ecology Nature Camp — Critters, Plants, and Wildlife

July 22 – July 26 | 9 am – 2 p m  
For students entering grades 3 – 6

**WARNING: This camp contains live insects! Or should we say, "WOW! This camp uses live insects!?"**

Whether you're building monarch butterfly gardens, making creations from recycled materials, performing biomass classifications, designing wildlife habitats, or crafting environmental awareness campaigns, campers will get their hands dirty while learning about protecting and preserving our planet.



All GNO STEM summer camp programs are led by **certified teachers** and supported by GNOSTEM staff, volunteers, and high school robotics team students.

**Location:** All camps will be held at the **University of New Orleans TRAC Center**.



**Space is limited. Register Soon @ [gnostem.org](http://gnostem.org) or scan the QR code:**



*A limited number of partial scholarships may be available. Contact Jennifer LaCoste at [jennifer.lacoste@gnostem.org](mailto:jennifer.lacoste@gnostem.org) for additional information.*



# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources



## HEALTHCARE CAREER CENTRAL

powered by LOUISIANA CENTRAL

Healthcare Career Central connects employers, education providers, and other partners to students, parents and guardians, educators, and counselors. We aim to promote healthcare career paths to address the growing need for healthcare workers through our central website, social media campaigns, ongoing communication throughout our community and networking events.

[WWW.HEALTHCARECAREER-CENTRAL.COM](http://WWW.HEALTHCARECAREER-CENTRAL.COM)

SCHEDULE A  
GUEST SPEAKER



CAREER  
EXPLORATION



CAREER  
READINESS  
PROGRAMS



MIDDLE SCHOOL  
EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES



CAREER  
COMPASS  
SCAVENGER HUNT



HIGH SCHOOL  
EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES



THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION

Louisiana  
FOUNDATION



# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources

Come experience ADVANCE, a three-week residential program for academically motivated students currently in grades 7 – 11!

## BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Small classes with individual attention balanced by a variety of fun, creative, and supervised activities
- ▶ Community of like-minded peers establishing long-lasting friendships
- ▶ Engaging instructors and staff members, accelerated coursework, and immersive learning experiences
- ▶ Supportive atmosphere producing an accepting community for diverse participants



III | NORTHWESTERN STATE

**JULY 7-27, 2024**

**APPLY ONLINE**

[www.nsula.edu/advance/](http://www.nsula.edu/advance/)



**ADVANCE**  
Program for Young Scholars

## COURSES *(subject to change)*

- ▶ Algebra 2
- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Creative Writing
- ▶ Criminalistics
- ▶ Engineering Technology
- ▶ Film Studies
- ▶ History
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Shakespeare in Performance

Course descriptions and application instructions can be found on our website:

[nsula.edu/advance/](http://nsula.edu/advance/)

nsu\_advance\_program

Advance Program

**JULY 7-27, 2024**



*Apply Now!*



## APPLICATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINES:

**April 1, 2024** (Financial Aid Application Deadline)

**May 1, 2024\*** (Student Application Deadline)

*\*Early applicants increase their class preference.*

## FOR INFORMATION:

[nsula.edu/advance/](http://nsula.edu/advance/) | 318-357-4500 | [palmerh@nsula.edu](mailto:palmerh@nsula.edu)

*Tell others about ADVANCE!*



**ADVANCE**  
Program for Young Scholars

NSU Box 5671  
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71497

*Please route to educators and counselors of academically motivated students.*

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Permit 204  
Natchitoches, LA  
71457

III | NORTHWESTERN STATE

Northwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, pregnancy or parenting status, and veteran or retirement status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Full disclosure statement: <https://www.nsula.edu/iehr/>.





## GET CERTIFIED TO TEACH COMPUTER SCIENCE!

The Energize Project is seeking 1,000 Louisiana 6th-12th grade public school teachers to get certified in Computer Science.

 in energizing Computer Science Education and industry statewide through a ground breaking project, funded by the Louisiana Department of Education.

### COHORT DATES

1. Tuesdays, March 19 - May 7, 6-9pm (Virtual)
2. Thursdays, March 21 - May 9, 6-9pm (Virtual)
3. Saturdays, March 23 - May 11, 9am-12pm (Virtual)
4. Mondays, March 25 - May 13, 6-9pm (Virtual)
5. June 3-6 (M-Th) - 9am-4pm (Hybrid at SELU)

### FREE + STIPEND

- Free 40 hour training workshop
- Free study materials and support
- Free Computer Science Praxis (5652) exam

\$350 STIPEND UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM



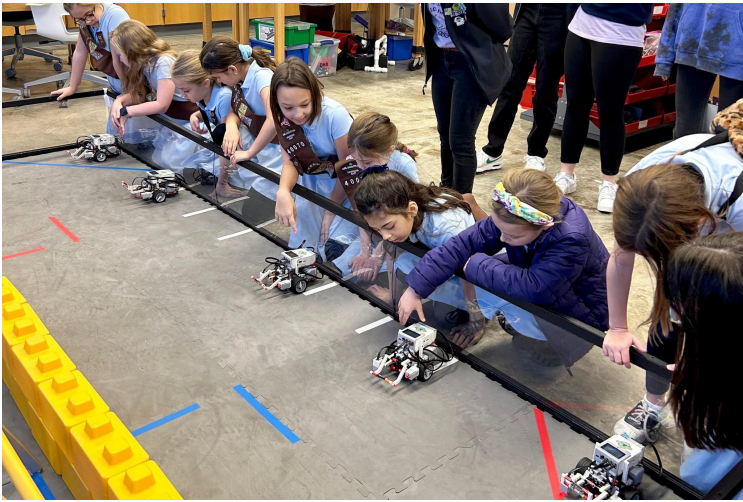
### APPLY NOW

[NORTHSHORESTEM.ORG/ENERGIZE](https://northshorestem.org/energize)  
EMAIL: [ENERGIZE@NORTHSHORESTEM.ORG](mailto:energize@northshorestem.org)

Are you a K-5th Grade Teacher? The Ignite Project is for you! Visit this link: [capitalareastem.org/ignite](https://capitalareastem.org/ignite)



Two local Brownie Troops participated in Saturday sessions in the St. Mary's Dominican Robotics Lab, hosted by their sponsor, Mrs. Giacona, and Robotics students. The Brownies programmed an EV3 Robot, learned about the FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) competition, drove an FTC outreach robot, and observed how 3D printers work.





The Dominican Robotics Team's dedication paid off! The Dominican Valkyries won 2nd place for the Control Award and 3rd place for the Think Award at the Hammond Qualifier.

Dominican Ultraviolet won 2nd place for the Think Award and 1st place for the Inspire Award, the highest award a team can win at the competition. Both teams will compete at the Championship on March 2.

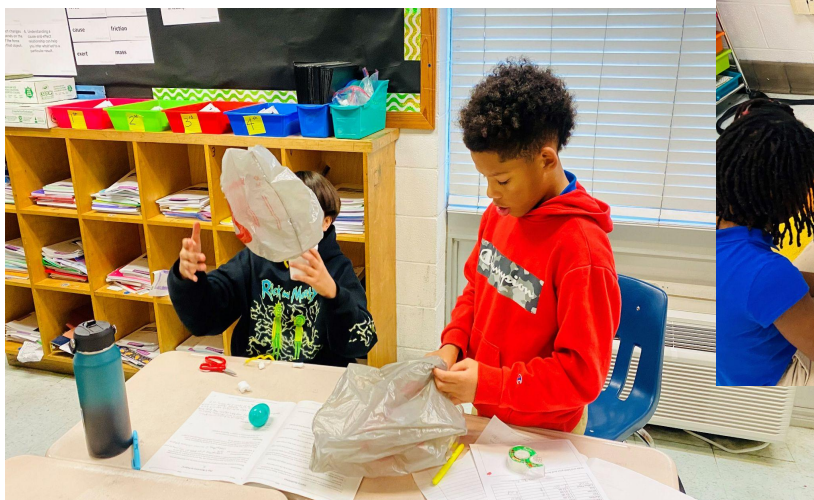


SAVE  
-THE-  
DATE



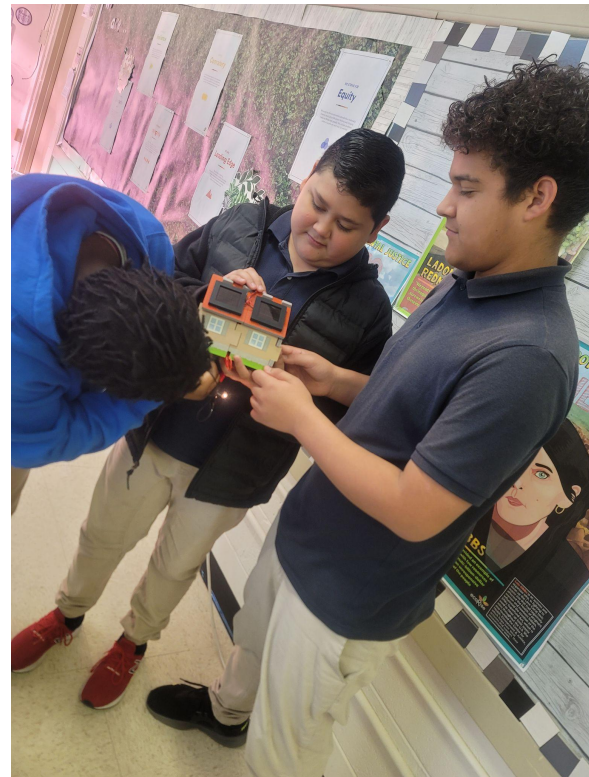


Carolyn Park Middle School (Slidell, St. Tammany Parish Public Schools) 6th grade science students designed and dropped pods carrying eggs to culminate their unit on force and motion. Students were given planning and budget resources to ensure their design met success criteria. After conducting trails to their prototype designs, student dropped their pod from a height of 15 ft. Students used their final quantitative and qualitative data to analyze their designs, as well as decide as a class which design was the most efficient and successful drop.





Students from Ms. Colson's class learned about the dangers of mineral extraction by mining for chocolate chips using toothpicks. They then learned about alternate sources of energy by constructing solar panels

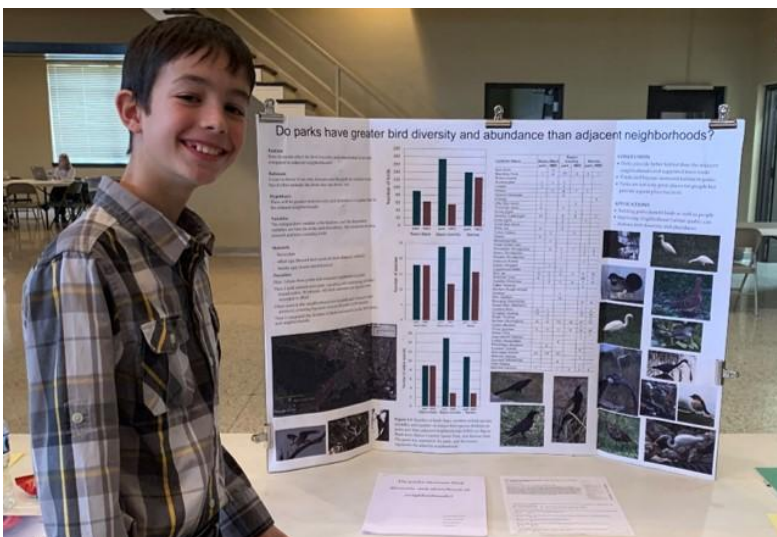


The Agriculture Team from Eva Legard Center for Coastal and Environmental Studies received an ADF Grant for intensive two-day training and purchase of their first Aquaponic system from Enterprise Aquatics. They will use this with their current hydroponic systems to create their first Controlled Environmental Agriculture indoor farming lab.



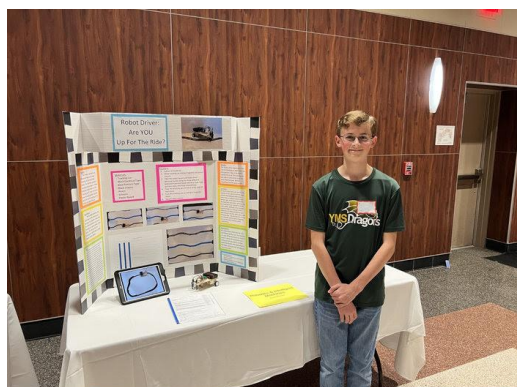


Students recently competed in the 47th Terrebonne Science and Engineering Fair. Abigail Straley, a junior at Terrebonne High School, was the Grand Prize recipient in the senior division. Madelyn Melancon, a freshman at Terrebonne High School, was the senior division runner up. Both girls qualified to attend the International Science and Engineering Fair this May in Los Angeles. In the junior division, Forrest Ellsworth, of Houma Junior High, was the Grand Prize recipient. Cullen Hebert, a student at Lacache Middle School, was the runner up in the junior division. A total of twenty two students qualified to participate at the Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair scheduled for March at LSU.





On January 26, 2024, The ULL Chemistry Department headed by Dr. Tolga Karsili, assisted by senior Lily Guidry, and junior Gabriel Overby visited Mrs. Deepthi Nalli's Chemistry classes at Ville Platte High School in Evangeline Parish School District. We had amazing discussions about STEM majors in college, careers, presentations, hands-on, hair-raising, and explosive!



The Region VI Science and Engineering Fair, hosted by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, aims to have students engage in independent scientific research process. This event provides a platform for participants to learn, master and communicate the results of their research. The 2023-2024 Region VI Science and Engineering Fair will be held at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's campus. Winners will be eligible for Louisiana State Science and Engineering Fair later this Spring.

Venue: Bourgeois Hall, 225 Cajundome Blvd, Lafayette, LA 70506.

Time: 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024

**Volunteer Opportunity with Iberia Parish Schools & STEM Global Action/STEM NOLA**  
STEM NOLA welcomes volunteers for the Iberia Parish Schools STEM Fest. Participants from grades 6 - 8 will engage with interactive activities related to Force and Motion.

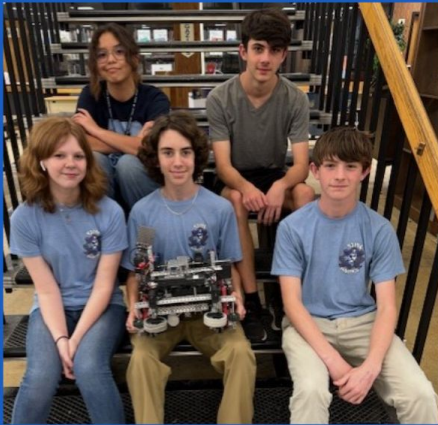
Date: Saturday, March 2, 2024

Time: 8 am - 1 pm

Venue: New Iberia High School, 1301 E. Admiral Doyle Drive, New Iberia, LA. 70560.

Volunteers can also sign up to assist with set up on Friday, March 1, 2024 using this [link](#).

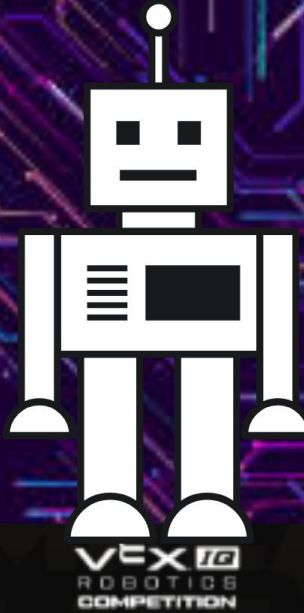




Team 43146C



Team 43146A



Team 43146B

STATE  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
BOUND



Team 43146X

Congratulations to the Barbe High School robotics team on their incredible achievement of making it to the VEX Robotics State Championships! A huge shoutout to teams 43146A, 43146B, 43146C, and 43146X for their dedication, hard work and teamwork leading up to this event. Wishing these teams all the best as they compete at the state level.



# REGION 5 2024 SUMMER CAMP STEMPEDE



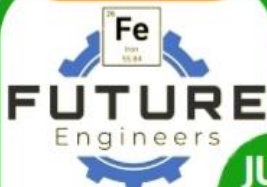
REGISTER HERE

HAVE FUN LEARNING  
ALL SUMMER LONG

**\$100\*\***  
**PER CAMP**

\*\*\$200 FOR NON-CPSB  
STUDENTS

GRADES: 1-8



**CAMP**

JUNE  
17-21

GRADES: 1-12

**VEX  
ROBOTICS  
CAMP**

JUNE 3-7

GRADES: 6-12

**SEAPERCH  
ROBOTICS**



**CAMP**

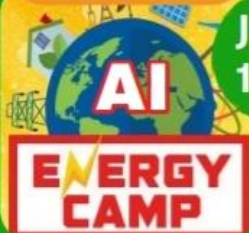
JULY  
8-12

**HALF  
DAY  
CAMPS**  
8AM-12PM

←  
**MS+ VEX  
1PM-5PM**

**FULL  
DAY  
CAMPS**  
→  
9AM-3PM

GRADES: 6-12



**ENERGY  
CAMP**

JUNE  
10-14

GRADES: 1-12

**NASA  
ASTRO CAMP**

JULY 22-26

GRADES: 1-5

**CAREERS IN  
STEM**

**CAMP**

JUNE  
10-14



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(337) 217-4390 ext 5335  
reg5stem.center@cpsb.org





# seaperch

## UNDERWATER

## ROBOTICS

## Competition



Questions?  
Contact:  
[dana.istre@cpsb.org](mailto:dana.istre@cpsb.org)



- Saturday, April 13th, 2024, 8am-3pm at McNeese Rec Complex
- Teams should consist of 1-4 students. Scan QR Code for more information.

- Kits/tools may be picked up free of charge at the Region 5 STEM Center.

Register Now







Congratulations on all the students in Region 5 who participated in the 69th annual Science and Engineering Fair!

## Best of Fair 2024

- Susanna Chiruguru, LaGrange Senior High School
- (ISEF Finalist)

## 2024 Senior Division Winner

- Gyeongyun Lily Min (Barbe Senior High)
- (ISEF Finalist)

## 2024 Junior Division Winner

- Logan Biven (St. Margaret Catholic)

## 2024 Elementary Division Winner

- Aahan Chopade (TS Cooley Elementary)

Senior winner and Best of show will attend International Science and Engineering Fair this May in California (award includes paid airfare and hotels) for more information to enter in February 2025 visit the site [here](#).

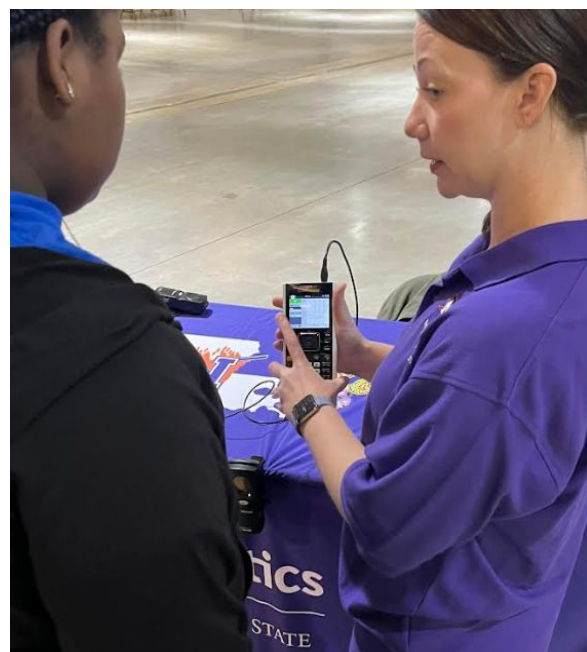
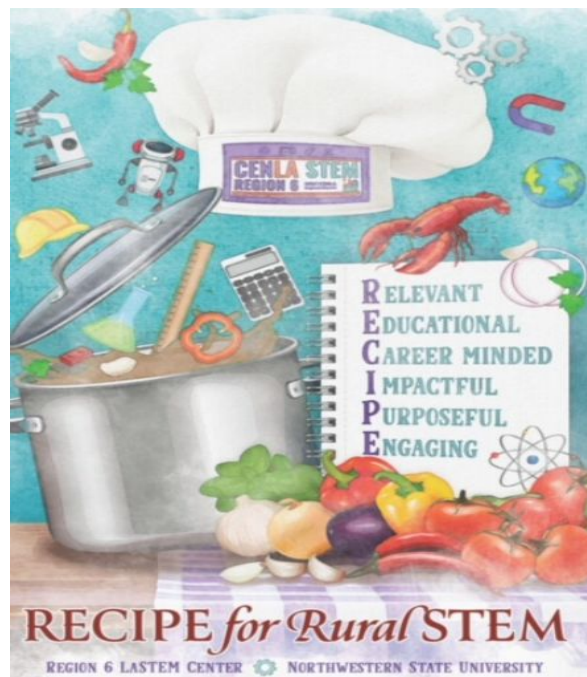
## Best of School

- Elementary TSCooley
- Junior High St Margaret Catholic School
- Senior High Barbe High School

The RECIPE for Rural STEM was held on Thursday, February 8 in the LSUA MegaShelter, here in Alexandria, LA. Led by Ms. DePriest, the Region 6 STEM Center along with the exhaustive list of their community partners provided a day full of hands-on STEM exploration for our area 5th and 6th grade students.

The event hosted a record breaking crowd of over 1,400 students and their teachers. Robotics, Chest Compressions, Entomology, Arial Drone Courses, SeaPerch Underwater Robots and much, much more were on full display for student to interact with. Let's continue to nurture the spirit of curiosity and innovation among our youth, inspiring them to pursue their passions and make meaningful contribution to the world.

Mark your calendars for next year's RECIPE for Rural STEM Day 2025 to be held on February 20, 2025!

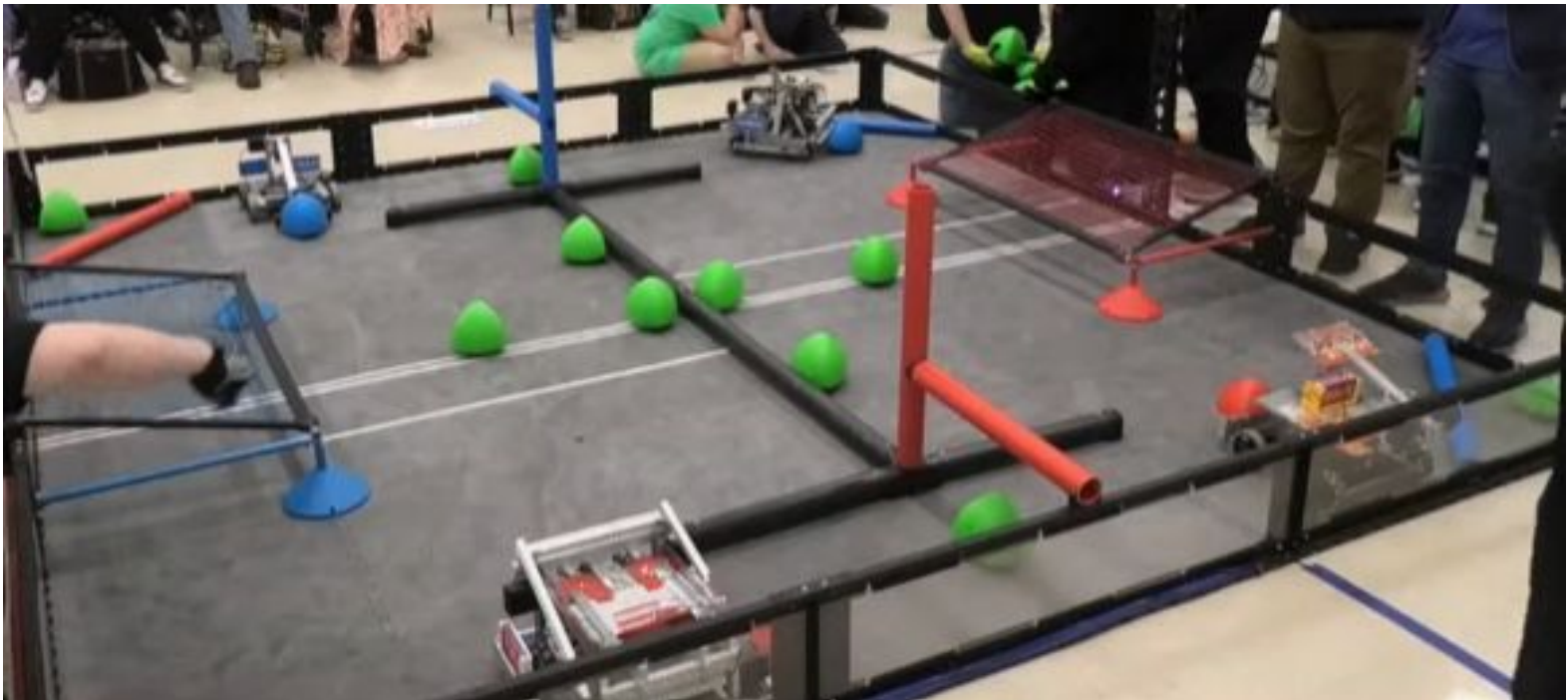




LSUA Robotics held their VIQRC Robotics Invitational on February, 8, 2024



LSUA Robotics held their VEX Robotics Competition on February, 3, 2024





**APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 26, 2024**

**Rapides Parish:**  
**CLTCC**  
**Alexandria**  
- OR -  
**LSUA**  
**Campus**

**Dates:**  
**CLTCC:**  
June 10-13, 2024  
**LSUA:**  
June 24-28, 2024  
8am-12pm

**CAMP FAST FORWARD:**  
Summer Exploration AND Simulation Camp

**CENTRAL LOUISIANA AHEC** Funded by: **THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION**

Register Online at:  
<https://clahec.org/online-program-forms/>  
or by scanning the QR code



**ACTIVITIES:**

- CPR Certification
- Healthcare Simulation
- Lab Skills & Experiments
- Vital Signs
- Blood Typing
- Hands on Activities

**PARTICIPANT CRITERIA:**

- Student entering Grade 8 or 9 (Fall 2024)
- Minimum GPA of 2.0 or higher
- Completed online applications
- Completed student assessment (available online)

For questions or more information, please contact  
Central LA AHEC:  
*Michelle Elliott, Careers Exploration Coordinator*

[www.clahec.org](http://www.clahec.org)  
(318) 443-2855  
[michelle.elliott@clahec.org](mailto:michelle.elliott@clahec.org)





Students from Shreve Island, accompanied by their teacher, Katie Chirhart, participated in Centenary's Full STEAM Ahead Symposium. They interacted with college students, professors, teachers, and STEM organization leaders from the parish.

Their impressive presentation skills and in-depth understanding of the Moon Tree Project left everyone they met thoroughly impressed. Congratulations on a job well done.



## LSUS Hosts JSHS Regional Competition for Louisiana

LSUS proudly hosted the JSHS Regional Competition for Louisiana, where close to 30 participants showcased their talents over two intense days, vying for one of the coveted five slots to advance to Nationals. A dedicated team of LSUS Faculty, Staff, and Students volunteered their time and expertise to ensure the success of this thrilling event over the weekend.

## Kudos to Caddo Magnet High School Students!

A round of applause is in order for the students of Caddo Magnet High School, who secured all five spots (1-5) for the Louisiana Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Nationals. Their outstanding performance truly shone at the competition.

20 **FULL** 25  
**STEAM**  
**AHEAD**  
EDUCATOR SYMPOSIUM

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
2025 THEME  
**TO BOLDLY GO...**  
*Imagining futures, exploring,  
innovating, exciting students!*

Centenary

[CENTENARY.EDU/FULLSTEAMAHEAD](https://centenary.edu/fullsteamahead)

Over 60 teachers, teacher educators, administrators, professors, college students, and community members attended the Inaugural Full STEAM Ahead Educator Symposium on the campus of Centenary College on February 8 & 9, 2024. Sessions included featured speakers Kevin Nolten of Cyber Innovation Center and DJ Pevery, Louisiana High School Teacher of the Year 2024. There were also hands-on sessions from Destination Imagination, and Mr. Wizard STEAM magic show, as well as panel discussions from community partners, student researchers, STEM-Informed Coaching and Navigating AI. Posters were presented, including Elementary student scientists, and the interactive display of "The Interior of the Cell"





IDEAS Day, held on February 17, 2024, saw the participation of more than 300 students. This event, orchestrated by students from LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine, was a captivating day dedicated to unveiling the excitement and wonders of science to children.



## COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS WIOA YOUTH PROGRAM

JOIN US AND LEARN ABOUT THE WIOA YOUTH PROGRAM  
& EXPLORE HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM / SERVING AGES 14-24

FEB 20

DeSoto Parish Library  
109 Crosby St, Mansfield, LA 71052

APRIL 18

Clalborne Parish Library  
909 Edgewood Dr, Homer, LA 71040

MARCH 5

Sabine Parish Library  
705 Main St, Many, LA 71449

MAY 1

Lincoln Parish Library  
910 N Trenton St, Ruston, LA 71270

MARCH 19

Natchitoches Parish Library  
450 2nd St, Natchitoches, LA 71457

MAY 7

Shreve Memorial Library (N. Caddo)  
615 N Pine St, Vivian, LA 71082

MARCH 26

Webster Parish Library  
521 E and W St, Minden, LA 71055

MAY 15

Bienville Parish Library  
2078 Hall St, Ringgold, LA 71068

APRIL 16

Red River Parish Library  
410 E Carroll St, Coushatta, LA 71019

JUNE 4

Bossier Parish Central Library  
2206 Beckett St, Bossier City, LA 71111



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# SPRING BREAK CAMP

Registration  
will begin  
**FEB 5<sup>th</sup>**

**MARCH 11 - MARCH 15**  
**8AM - 4PM**

**FREE**

## SPAR Community Centers

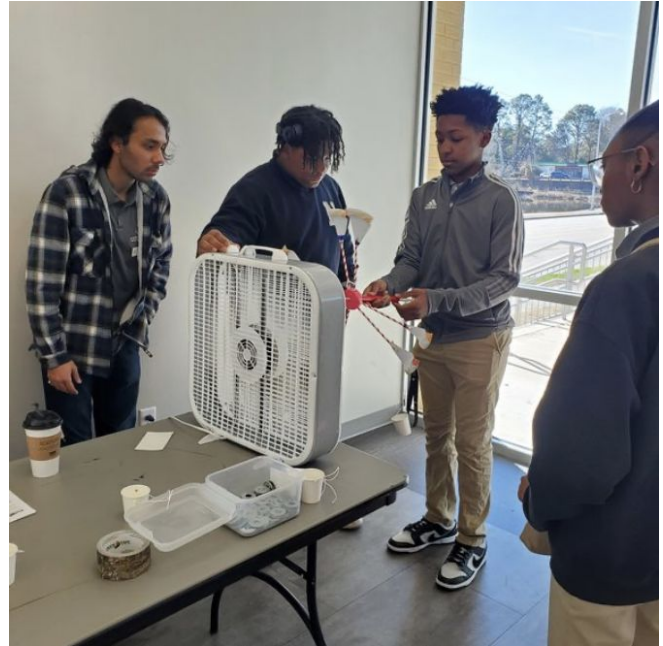
**AGES**  
**5-17**



A.B. Palmer	547 East 79th Street	673-5336
Airport Park	6500 Kennedy Drive	673-7803
Andrew Currie	1600 Norma Street	673-7805
Bilberry	1902 Alabama Ave.	673-5345
Bill Cockrell	4109 Pines Road	629-4185
Chris Hays	4363 Illinois Street	673-7814
David Raines	2920 Round Grove Lane	673-5342
Hattie Perry	4300 Ledbetter Street	673-7810
Lakeside	2200 Milam Street	673-7812
Mamie Hicks	200 MayFair Drive	673-6416
Southern Hills	1002 Bert Kouns	673-7818
Sunset Acres	6700 Quilen Road	673-7825
Valencia	1800 Viking Drive	673-6433

For more information call **318-401-6977**.

The SCILS Region 8 LASTEM Center was THRILLED to offer Louisiana's FIRST ever KidWind Challenge! Funded by Pattern Energy and hosted by the University of Louisiana at Monroe with national KidWind facilitators on site, the event provided teams of middle grades students the opportunity to create and test wind turbines, build sail cars and compete in a MacGyver Challenge. 17 teams competed, with Sterlington, Neville Jr High and Cedar Creek teams taking top honors. So proud of our trailblazing students for taking advantage of this exciting opportunity and making Louisiana shine!!



The SCILS team was proud to support the recent Louisiana Tech University Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament. While members of the team were on hand to administer different tests and monitor competitions in support of Tournament Director Chris Campbell, two SCILS partners were there to compete! Congratulations to A. E. Phillips Laboratory School and Cedar Creek School for their outstanding performances. Cedar Creek finished second overall with a host of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals awarded. AEP also had a great day, earning medals in nearly all the events entered, with its two teams capturing both 3rd and 4th place overall.

