Georgia College

Science Education Center

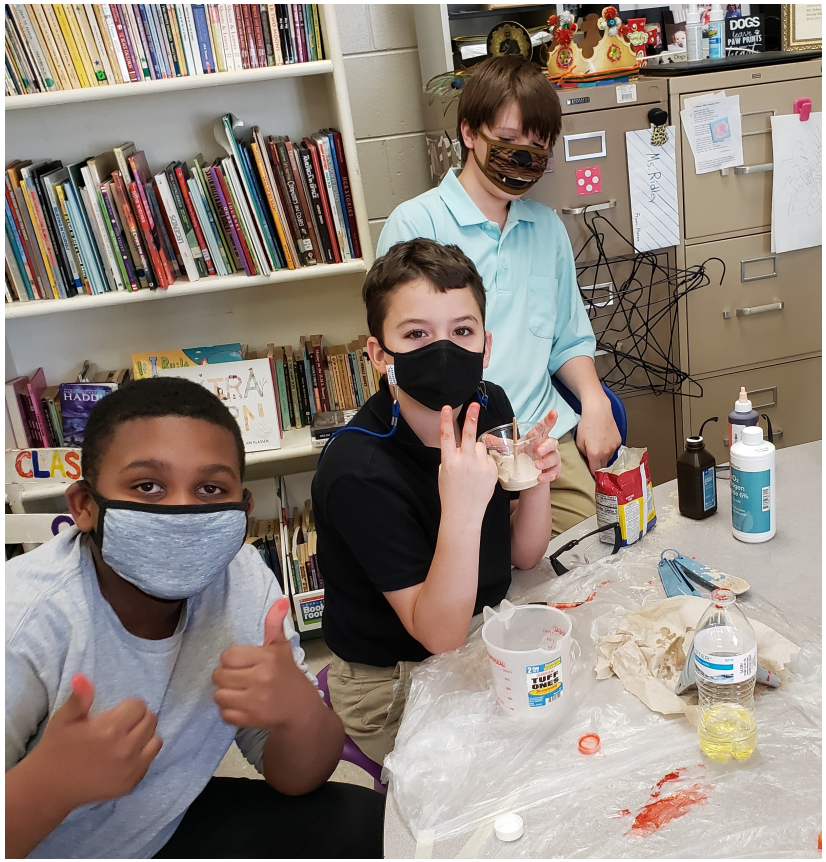
2020

IMPACT REPORT

2020 Science Education Center IMAPCT REPORT
Submitted by: Catrena H. Lisse, Ph.D.

What a YEAR!

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



“Covid-19 may have interrupted our traditional programs, but not our commitment to serving our community.”

Nobody could have prepared us for 2020. Two years ago, I would never have thought that the entire world would be locked down and face masks would be the new normal. Although, it would have been understandable for us to hit the pause button, we chose to adapt and advance. As the whispers among our colleagues and community buzzed that upwards of a third of all cultural institutions and educational centers may not survive the social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, we endured and stood firm.

Faced with the unprecedented challenges of 2020, Georgia College's Science Education Center persevered, demonstrating its unwavering commitment to advance science education while addressing the evolving community needs. With traditional program audiences staying away, the center re-directed its resources to the development of new programs and experiences crafted to provide value within the framework of the pandemic. We felt it was critical for the center to address community needs while remaining relevant and true to our mission.

This past year, the responsibility to ensure the center was in a favorable position to move forward was challenged on every level. However, thanks to the commitment of our volunteers and the Georgia College community, we will enter 2021 with our mission intact, as an organization that has adapted (and will continue to adapt) to meet the demands of uncertainty with science education.

Our mission to spark curiosity, enhance understanding, and inspire learning has not changed but inevitably, the pandemic will have changed the Science Education Center. We will approach 2021 with a more focused mission, greater capabilities in the emerging world of digital education, and stronger relationships with our regional community.

Our 2020 Impact Report highlights our pivot in engagement, individuals who have been impacted by our work, and our 2020 financial position. You will see evidence of the center's innovation, commitment to mission, and timely response to the needs of our community. Keep in mind as you read this report, that these remarkable programs and impactful experiences were conceived, designed, and implemented under the most unsettled, uncertain set of circumstances.

I look forward to continuing to inspire science learning in everyone in 2021!

Catrena H. Lisse

Catrena Higginbotham-Lisse, Ph.D.
Science Education Center, Director
Professor of Chemistry

GEORGIA COLLEGE
GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

Steve Dorman, President
Costas Spirou, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Eric Tenbus, Dean, College of Arts and Science

SCIENCE EDUCATION CENTER:
Dr. Catrena Lisse, Director
Patti Veal, Administrative Assistant
Dr. John Trombley, Volunteer with video production
Dr. Laura Whitlock, Outreach Volunteer (faculty)

Science Education Center 2020 Summary

With the outbreak of Covid-19, schools and community learning spaces had to close their doors. As a community, we all had to take on new roles to keep our kids engaged in learning.

Faced with challenges of the pandemic and economic downturn, we quickly pivoted to deliver new online educational resources for families and educators, FREE of charge. Unable to provide the same quantity of in-person programs and social distancing guidelines due to the pandemic required us to find new ways to stay connected to our community that were both safe and meaningful. Live stream events, including webinars, family games and activities, and Did You Know? science features helped to keep connections going strong.

- **Supporting teachers with virtual resources**
- **Virtual field trips and classroom visits**
- **Connecting families to everyday science**
- **Inspiring through exhibits and video productions**

Here is why we do what we do…

The Science Education Center, established in 2001 with generous support from the kaolin industry and the University System of Georgia's Eminent Scholars Trust Fund, is a public learning community exploring the world through science, art, and human perception. We promote access, interest, and participation in science by people of all ages and backgrounds.

Our **mission** is to create inquiry-based experiences that transform teaching and learning through interdisciplinary approaches and innovative methods.

Our **vision** is a world where people think for themselves and can confidently ask questions, question answers, and understand the world around them.

IMPACT

We are proud of our programmatic reach and the results we're achieving through our school and community partnerships, as well as through family and out-of-school-time programming delivered. In the shift to social distancing, we have innovated to bring engaging learning directly to homes and classrooms via real-time, virtual sessions. This 2020 Impact Report provides a snapshot of our investment in the community and our impact over the past year.

Below are the programs and partnerships that support STEM programs, collaborative projects, and specific center activities.A short summary of services is provided to each project and associated publications/press releases.

Programs and Partnerships

2020 Young Scientists Academy and Project SEED

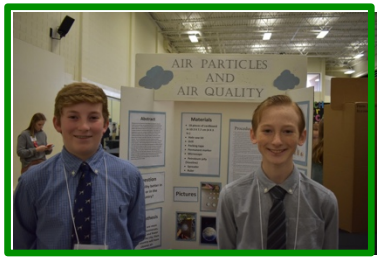
Department of Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy, American Chemical Society
YSA and Project SEED Director and Faculty Mentor: Dr. Catrena Lisse

Unfortunately, the 8-week experience of Young Scientists Academy and Project SEED were canceled for the summer of 2020. Through the support of the American Chemical Society, Dr. Lisse volunteered to host a reduced 4-week online webinar-style Young Scientists Academy science camp. For four weeks in July, high school students from central Georgia were invited to log-in for workshops on ethics in science, proper laboratory safety guidelines, introductions to chemical instrumentation and techniques used in materials science, and discussions revolving around forensics case studies.

The Center makes the general public more aware that low levels of science education effectively shut the door on many career options.

2020 Summer Science Camps – had to be canceled due to Covid-19

STEM Competitions



Regional Science & Engineering Fair 2020

Society for Science & the Public; Academic Special Programs

The Georgia College regional fair is affiliated with the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF), coordinated by the Society for Science & the Public. The regional fair is hosted annually during the first weekend in February at the Centennial Center and is directed by the center director. February 2020 we had a total of 640 K- 12th grade projects with 272 participants grades 6-12 residing in Baldwin, Bibb, Laurens, Monroe, Jasper, Johnson, Putnam, Hancock, Washington and Wilkinson counties.

Forty of our top 6-12th grade projects were selected to advance on to the state competition in March 2020 at UGA with two high school projects advancing as the Grand Prize International Science and Engineering Fair winners. The top three high school runner-up projects were selected to attend ISEF as Student Observers. External funding to support the regional fair was sought from local community partners through LatinoCommunity Fund, GreenPower EMC and local EMCs in central Georgia.

3rd Annual Georgia College State Science & Engineering Fair 2020

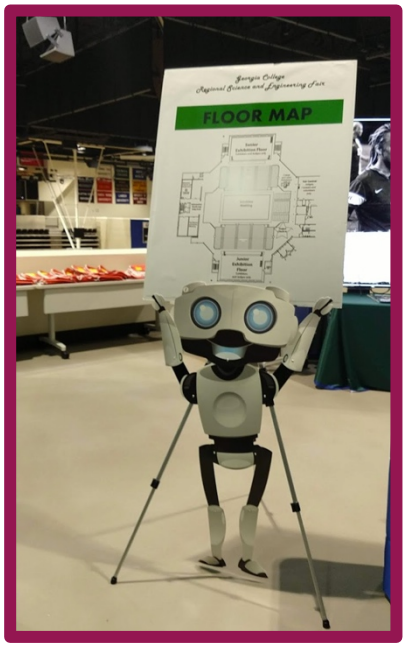
Grades K-5

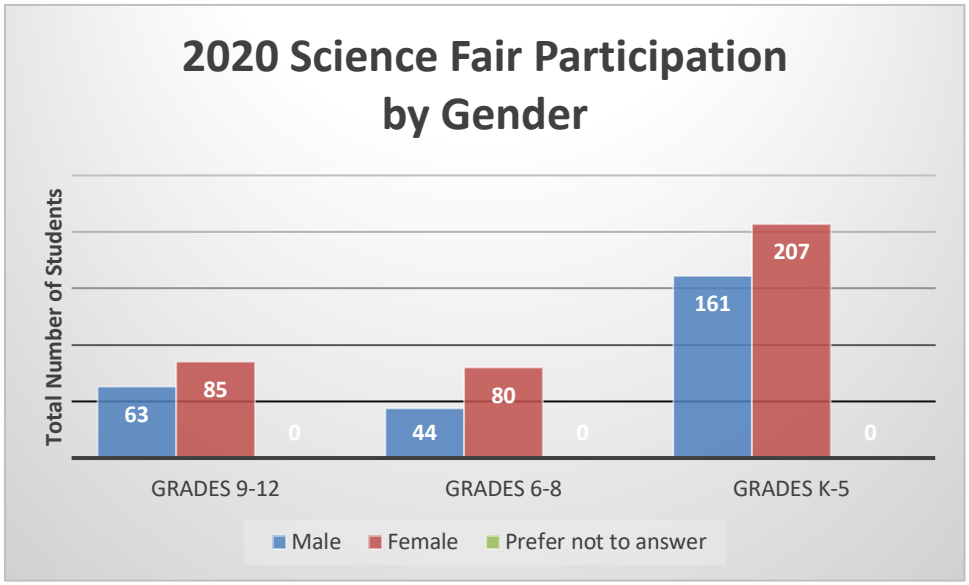
Society for Science & the Public; Academic Special Programs

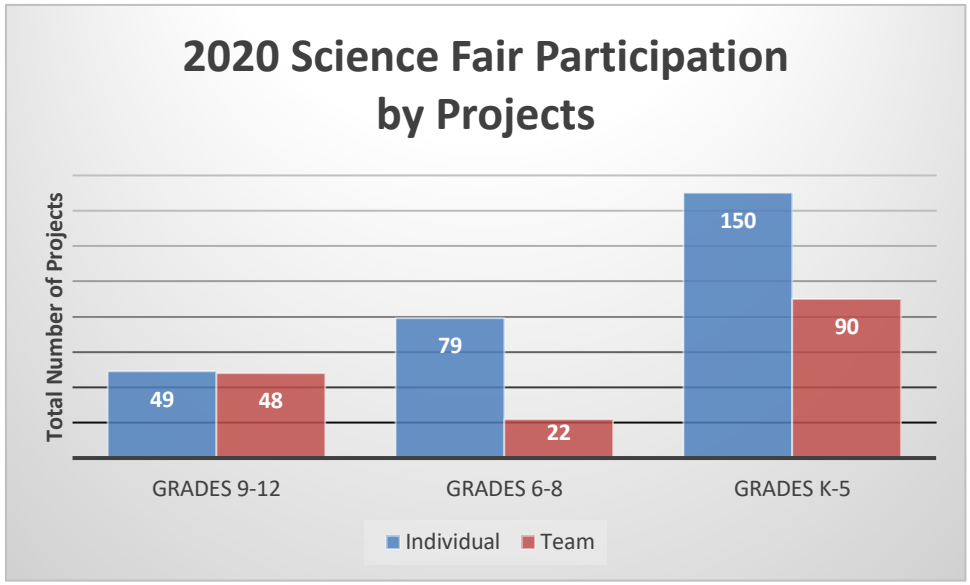
Georgia College hosted the annual state-wide Grades K-5 competition with an increase in participation by 47% statewide. We welcomed over 350 enthusiastic primary (grades K-2) and elementary (grades 3-5) students from around the state to compete in this one-of-a-kind competition. After being awarded a first or second place honor at their local or regional competition, students traveled from 27 towns and cities around the state accompanied with over 200 teachers and parents.

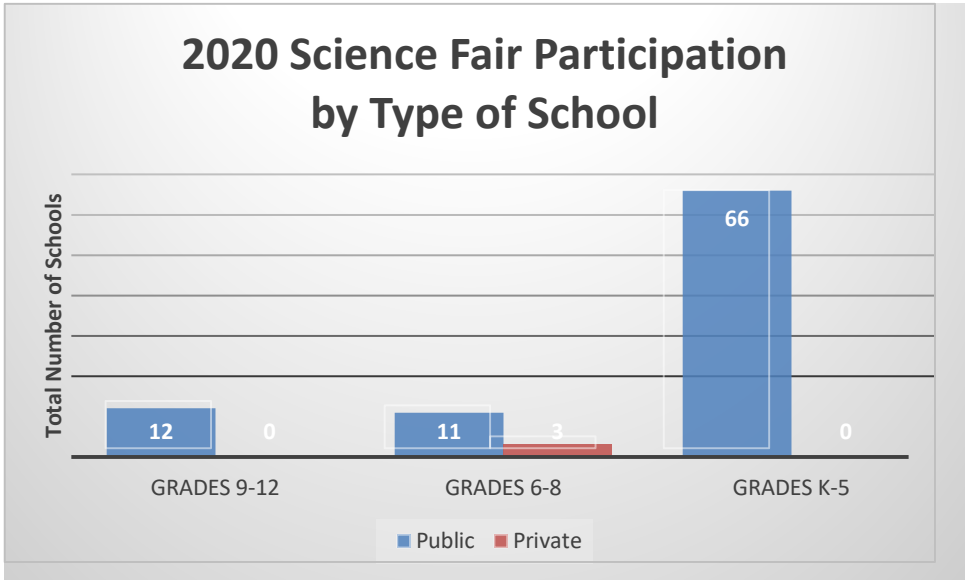
2020 Science Fair Committee and Advisory Board:

- Catrena Lisse – Fair Director
- Darinda Collins, Susan McGill, and Patti Veal – Fair assistants
- Awards Chairperson – Tynisha Harris (Georgia College Early College)
- Scoring Chairperson – Marcela Chiorescu (Georgia College)
- Judging Chairperson – Peter Rosado (Georgia College)
- Safety Chairperson – John Trombley (Georgia College)
- Volunteer Co-Chairs – Wathsala Medawala and Tara Newar (Georgia College)
- Ceremony MC – Brian Butler (Bibb County BOE), Tynisha Harris (GCEC)
- Media and Public Relations – Georgia College Mass Communication students
- Tier 3 Grand Prize Judges – Ralph France, Susan McGill, Laura Whitlock
- Safety Review Committee/Institutional Review Board:
    - Doug Pohl – chair (Emeritus Georgia College)
    - Tynisha Harris (Georgia College Early College)
    - Brian Butler (Bibb County School District Science Department)
    - Dean Campbell (local veterinarian)
- ISEF Adult-in-Charge and Educator Chaperone – Elizabeth Proctor (Jasper County educator)
- Dr. Wathsala Medawala and Dr. Tara Newar were in charge of recruiting and organizing the 200+ Georgia College students that signed-up to volunteer. In addition to the 200+ Georgia College volunteers, we had over 100 judges from Georgia College faculty, staff and students and approximately 30 professional judges from local industry, schools and other colleges that Dr. Peter Rosado-Flores organized.
- STEM Marketplace volunteers: (spent 2 hours with hands-on STEM activities for the participants)
    - Engineering Design Challenges
    - Flying Fish Obstacle Course was a huge hit!
- Campus Activities: (spent 3 hours entertaining the 340 participants in between award ceremonies)
    - GC Chemistry Club performed 3 hours of Chemistry Magic Shows (Herty Hall)
    - GC Museum of Natural History (Herty Hall)
    - Old Governor's Mansion and Andalusia (offered 2 free tours to our participants)



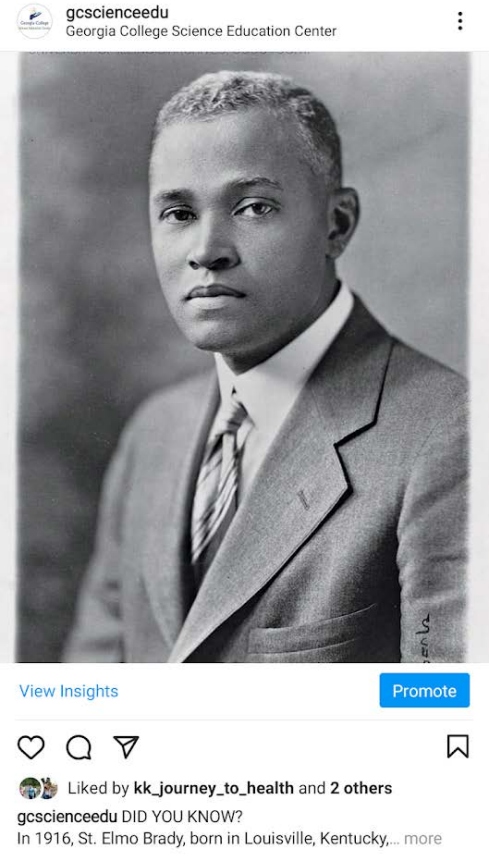

2020 Science Fair Participation by Gender
Total Number of Students
63
85
0
44
80
0
161
207
0
GRADES 9-12
GRADES 6-8
GRADES K-5
Male
Female
Prefer not to answer

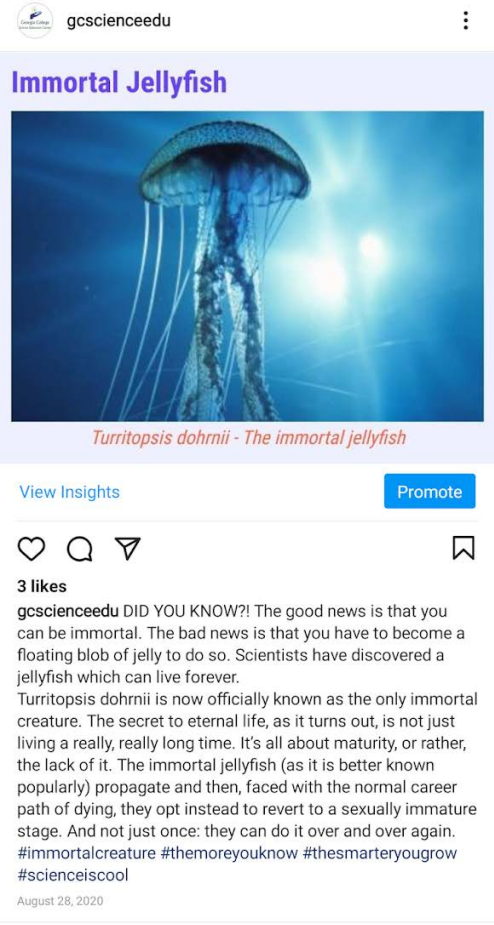

2020 Science Fair Participation by Projects
Total Number of Projects
49
48
79
22
150
90
GRADES 9-12
GRADES 6-8
GRADES K-5
Individual
Team

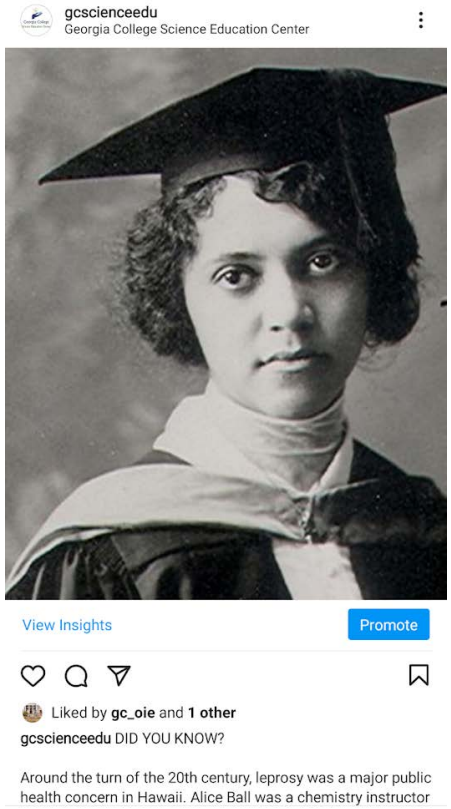

2020 Science Fair Participation by Type of School
Total Number of Schools
12
0
11
3
66
0
GRADES 9-12
GRADES 6-8
GRADES K-5
Public
Private

DID YOU KNOW?

We posted weekly Did You Know? pieces on social media to peak the interest of our viewers.







Exhibits and Video Productions

Women in STEM Exhibit

The thought of a "Women in STEM" project came about since 2020 marked the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. This historic centennial offered an unparalleled opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy and to explore its relevance to the issues of equal rights today. The planning of the project began with a round table discussion between Dr. Catrena Lisse, director of the Science Education Center and chemistry professor, Dr. Laura Whitlock, astronomy lecturer, Ruth Eilers, director of Academic Outreach and environmental science lecturer, Dr. Sharon Careccia, physics lecturer, and Dr. Rob Sumowski, Special Education faculty and avid collector of space memorabilia.

The program was preliminarily planned to have (1) a "walk through history" style exhibit with pictures and memorabilia of some of the key Women in STEM, (2) a hands-on experimentation exhibit for school-aged students, (3) a guest speaker and panel Q&A from women scientists in our area, and (4) a video series highlighting some of the STEM women, narrated by GC faculty and students. Due to a Covid-19 delay – like many other programs worldwide, it is our hope to launch the program in the Spring 2021.

Women in STEM Exhibit was highlighted by the GC Center for Teaching and Learning as a Focus on Faculty spotlight.

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Center for Teaching and Learning

October 2020
Issue 10
News Update
Center for Teaching and Learning

Focus on Faculty

As a highlight of this month's newsletter, the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) would like to share an interview with Dr. Catrena Lisse, Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Science Education Center at Georgia College, Dr. Rob Sumowski, Associate Professor and Program Co-Coordinator for Special Education, and Dr. Careccia, Senior Lecturer of Physics, on an upcoming project for Spring 2021: Women in STEM. Dr. Lisse, Dr. Sumowski, Dr. Whitlock, Dr. Careccia, and Ruth Eilers constitute the planning committee for the Women in STEM project.

What is STEM?

STEM represents science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, as well as all related fields.

How did you become involved in STEM?

Dr. Lisse was always the curious kid who asked all the questions and always wanted to know more - which she says is accurate for almost all scientists. She shared that for many kids, the programs offered through the Science Education Center at Georgia College are their first time experiencing science in a vibrant, hands-on way - and that can be transformative. "That's what happened to me," she says. "As an educator, the first time I felt the excitement from a child experiencing hands-on science, I knew there was no turning back."

Dr. Careccia's interest in science also began in childhood: her father was an engineer and physicist, and as a young girl, she followed him around, wanting to know how things worked. Her interests didn't align with typical expectations for girls in the 1960s and 1970s. Regardless, Dr. Careccia pursued her dreams, earned degrees in engineering and physics, and launched her scientific career. As a result, she is inspired to reach out to young girls and get them excited about science.

Why is gender inclusiveness important in the STEM subjects?

There is still a gender gap in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) related fields in today's society. According to the 2019 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, women only make up 28% of the workforce in STEM, and men vastly outnumber women majoring in most STEM fields in college. The gender gaps are exceptionally high in some of the fastest-growing and highest-paid jobs of the future, like computer science and engineering.

Tell us more about the Women in STEM project.

The thought of a Women in STEM project came about since 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. This historic centennial offers an unparalleled opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy and to explore its relevance to the issues of equal rights today. The planning of the project began with a roundtable discussion between Dr. Catrena Lisse, Director of the Science Education Center and chemistry professor, Dr. Laura Whitlock, astronomy lecturer, Ruth Eilers, Director of Academic Outreach and environmental science lecturer, Dr. Sharon Careccia, physics lecturer, and Dr. Rob Sumowski, Special Education faculty and an avid collector of space memorabilia. *cont. next page*

GC Journeys Virtual Info Sessions

Want to know more about GC Journeys? This 30-minute information session, led by Drs. Cynthia Alby and Jordan Cofer, will offer an overview of the GC Journeys program, discuss Transformative Experiences and Essential Skills, and answer any questions you might have.

One more virtual GC Journeys Info Sessions is scheduled for 2020: the final session for this year will be held on November 18, 3:00 p.m.

Register for the virtual Info Session here!

Dr. Sumowski enjoyed assembling the section of the project dealing with the vast contributions of women in aviation and space exploration. He gathered and contributed books by early aviators and signed photographs from pioneer women astronauts like Sally Ride and Eileen Collins. One fascinating item he has loaned from his collection is a framed swatch of fabric from the wing of Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Electra.

While this project is still in the planning phase, due to a COVID-19 delay - like many other programs worldwide - the planning committee hopes to launch the program in Spring 2021. Preliminary plans for the program include:

1. A "walk through history"-style exhibit with pictures and memorabilia of some of the key women in STEM (Location TBA).
2. A hands-on experimentation exhibit for school-aged students.
3. A guest speaker and panel Q&A from women scientists in our area.
4. A video series highlighting some of the women in STEM, narrated by Georgia College faculty and students.

What are your goals for the students involved in the Women in STEM project?

Dr. Lisse states that the Women in STEM's primary goal is to bring public awareness to some of the untold stories of women in STEM throughout history, like Maria Mitchell, an astronomer who was a force behind women's rights and education in the nineteenth century. Dr. Sumowski shared that men have written much of what is considered history, often unjustly ignoring or leaving out altogether the vital contributions of pioneer women scientists. He hopes that in some small way, Women in STEM will shine a light on these all to often overlooked women whose work shaped a great deal of the world we know today. To this end, Dr. Whitlock spent time over the summer researching and gathering biographies for many of the women to highlight in the project.

Women in STEM also aims to raise awareness that girls and women are just as capable of pursuing STEM careers and being successful in STEM. The planning committee hopes to promote public awareness to parents and local K-12 educators about how they can encourage girls as much as boys in math and science by supporting learning opportunities and offering positive messages to children about their abilities. Through the community-wide project, the committee plans to emphasize strong and visible role models of women in math and science fields by recruiting some of the "GC Women in STEM" faculty and students and partnering with the GCSU Women in STEM faculty organization led by Dr. Stephanie Jett.

How do you increase student confidence in class when they are unfamiliar with the subjects being taught?

Relatability is key, says Dr. Lisse. Instructors must find a way to connect the student with the material, especially in STEM fields. Research suggests if an individual's ability to process oral, written, and graphical information is lacking, their confidence, attitudes, and behaviors towards science and health-related issues are directly and negatively impacted. In today's COVID-19 world, separating science from pseudoscience is critical for our society. Using real-world, relatable examples in the classroom to capture the student's attention will provide a conduit to comprehend the world in which we live, and help students make sound personal and societal decisions about science and health-related issues.

How do you engage students on topics where stereotypical social reinforcement discourages academic interest?

As Georgia's designated Public Liberal Arts College, a highly selective institution that provides high-quality education, Georgia College aims to produce graduates who can contribute and participate in human and civil affairs with self-efficacy to be more productive, scientifically literate members of society. *cont. next page*

Keep Up with the Center for Teaching and Learning on Social Media!

We cannot do this by avoiding uncomfortable topics and stereotypical social issues. How many of our students stay current on women, especially women in STEM, making news? For example, how many of our students know that Drs. Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their work on CRISPR-Cas9, genome editing? According to UC Berkeley's News press release, Doudna and Charpentier are only the sixth and seventh women to receive the chemistry prize since 1901 when the first Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded. The million-dollar honor will be shared by Doudna and Charpentier, who are also the first women to win a Nobel Prize in the sciences together, which sends the message, Doudna said, that "women rock."

Throughout history and even today, many women think that, no matter what they do, society will never recognize their work as if they were men. Doudna and Charpentier winning this prize make a strong statement that women can do science and that great science is recognized and honored. Topics like this can lead to great discussions for students enrolled in any course - not just STEM courses.

News from the CTL

Peer Feedback on Teaching (PFoT) - Available Until October 30

The PFoT provides instructors with confidential, formative feedback on their teaching. The results of the peer observation will only be shared with the instructor. If an instructor chooses to include peer observation as part of their midterm feedback, one trained CTL reviewer will assess the first 25+ minutes of a class period using the Peer Review protocol. Prior to the assessment, the reviewer will meet with the instructor to discuss their goals for the class to be reviewed and go over the protocol.

For more details on Peer Feedback on Teaching (PFoT), please visit **Midterm Course Feedback**. To schedule an assessment, please contact **ctl@gcsu.edu**.

CTL Teaching Tip

7 Ways to Assess Students Online and Minimize Cheating

How do you make sure your students take online tests without cheating?

- Break up a high-stakes exam into weekly tests.
- Start and end each test with an honor statement.
- Ask students to explain their problem-solving process.
- Get to know each student's writing style in low- or no-stakes tasks.
- Assess learning in online discussion forums.
- Don't base grades solely on tests.
- Offer students options for demonstrating their knowledge.

Learn more!

Upcoming CTL Workshops

Using Classroom Assessment Techniques to Improve Critical Thinking - October 20, 2:00 p.m. Several class assessment techniques can be used to engaged your learners in the process of critically examining issues.

Community Building in a Digital Environment - October 23, 12 noon. Learn to create classroom environments that focus equally on the student, knowledge and assessment, and inclusion.

Tools of the Trade: Education Tech Tools for Engaging Students - October 26, 3:00 p.m. This webinar is part of our new effort, the Digital Teaching Toolkit.

Alternative Assessment Techniques - October 27, 3:00 p.m. Explore a variety of alternative approaches to assessing learning.

So Many Options - What Video Conferencing Platform Do I Choose? - October 28, 12 noon. A comparative analysis of different video conferencing platforms available at Georgia College.

You Can Love Student Assessment. Really. - October 28, 3:30 p.m. Explore a template that allows instructors to easily create engaging and authentic assessments.

Developing Student Critical Thinking through Higher-Order Questioning - October 30, 12 noon. Explore ways to create higher-order questions for learners.

Podcasting for Teaching: Creating a Podcast - November 10, 1:00 p.m. This webinar is part of our new effort, the Digital Teaching Toolkit.

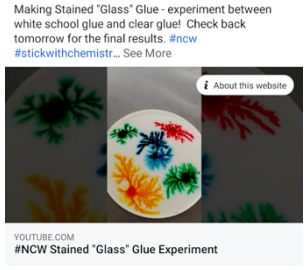
Please use our **registration form** to register for any of these workshops! Registrants will be sent the link to attend the webinar. Recordings will be released.

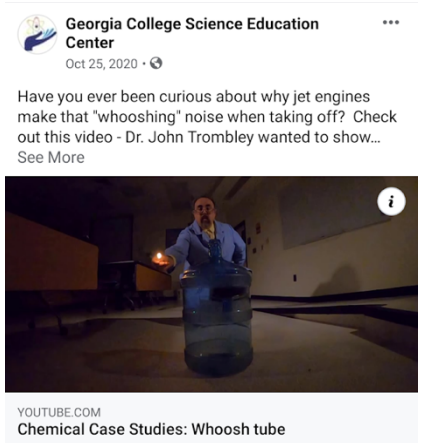
Women in STEM exhibit began going up in Herty Hall with part of the exhibit as a “traveling” project. We will begin putting the exhibit on display around the community, starting with Central Georgia Technical College, in January 2021.

Video Productions – Digital Demonstrations and Family Fun Days

We responded to the global pandemic by launching our comprehensive series of virtual programs designed for kids, families, educators, and schools. Each of our virtual productions stays true to our mission of helping kids and youth become more curious, creative, collaborative, and compassionate problem-solvers.

LIVE
We delivered real-time, hands-on activities, and mini-lessons that helped kids develop new skills and take on challenges at home.





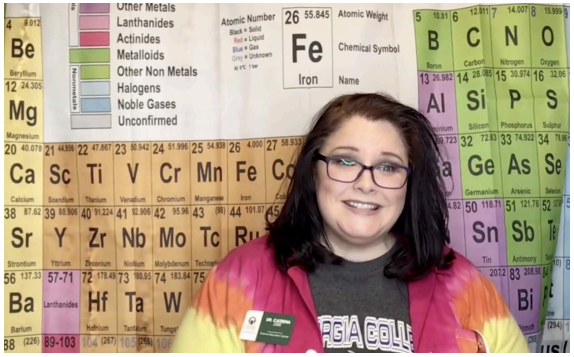
CLASSROOM
Our virtual programs for schools and educators made distance learning come alive for students and help combat the staggering learning loss resulting from school closures. We delivered comprehensive support to our school partners through real-time virtual sessions, curriculum, and teacher professional development.

GC student volunteers show how to make glue bouncy balls and teach a virtual classroom all about polymers!

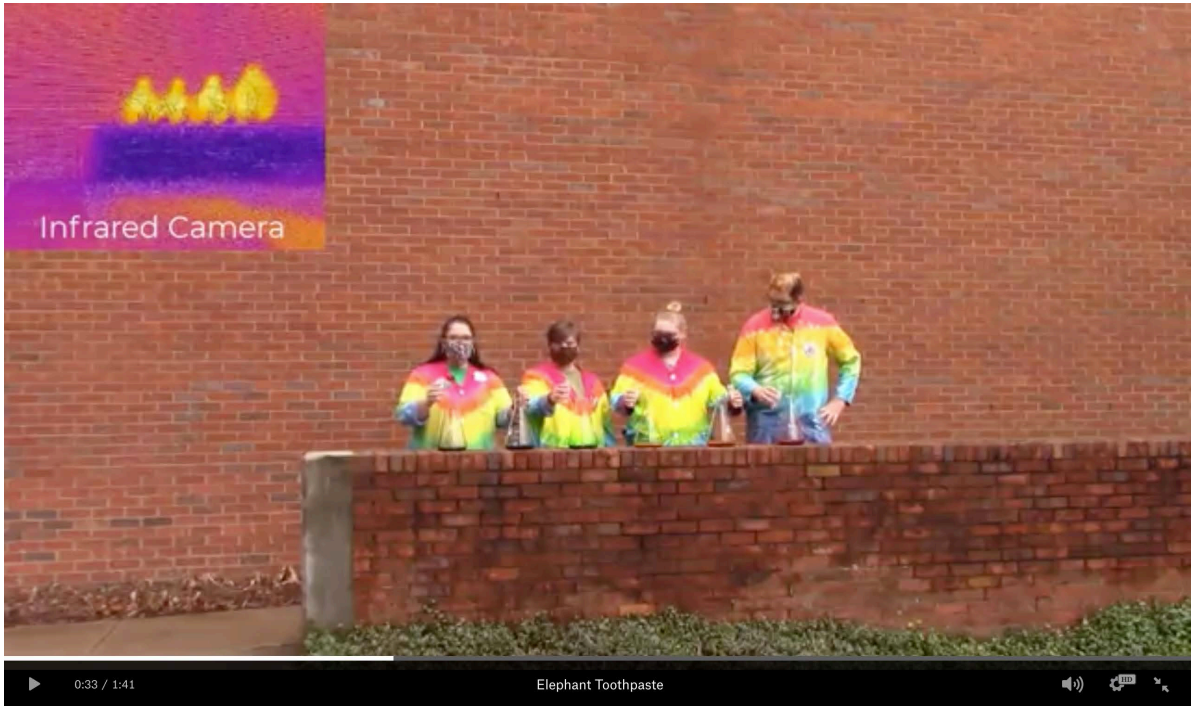
"Dr. Lisse was very knowledgeable, dedicated, and patient. She made sure that my son got engaged and that he understood every step. She went the extra mile to get him up to speed. My son is proud. Thank you!"

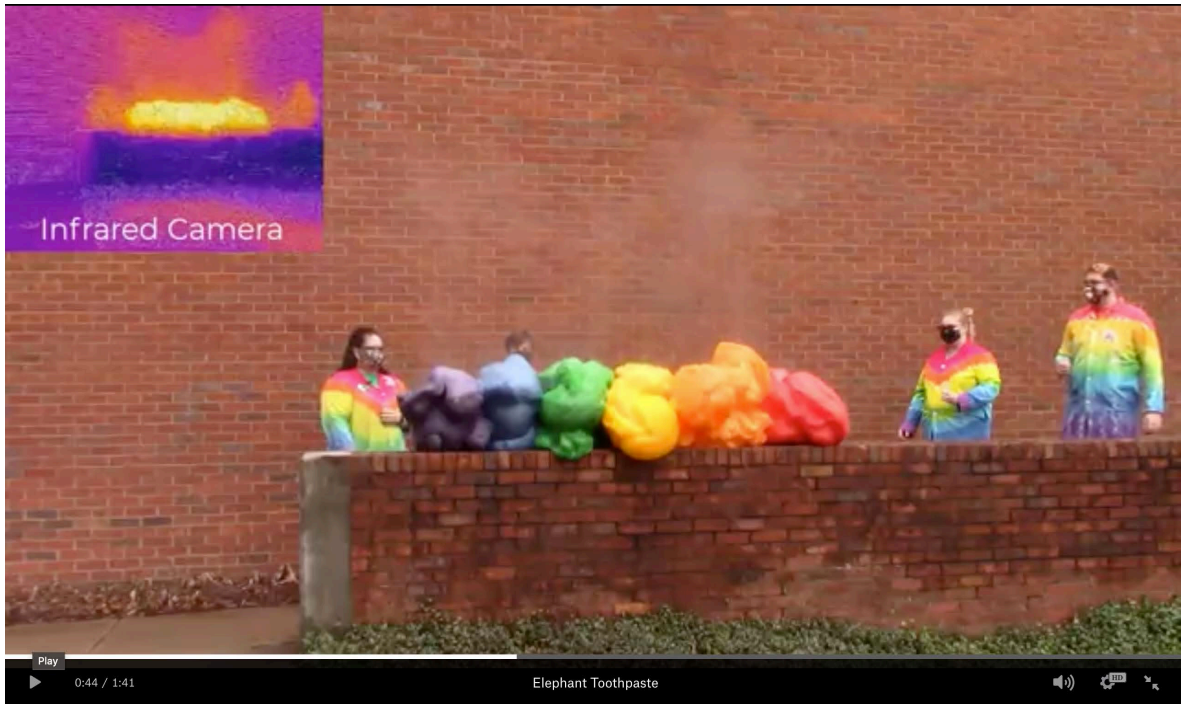
This is what parents had to say about some of our virtual programs.

"My kids were engaged in the experiments posted online through the Science Education Center. And they were engaged the whole time. Kudos."



Dr. Lisse narrates one of our video productions to explain the very popular Elephant Toothpaste demonstration . We used infrared (thermal) imaging to show the heat being released from the chemical reaction. Then the kids were given a "safe" at-home version of the experiment to try.



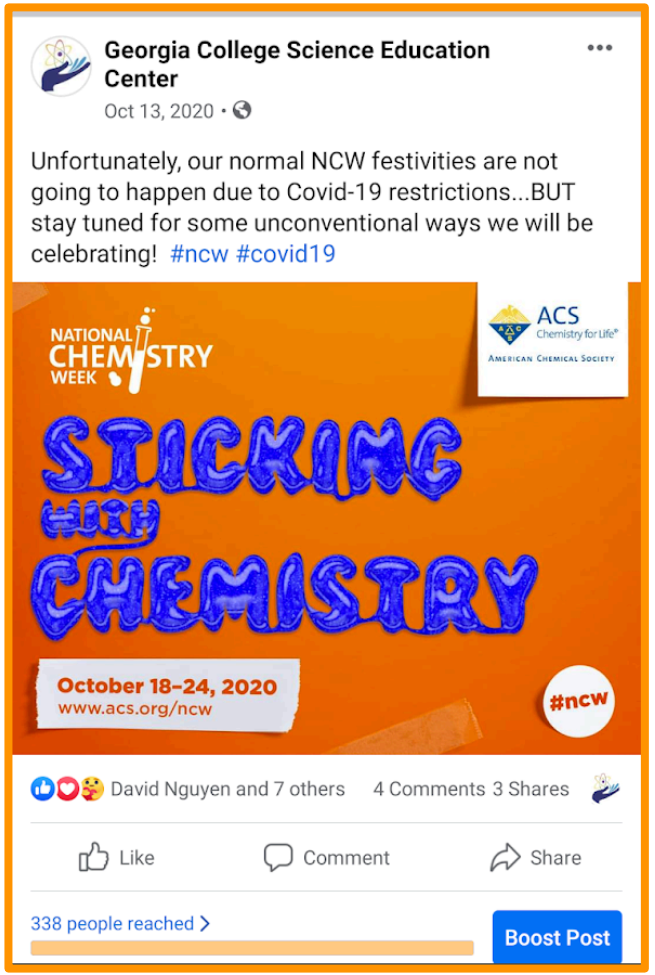


National Chemistry Week 2020

Hosted by: GC Science Education Center, American Chemical Society, GC Chemistry Club, Middle Georgia ACS, and the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy

National Chemistry Week (NCW) was October 18-24, 2020 and Georgia College held a week full of virtual events. NCW encourages science enthusiasts to build awareness of chemistry at the local level. Our main goal is to promote the value of chemistry in everyday life. This year's theme is Chemistry is Out of this World with an astronomy twist. Our events are hosted by the American Chemical Society, Middle Georgia Local Section of ACS, Department of Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy, Georgia College Chemistry Club, Science Education Center, College of Arts and Sciences, and local industry.

- Chemistry Magic Shows – virtual classroom visits
- Family Fun Night - This annual community-anticipated event was very different this year because it was live-streamed through Science Education Center's Facebook and Instagram. We usually host a few hundred people into Herty Hall but we still reached hundreds of people through the live-stream.



Teacher Professional Development Opportunities

We provided weekly social media postings offering "free" educational resources.

Virtual Science Fair Boot Camp

The Science Education Center is working to prepare teachersand adult sponsors for the upcoming science fair season by offering an intensive one-day training. The workshop is free and will cover topics ranging from how to start a local sciencefair, preparing students for science fair, the 5E learning cyclein science fair, and resources needed for a successful sciencefair.

This year we welcomed more than 62 educators from the state of Georgia at the annual Science Fair Bootcamp heldthrough Zoom.

Virtual Classroom Visits – Raffle

Georgia College Science Education Center

Oct 14, 2020 •

Teachers and friends,

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will be celebrating National Chemistry Week a little differently this year! Since we are unable to visit schools in person, we are creating virtual visits. Use the link below to enter your name in a drawing for one of our virtual classroom visits. The winning teachers will receive a science goodie box from us in the mail plus a virtual visit to your classroom from one of our Georgia College scientists.

https://forms.gle/E5NPsJ2HbByW4L4v7

Feel free to share this information with others and stay tuned for more of our unconventional NCW celebrations including a Facebook live magic show! #NCW

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RANDOM.ORG

List Randomizer

There were 16 items in your list. Here they are in random order:

1. Patricia Robertson
2. [redacted]
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16.

IP: 174.87.40.99
Timestamp: 2020-10-23 16:26:57 UTC

View Insights Promote

1 like

gcscienceedu The first drawing for today is for a Grades 3-5 Virtual Classroom visit. We had 16 teachers for Grades 3-5 submit information for a classroom visit from all over the state...and the winner is PATRICIA ROBERTSON from Waresboro Elementary in Waycross, Georgia! Congratulations and we will be in touch through email to arrange a classroom visit!

More NCW Classroom visit drawings to come throughout the day! Stay tuned! #ncw #stickwithchemistry

October 23, 2020

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RANDOM.ORG

List Randomizer

There were 12 items in your list. Here they are in random order:

1. Cassie Tibitts

Friday's
Grades K-2 Winner

IP: 174.87.40.99
Timestamp: 2020-10-23 19:37:28 UTC

View Insights Promote

1 like

gcscienceedu It's time for another drawing...today's Grades K-2 Teacher that receives a virtual classroom visit from a Georgia College scientist is...Cassie Tibitts from Irish Gifted Academy in Dublin, Georgia. Congratulations!

October 23, 2020

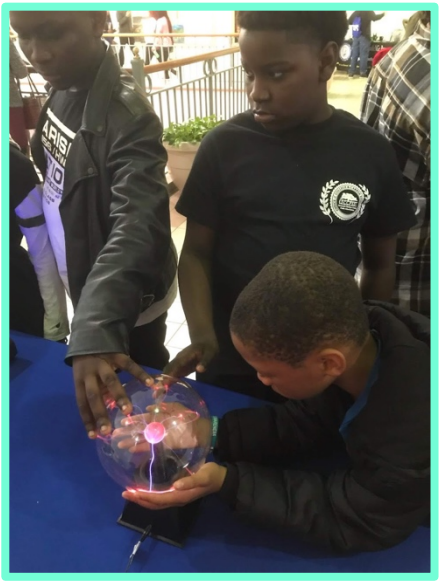
STEMing into the Community

STEMing into the Community™ is a center initiative that launched in 2015 atMilledgeville's Housing Authority to spark local students' curiosity in science,technology, engineering and mathematics — better known as STEM fields. The FREE series features hands-on experiments and take-home activities. The series is part of the center's outreach and engagement opportunities offered during the summer months and throughout the academic year. "Interactive magic shows are an entertaining way to start getting our youths'wheels turning and start steering them into the direction of becoming future STEM leaders," said Lisse. "Our demos are designed to help take their imagination to new heights because opportunities in STEM are limitless."

In 2020, we held eight "STEMing" events and impacted 1,518 kids before the March shutdown.

- January 11, 2020 – Student Success Expo and STEM festival held in Savannah
- January 23, 2020 – STEM night at Dames Ferry Elementary School
- February 10, 2020 – Science Night at Gray Elementary School
- February 19, 2020 – S.A.M.E. Celebration in Valdosta
- February 24, 2020 – Early College STEM Day
- February 26, 2020 – Wilkinson County Middle School STEM Night
- February 29, 2020 – Junior Day on GC Campus
- March 6, 2020 – Early Leaning Center "Solar System" Day

STUDENT SUCCESS



Social Media has been critical to our success with events!

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View Insights Promote

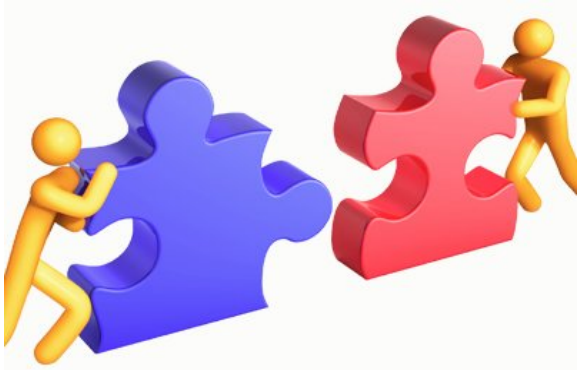
Liked by **alexhanna8** and **3 others**

gcscienceedu Our very own Dr. Lisse has been invited by the Society of American Military Engineers as the keynote... more

The outbreak of the coronavirus crisis ushered in an unprecedented global health, financial, and educational crisis. It revealed what so many of us already knew — that there's incredible inequality in our nation, and that our communities must come together to invent solutions.

In the face of this reality, we found new ways to serve our community and to make a difference. Whether it was repurposing our supplies to keep vulnerable members of our community safe or rolling out new virtual programs to keep kids, families, and educators connected and learning, we were there to do our part. Here's a look at some of what we accomplished.

Making a Difference

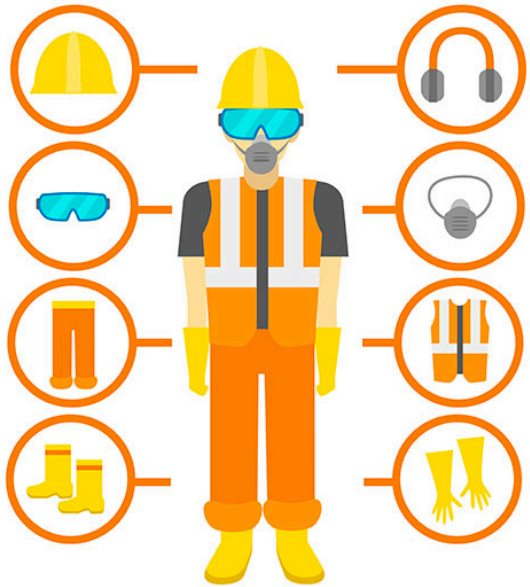


Making Connections

We partnered with schools, regional partners, and our community to ensure access to creative learning experiences, helping to combat learning loss resulting from school closures.

Providing PPE

Like many other departments on campus, we donated our supply of masks, gloves, and safety glasses in a community-wide effort to make PPE available for healthcare providers.



Making a Brighter Future

We launched our virtual science lessons campaign to help bring our high-impact educational programs to scale and set our kids up for an even brighter future.

Become a Professional or Business Advisor

The Center is looking for community leaders and business professionals to serve as mentors and advisors for our your programs.

Volunteer at Center Programs

We're always looking for an extra hand at our community events and programs. The Center relies on the generosity of volunteers who enjoy giving back to the community and who share our commitment to education and innovation.

Not a scientist? No problem – we need volunteers who can assist in a variety of areas including event logistics and operations, marketing, and social media.

GET INVOLVED. BE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY.

KNOWLEDGE IS VITAL.
NETWORKS ARE ESSENTIAL.

Learn more about engaging with the Science Education Center as a mentor or by participating in our events as a speaker, attendee or volunteer.

Attend an Event

We've got something for everyone – and it's always FREE!

Contact the Center for opportunities to connect and grow.

Mentor Teenage Students

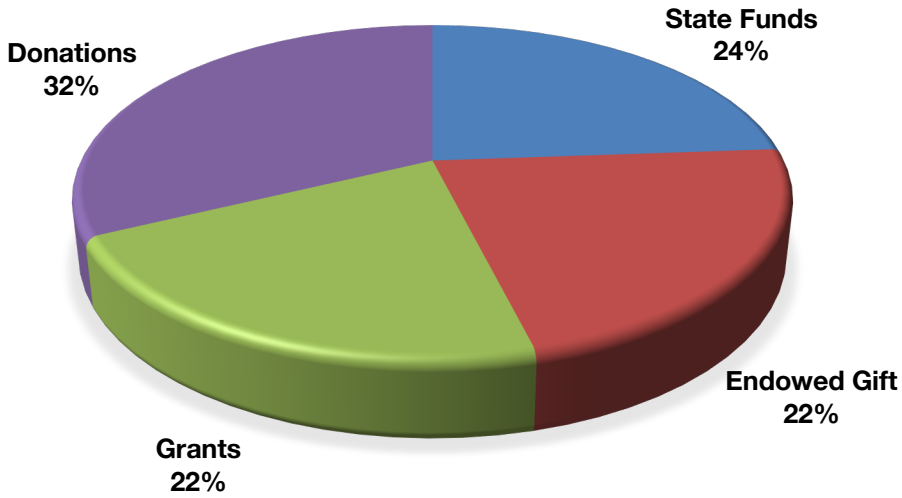
Inspire the next generation of STEM professionals by serving as a mentor to our students from financially-disadvantaged, under-represented middle and high schools. We're always looking for area scientists, graphic designers, entrepreneurs and engineers, but we welcome mentors with all types of backgrounds and skill sets.

Donate to Support the Center

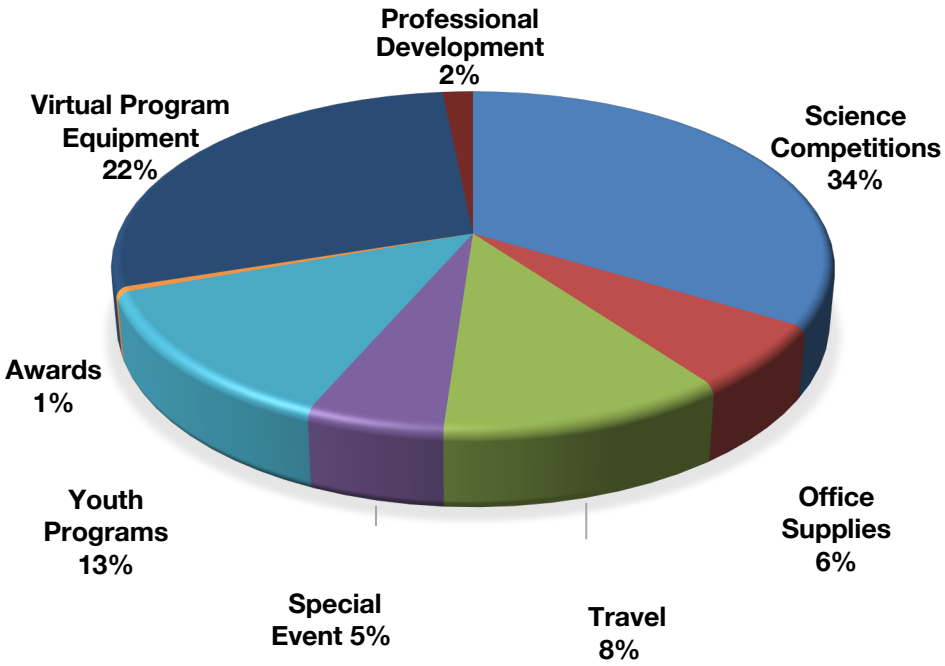
By contributing to the Science Education Center, you helpsupport the programming efforts that fuels our initiatives and catalyzes the discoveries that advance our collective future. Contact us for more information on partnership opportunities and for ways to engage with central Georgia's innovation community.

2020 Financial Analysis

Total Revenue: $28K



Total Expenses: $24K



DONORS and SUPPORTERS

The Science Education Center relies on the generosity of donors and supporters to bring our education programs to young people and their teachers. We extend our gratitude to our sponsors.

American Chemical Society – Project SEED

American Chemical Society – Middle Georgia Local Section

Franklin Foundation

University System of Georgia's Eminent Scholars Trust Fund

Kaolin Industry

Green Power EMC

Southern Rivers EMC

Washington EMC

GIFTS IN KIND

We are grateful to the following individuals and organizations that made in-kind donations.

Blackbird Coffee

Goodie Gallery

Heart of Georgia Animal Care

Latino Community Fund with Delta Airlines

Light Force Family Chiropractic

Help Expand our IMPACT

There are still millions of diseases to cure. Trillions of stars to identify. Countless dinosaurs to uncover.

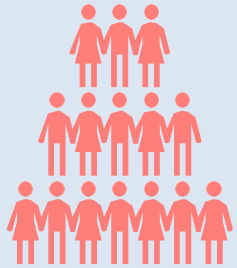
Who will seek out these unknowns?

The Science Education Center actively works to inspire this next generation of game-changers, and we couldn't do it without your help. Your gift could help the Center acquire outreach supplies, underwrite a high school student stipend, help make the Center accessible to all schoolchildren, bring a world-renown scientist to Central Georgia, and more. Thank you so much for your consideration of support of the Center.

Our impact is amplified through your generosity. Through your support, we will:

- Ensure access for all
- Build content in areas where we excel
- Deepen our impact in the region
- Amplify leadership in the scientific community

We can ensure access for all through your generosity.



For more information about ways to make a gift:

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