

BRIGHT SPOT STEM CAREERS IN SIGHT

Idaho Falls STEM Gateway to the West



MUSEUM OF IDAHO

Archimedes is no stranger to students in Idaho Falls and Bonneville school districts. In celebration of science, engineering, and mathematics to create technology, Museum of Idaho's 2019 exhibit brought the ancient Italian pioneer scientist to life in a city still revered for its pioneering spirit.

Idaho STEM Action Center partnered with Museum of Idaho in 2019 to bring engaging, locally relevant STEM to students and the wider community. The Museum has been a critical regional contributor to Idaho STEM Action Center's Early STEM Initiative, crafting programs like the Early STEM Little Learners to connect children to the joys of hands-on learning. Curiosity at the Museum knows no bounds: from Code Invent classes introducing computer science to providing no-cost student access to exciting exhibits such as Darwin and Dinosaurs. The Museum's integrative approach to programming plays a part in local career development. Students can count on connecting with STEM professionals from Idaho National Laboratories, Aquarium of Idaho, Idaho Falls Zoo, and the regional BLM office at educational events. A thriving volunteer community through business partnerships supports annual STEM Day at the Museum, Archeology Day, and Engineering Day.

In 2021, a public-private partnership between Fluor Idaho and Idaho STEM Action Center brought the traveling exhibit, Animal Inside Out, to Museum of Idaho. This exhibit explores the intricate biology and physiology of creatures. Looking at the inner workings of various animals, from giraffes to sea snails, this exhibit inspires a deeper appreciation and respect for animals and their environments. Maker Moments, sponsored by a public-private partnership between INL and Idaho STEM Action Center, reinforce themes of the Animal Inside Out exhibition through demonstrations and hands-on projects.

Museum of Idaho is an important economic contributor for the region. Over 100,000 museum visitors enjoy high-quality permanent and visiting exhibits each year, 50,000 of those from out of state. The Museum supports recruitment and retention of the highly-educated workforce that powers the region's largest employers, Idaho National Laboratories, Fluor Idaho and others by demonstrating local commitment to community enrichment for all ages.

"We are really a front door for Idaho", says Jeff Carr, Director of PR for the Museum. Get ready, Yellowstone visitors. Museum of Idaho's newest permanent exhibit highlights the very best of the Gem State. Over 80,000 artifacts, with augmented reality and interactive displays will show 14,000 years of Idaho history, including prehistory, geology, a study of natural resources, industries, peoples, and cultures. Visitors will understand Idaho history, stories of the region's and state's technology and innovation, and national impact story. Locals will continue pioneering their way into the future.



STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's in these subjects that students learn the skills of critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration— skills that translate to success in many fields. The STEM Action Center is here to support this development and provide Idaho with the talent pipeline it needs for its economy to thrive. Idaho can generate a strong, STEM-competent and competitive workforce that will make us become a prime STEM business destination.



We build STEM through:

EDUCATOR ACCESS

to STEM professional development throughout Idaho

22,000
EDUCATOR INTERACTIONS

WORKFORCE

development-focused partnerships with **INDUSTRY** and **UNIVERSITIES**

8,000
STEM EDUCATION interactions through communities and businesses

Student STEM COMPETITIONS and camp support

164,000
STUDENT INTERACTIONS

Today's students will be tomorrow's workforce, and the STEM Action Center has been created to develop the STEM-skilled talent that Idaho employers need.



Idaho Falls

STEM Gateway to the West

TODAY'S EFFORTS. TOMORROW'S SUCCESSES.

Industry participation is essential for success, and we're here to help make that participation easier. We've created many ways for Idaho businesses to engage with STEM education. From mentoring and volunteering to donating and partnering, you can help move the economy forward by closing the gaps in Idaho's workforce. Let us help you help Idaho!

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the STEM Action Center's strategies, success stories, and positive impacts in your community, email: admin@stem.idaho.gov.



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