

# STEM-ology

A gathering place for all things STEM.

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## Diversity in Science Carnival #5: Programs to promote STEM diversity among K-12 students and general audiences

28 12 2009



Welcome to the December Diversity in Science carnival. Thanks to DN Lee of [Urban Science Adventures](#) for the chance to host. The focus of this issue is pre-college and general audience STEM programs, although a number of submissions (dare I say most) weren't on that area. Never fear, we still have plenty of good posts to re-cap.

Let's start out by setting the stage a bit, shall we? In looking at pre-college STEM programs, we're in part proposing that the so-called "achievement gap" be eliminated. In other words, in every state in the US (and no doubt in just about every nation on earth) STEM achievement in so-called "under-represented minorities" lags achievement in the majority group (in the US, Caucasian). I think we can all agree that all students should be achieving at a high level, regardless of ethnicity or family circumstances. But, the devil's in the details, and here are two great posts to that end. In the first, Jay Mathews at Class Struggle [points out](#) that one way to narrow that gap is to have white student achievement drop (or at least not improve as much). And just before deadline, Joanne Jacobs's must-read edblog brings us a post about how the [Berkeley High School governing council is proposing that science labs be closed](#) (and science teachers let go), since such programs disproportionately benefit white and Asian students. The council wants to redistribute resources to help struggling students. Am I the only one that thinks that offering engaging science classes to those students

might be a good place to start?

Stage set, on to solutions – or at least promising practices.

Our consummate carnival-ist DN Lee herself has a post on [cultivating an interest in science in kids \(of all ages\)](#). As she points out, there are a lot of wonderful science outreach programs in nearly every part of the country. Find one and take a kid with you on your next outing!

I'm calling out another post of hers, on **the** December STEM event: a [good roundup](#) of the president's new Educate to Innovate campaign – she'd hoped that the Innovator-in-Chief would submit news on this himself, but apparently he's a bit busy in Hawaii.

Vicky and Ryan at [TGAW](#) write to tell me about a program they've started in their own low-income neighborhood in North Carolina. They've purchased a number of refurbished Dell laptops from eBay, developed a curriculum and started an official Computer Literacy Program in November. Awesome way to “be the change.”

The Journal is highlighting an infusion of NASA funding and energy into [13 K-12 programs](#) here. Or hear about the need for more effort in K-12 STEM from a former astronaut herself, in [this op-ed](#) in the Seattle Times (hat-tip to the [Seattle Public Schools community blog](#) - blogger Charlie's not so crazy about this piece).

Resolving to do some learning in 2010? Here's a few posts to get you started. Frederick Yarmy of Online Radiology Technician Schools sends a list of [open courseware options for aspiring scientists](#). If you're looking for some content for that new iPod or MP3 player that was under your tree, check out this [list of iTunes feeds](#) for science geeks, thanks to Kaitlyn Cole of Online Colleges. Or, here's some [book apps](#) for your iPhone from Jasmine Hall at Online Degree Programs. If you're just jonesin' for entertainment, Barbara Williams (also Online Degree Programs) has [movies for a science geek's enjoyment](#).

If your New Year's resolutions include making sense of the education reform puzzle, Gracie Turner of Online Courses has a list of [50 essential blog posts](#) on the topic.

Teacher resource spotlight (the rest of you are welcome too!): Science 4 All has a post on [using the upcoming Winter Olympics to teach science concepts](#). Linda Jones at Accredited Online Colleges has a [list of physics blogs](#). I'll give a feeble toot on my own horn, to point out a [list of competitions](#) that can get kids excited about STEM. It's not too late to sign up for many of them.

Want to get a post featured in the next Carnival? The Diversity of Science carnival returns to Urban Science Adventures for January. It will be a recap of the ScienceOnline2010 Conference and Panel Discussion of STEM Diversity, to be published January 27th. Submit a post (relevant, please!) [here](#).

« [Seeking new ed-leaders](#) [Back from a hiatus](#) »

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## Information

- Date : December 28, 2009
- 
- Categories : [Uncategorized](#)

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## 4 responses

29 12 2009

[December Diversity in Science Carnival is Up « TGAW](#) (14:34:40) :

[...] like to see what other bloggers have come up with on the topic, be sure to check out the full issue at [...]

[Reply](#)

30 12 2009



[DNLee](#) (23:08:56) :

Great carnival!! thanks for participating and hosting!!!

[Reply](#)

2 01 2010

[Carnivalia, and random ten, now with extra octopus! « Modus dopens](#) (08:20:03) :

[...] edition at Urban Science Adventures! Next edition due out on 27 December December edition at STEM-ology. I'm not yet sure where/when the January edition will be, but I will update when I hear. Next [...]

[Reply](#)

6 01 2010

[Getting ready for Science Online 2010 « Watershed Hydrogeology Blog](#) (17:45:22) :

[...] Diversity in Science Carnival #5: Programs to promote STEM diversity among K-12 students and general... (STEM-ologist at STEMology) [...]

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- Musing about the Broad Prize: <http://wp.me/pDB27-pA> Tweeted [2 months ago](#)

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There's a lot going on in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) world. Pull up your screen and sit a spell...I'll write about policy, teaching ideas, research, funding and successful STEM programs...for students/people from age birth to death (is that inclusive enough?) And, assuming that if you're interested in those topics you're also generally curious about the world, I'll post about "fun stuff" at least remotely related to science and technology.

## Categories

Select Category

## Archives

- [October 2010](#) (4)
- [February 2010](#) (6)
- [January 2010](#) (20)
- [December 2009](#) (20)
- [November 2009](#) (57)
- [October 2009](#) (107)
- [September 2009](#) (65)

## Blogroll

- [Class Struggle](#)
- [Computer Science Teachers Association](#)
- [Dangerously Irrelevant](#)
- [Docuticker](#)
- [Eduflack](#)
- [Edurati Review](#)
- [Edutopia Blogs](#)
- [Eduwonk](#)
- [Exponential Curve](#)
- [Free Technology for Teachers](#)
- [iTeachSTEM](#)
- [Joanne Jacobs](#)
- [Lab Out Loud](#)
- [MathNexus](#)
- [MC2 STEM High School](#)
- [On Becoming a Domestic & Laboratory Goddess](#)
- [Pasco Phronesis](#)
- [Science After School](#)
- [Science Cheerleader](#)
- [Science for All](#)
- [ScienceBlogs](#)
- [STEM Source for the Whole Person](#)
- [The STEM Blog](#)
- [This Week in Education](#)
- [To Miss With Love](#)
- [Two Million Minutes](#)
- [Under the Microscope](#)
- [Urban Science Adventures](#)
- [Wild About Math](#)

## Fun Stuff

- [e-GFI](#)
- [KenKen puzzles](#)
- [Math Notations/Online Math Contest](#)
- [Mathrecreation](#)
- [NRICH](#)
- [Online Graphing Calculator](#)

# STEM Programs

- [DIGITS](#)
- [Girls Math & Science Partnership](#)
- [Greater Philadelphia Secondary Math Program](#)
- [Kaput Center for Research & Innovation in STEM Education](#)
- [MESY](#)
- [National Girls Collaborative Project](#)
- [National Math & Science Initiative](#)
- [NGA STEM Initiative](#)
- [Science Math Teacher Imperative](#)
- [Stem Education Coalition](#)
- [STEM Inventory](#)
- [STEMSchool](#)
- [TC-STEM](#)
- [Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM](#)

# STEM Schools

- [Advanced Math and Science Academy](#)
- [Cora Kelly STEM School](#)
- [DaVinci Science High School](#)
- [Delta High School](#)
- [Denver School of Science and Technology](#)
- [Design Lab Early College High School](#)
- [Hawaii Technology Academy](#)
- [High Tech High](#)
- [Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy](#)
- [Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy](#)
- [Randall STEM School](#)
- [Science Leadership Academy](#)
- [South Metro STEM High](#)
- [TAF Academy](#)
- [The Ingenuity Project](#)
- [Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology](#)