

STEAMpark

Newsletter
April 2023

Science, Tech, Engineering, Art & Math
Building Better Futures for Kids



3rd ANNUAL TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT

March 2023

@Monmouth Park Racetrack

Grand Sponsor **Comport Technology Solutions** joined several other generous companies and individuals whose sponsorship and support made the night a huge success! Thank you to our sponsors, many of whom fund several STEAMpark events and programs throughout the year:

Comport Technology Solutions, Ramsey Zynergy Retirement Planning, Red Bank LG Insurance, West Long Branch First American Title Company, Robbinsville Asterita & Associates LLC, Red Bank JMT Builders Inc., Tinton Falls ToniAnn Callari of RE/MAX, Hazlet Tom Santry, PA, Fair Haven Sitar Realty Company, Iselin

Meet DAVINA MATADIN – STEMgirls Coding Instructor

“I have a bachelor’s degree in computer science with a double minor in IT and communications. I am currently the Computer Science Curriculum Director of STEAMpark. I believe that diversity and inclusion are crucial for driving innovation and creativity in the STEM fields. I am dedicated to breaking down the barriers, building a bridge, and closing the gap for all girls and women. STEMgirls has a special place in my heart, and I am forever changed by working for this organization.”





With **YOUR** help we can forever change the lives of up to 40 kids this summer, and that's just the beginning!

CHALLENGE:

Students from underserved populations and low-income communities are struggling to catch up to their peers. The Monmouth County Vocational School District (MCVSD) has far fewer students from low-income school districts because those students lack easy access to resources such as enrichment programs or tutoring. Some of the brightest minds are being left undeveloped.

SOLUTION = Monmouth Stars

STEAMpark has teamed up with MCVSD, Project Write Now, and Pilgrim Baptist Church to create this year-round resource providing support for underserved students to develop skills needed to compete with their peers and succeed. This phenomenal program includes:

- Lessons in STEM to help children build skills and prepare for MCVSD entrance exams
- Expressive writing workshops that build confidence, self-awareness, and resilience
- Academic support to develop reading fluency, math/digital literacy, communication skills
- Holistic, full-year support by licensed, caring staff, and extending through the 9th grade

OUR GREATEST NEED = Funding

The cost per child is \$2000 for the year. We're halfway to our goal! With you, we can **level the playing field** for these children, ensuring they can access education, community support, and hope for a brighter future. With this pilot, we're planning to expand into more towns in the future.

Please help us give these underserved children the chance they deserve.

Your tax-deductible donation can be made by check and sent to:

STEAMpark, INC. PO Box 118 Rumson, NJ 07760



STEMgirls

BIG congratulations to our STEMgirls who won prizes for their science projects and those chosen for 'Best Voted Coding Project' in their coding level and class in last semester's STEM Fair competition. The theme was We are the Artemis Generation, and the judges were **Margaret Baguio and Celina Miller** from NASA! Our STEMgirls have been coding in JavaScript all winter, creating programs like a magic 8-ball, or using objects to create a bookshelf. We are sooo proud of all their work!! Not only are the girls improving their math knowledge, having the ability to interact with scientists and teachers, and learning computer skills - they are working in a program that is used in more than 85% of all website creation, helping to prepare themselves as part of the future workforce in STEM.



2023 STEMgirls STEM Fair Results Saturday, April 1st



Hello families and friends of STEMgirls Online Weekly Workshops. On behalf of TRISH* and STEAMPark, thank you for sharing in our STEM Fair winter learning celebration. And to our STEMgirls themselves, we are sending out big virtual hugs- we are all so proud of each and every one of you!! We hope you loved Astronaut Nicole Scott as she spoke about her 15-year journey preparing for two missions that led to her being in space for 104 days - we certainly did!! She inspires all of us to always dream bigger, work harder, and never give up.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CONTESTANTS!

prizes will be awarded to each name listed below

GRAND PRIZE WINNERS:

1st Place	Talia Musbeh (5th)	"The Fileta"	challenge category #4
2nd Place	Saivi Kadrekar (4th)	"Solving Issues For Stress in Space"	challenge category #1
3rd Place	Aaliyah Murphy (4th)	"I'm Going To ... Win The Competition"	challenge category #5

CATEGORY WINNERS:

CHALLENGE #1: WAY TO REDUCE ISOLATION AND STRESS DURING SPACE EXPLORATION
Propose a way to help astronauts combat stress and isolation during a months-long space mission.

1st Place	Sreeya Vijayakumar (7th)	"Escaping Stress through Space Missions"
2nd Place	Destiny Nunn (8th)	"Reducing Isolation"

CHALLENGE #2: WAYS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS DURING SPACE EXPLORATION
Propose a way to improve deep space communications.

1st Place	Keerthi Evuri (3rd)	"Space Tech"
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CHALLENGE #3: WAYS TO IMPROVE FOOD FOR SPACE EXPLORERS
Propose a way to improve space meals or food production technologies for space.

1st Place	Jamila Musbeh (7th)	"Artemis Nutrition"
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CHALLENGE #4: DESIGN A SHELTER OR STRUCTURE FOR USE ON ANOTHER WORLD
Propose a shelter or structure of your own design to help astronauts live, work and play.

1st Place	Hannah John (5th)	"Making Ways to Live on Other Worlds"
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CHALLENGE #5: DESIGN TRANSPORTATION FOR A FUTURE MOON OR MARS COLONY
Propose a way to help astronauts move around on the surface of the Moon or Mars.

1st Place	Amira Abdelhadi (7th)	"Project Drop Off"
2nd Place	Aaliyah Murphy (4th)	"I am Going.. to Win The Competition!"

* The Translational Research Institute of Space Health (TRISH) is empowered by the NASA Human Research Program to solve the challenges of human deep space exploration.

Several of our STEMgirls were honored for their excellence at a ceremony at **State Senator Vin Gopal's** office in Ocean Township in March. The girls honored: Imani Brown, 10th grade; Destiny Nunn, 8th grade; Ahyan Reid, 8th grade; IVicka Josaphat, 4th grade; Tiffany Holland, 8th grade; Ximena Contreras Rodriguez, 7th grade.

In addition to the award ceremony, a check for \$2000 was presented to STEAMPark from **American Water Works Association New Jersey Section (AWWA-NJ)**, a member agency of the Association of Environmental Authorities (AEANJ), to help offset the costs of the spring 2023 semester of the STEMgirls Online education program The Wonderful World of Water. We're grateful for the support and excited to help build a stronger, more inclusive future workforce for NJ's water industry. More on how you can help with this initiative is listed on the next page.



Building Tomorrow's Water/Sewer Workforce

Opportunity to Sponsor

Join AEA, Hazen, and AWWA-NJ to support NJ workforce development!

STEAMpark, INC. levels the playing field for children with curriculum-based, after-school enrichment programs & summer camps steeped in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. The AEA Environmental Professional Development Academy 2023 cohort will introduce STEAMpark students to our sector through a curriculum called "The Wonderful World of Water." This mutually beneficial collaboration will enhance the skills of EPDA trainees while helping children imagine their future in the water/sewer sector.

Three Ways to Be a Sponsor	Gold Sponsor \$2,000 and above	Silver Sponsor \$1,000 to \$1,900	Bronze Sponsor \$500 to \$999
Be featured in STEAMpark video, or event	X		
Attend donor events	X		
Be part of a STEAMpark educational program	X	X	
Opportunities to mentor and train students and staff	X	X	
Recognition as Sponsor in AEA communications and social media	X	X	X
Acknowledgement on all course materials	X	X	X

Become a Sponsor Today! Help Build Tomorrow's NJ Water/Sewer Workforce
Email Karen@aeanj.org TODAY to become a sponsor!



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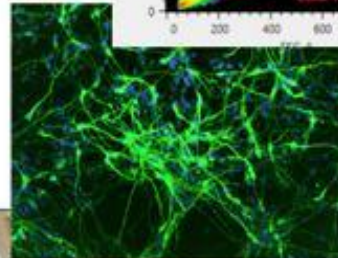
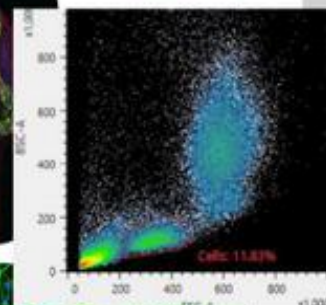
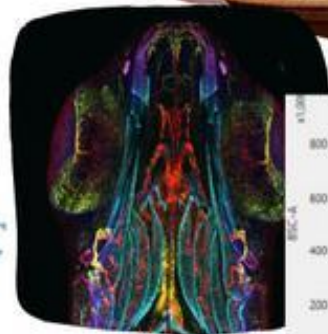
FIELD TRIP TO COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

May 16, 2023

9am-3pm

AGENDA

- Learn about Stem Cells
- Visit the Stem Cell & Flow Core
- See Stem Cells transforming into neurons and cardiac cells
- Discover how zebrafish can be used to study joint diseases
- Find out how to characterize cells using flow cytometry
- Experience hands-on work in a lab



STEAMpark

SPRING SPOTLIGHT Meet Board of Trustee Members David & Vibha:



**DAVID
WYMAN**

President & CEO, Rogosin Institute,
NY Presbyterian Hospital Affiliate

Lives in Middletown, NJ
Board Member since December 2019



**VIBHA
JAWA, PhD**

Executive Director, Bristol Myers Squibb

Lives in Holmdel, NJ
Board Member since March 2023

Thank you for your support!!!

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