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South Central STEM Hub Newsletter



science | technology | engineering | mathematics

South Central STEM Region at Drake University

STEM Happens

Iowa's FIRST Tech Challenge team wins prestigious Inspire Award at World Championships



Team #3550 Beta was the 2013 Inspire Award Winner at FTC World Championship! The Inspire Award is the most prestigious award given to any FTC team. From the 128 teams in attendance, representing over a dozen countries, an Iowa team received this honor.

Iowa was well represented at the FTC World Championships. The Jr. FLL team #183, Robotic Regals from Iowa City, received the Solid as A Rock Award. FLL team #3985, World Changers from Davenport, received First Place Teamwork Award. FTC team #5466, Combustible Lemons was in the semi-finals of the Edison Division. Even though the three FRC teams did not bring any hardware, they were excellent stewards of STEM. Congratulations to all!

Drake DUCURS showcases student research

On April 11th, Drake undergraduates spent the day presenting their original research at the 10th annual Drake University Conference on Undergraduate Research in the Sciences (DUCURS). The event is hosted by the Drake

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Want to add your event to the South Central STEM [Calendar](#)?

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[Submit your STEM event here!](#)



Undergraduate Science Institute (DUCI), whose mission is to support collaborative student/faculty research experiences, increase scientific literacy, and provide opportunities to engage the larger community in science and math.

In addition to oral and poster presentations, students heard keynote speaker Ira Flato, host of NPR's Science Friday, and remarks by SC STEM Hub manager, Dr. Kris Kilibarda. Dr. Kilibarda challenged the undergraduate researchers to share their STEM skills and story as they continue their research careers by participating in local education outreach opportunities.



**Be a role model.
Share your STEM
skills and story in
your community.**

Want to share your STEM skills and story in your community?

Go to the [SC STEM Hub website](#). The list of schools awarded '13-'14 Scale-Up programs will be posted as soon as they are announced in early May. Contact a school in your community to see how you can help. You will also find a calendar of STEM events, and other ways to get involved!



North Polk students make renewable energy a "breeze" at KidWind Challenge

Teams of elementary school through high school students gathered at Reiman Gardens in Ames, Iowa to compete in the KidWind Challenge. For the challenge, the student-designed wind-turbines were placed in a wind tunnel and the power output was measured.

The three teams from North Polk (with teacher, Ms. Sarah Bowser) made the South Central region proud; all three teams placed in their division.





STEM festival at Central College engages students and parents

5th-9th grade students and their families spent the evening of April 2nd at a STEM festival hosted at Central College, in Pella. Sporting stickers that said "Engineer like a girl", boys and girls participated in hands-on STEM exploration with Central professors, undergraduates, and local businesses, while their parents attended a panel discussion about encouraging students in STEM. Families were reunited to explore the exhibits together. It was a fabulous night of STEM!



Events

Don't miss these upcoming STEM events!

May 5 [Iowa Student STEM Film Festival](#), Des Moines

June [Bioethics and Biotech Summer Workshops](#), Ames

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