



MARYLAND  
**STEM**  
 FESTIVAL  
**2024**  
 CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!



# Summary Report



2024





# Letter from Executive Director

10 is a Magic Number!

Ten marks the first number with two digits, and it's only fitting that the 10th Maryland STEM Festival was magical. Reaching this milestone took years of dedication and hard work, but the journey was worth it. With over 500 events across the state, the feedback from attendees and event hosts has been overwhelmingly positive.

This year's Festival began and ended with space exploration, perfectly aligning with our theme: Engineering: Turning Ideas into Reality. Few things exemplify this theme better than space travel. We kicked off the Festival on October 18th at the Elkridge Library with former astronaut Thomas Jones, who shared stories from his book Space Shuttle Stories. The celebration concluded on November 17th with former astronaut Don Thomas joining us for the Closing Ceremony at Howard Community College.

Throughout the state, event hosts showcased how engineering transforms ideas into solutions and everyday items. During the Festival, I had the privilege of speaking to various groups about one of our core goals: eliminating the misconception that STEM is boring. STEM is fun! This year, we proved it with a lineup that included a carnival, musical performances, competitions, demonstrations, and more.

Are you a fan of the game show Family Feud? We put a STEM twist on it with CyberFeud, a lively competition centered around cybersecurity.

The 10th Maryland STEM Festival was a celebration of innovation, creativity, and joy, and it set the stage for many more magical years to come.

-Phil Pogofsky



Contact us!

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The Festival had added a mascot to its family. Thy Nguyen did an outstanding job designing it.





Preview Night: Few things are a greater example of how engineering works than the Space Program. Former Astronaut Dr. Thomas Jones spoke about the Space Shuttle Missions on the eve of the Opening Ceremony.



## ENGINEERING: IDEA TO REALITY

This Year, We celebrated the E in STEM with our theme. Dozens of events focused on how engineering turns ideas into real-world solutions.



The National Cryptologic Museum Engineering event: The museum spent a day showing the many ways engineering is incorporated into Cybersecurity.



The 2024 Maryland STEM Festival Opening Ceremony: The event was held at the birthplace of many great engineering achievements, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.



The 2024 Maryland STEM Festival Closing Ceremony: The Festival closed with a day of Engineering, Robotics, and Pizza featuring former Astronaut Don Thomas.

# Events



Frederick STEM Carnival at Carroll Creek: The first Frederick STEM Carnival was held at picturesque Carroll Creek in conjunction with the Frederick Children's Business Fair. The carnival included nearly twenty STEM demonstrations and activities, plus face painting, a DJ, a juggler, and a magician.

8



Kids Museum Picture Caption  
Native American Heritage Celebration: Attendees learned about Native American contributions and created their crafts.



Maryland School for the Deaf  
Programs: The Festival brought Science Entertainer Eric Energy for two exciting performances to the Maryland School for the Deaf's campuses



Proclamation  
The Festival received a proclamation this year from the Maryland General Assembly in recognition of our efforts to bring STEM to all Marylanders



DJ Starr brought his talents to the Lewis Museum to teach math using music and DJing



# Events

Robotic Pumpkin Smashing,  
Eldersburg, Carroll County



Robotic Pumpkin Smashing,  
Eldersburg, Carroll County



Bubble Blowing Extavengza  
Stevenson, Queen Anne  
County



Western Maryland STEM  
Festival, Frostburg, Allegany  
County

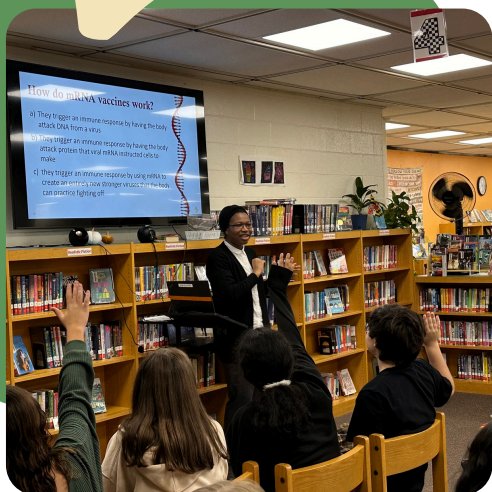


Autonomy Conference,  
California, St Mary's County

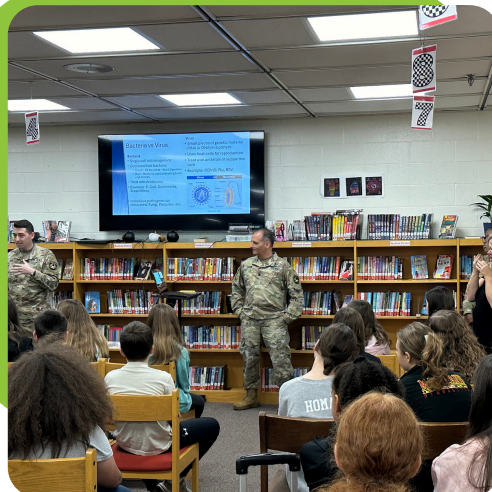


Girls Who Code, Prince  
Frederick Calvert County

## Professional Match Program



For the fourth time, the Festival has connected STEM Professionals with Middle Schools across Maryland. Nearly 50 STEM Professionals visited schools in six counties.



## Festival Ambassadors

The Festival offers a leadership program where middle and high school students serve as Festival Ambassadors, promoting both the Festival and STEM throughout the year!



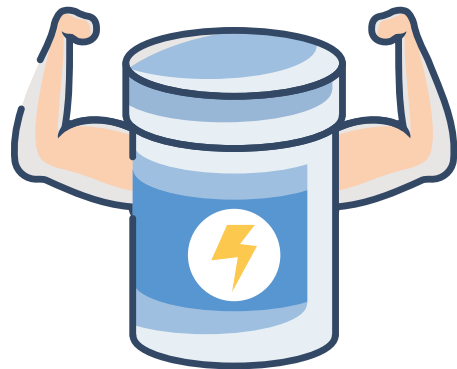
## Expanding into DC

In 2024, The Festival expanded into DC. Several organizations run events in DC, including Capitol City Robotics, the National Building Museum, and Because Science.



# 2025 Maryland STEM Festival

Nearly every aspect of our lives, from cars and homes to smartphones, relies on energy. As we enter our second decade of Festivals, we're excited to celebrate Energy as our 2025 theme! The Maryland STEM Festival will take place from October 17th to November 16th. Stay tuned to our website and social media for updates!



Save  
the Date

## ELEVENTH ANNUAL

MARYLAND  
STEM  
FESTIVAL



# 2025

October 17 – November 16

The Theme is...  
**ENERGY**



Join us for  
hundreds of  
fun, free events  
across the State!

MarylandStemFestival.org



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