

NIU STEMfest

Encouraging Learners to Explore
Today and Innovate Tomorrow



Every October, STEMfest packs NIU's Convocation Center with exhibits, activities, and competitions that help K - 12 students and their families explore science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

One science teacher compared her students' enthusiastic reactions at the festival to watching popcorn pop. Her students bounced from station to station saying "Hey, look at this!" and "Wow! Did you see that?"

One of the most rewarding parts of this festival is seeing that eureka moment in children's eyes when they see the world in an entirely new way. Kids who attend STEMfest today just might change the world tomorrow.

Thanks to our sponsors!

Nobelium Level



Building Performance with Energy

Silver Level



Additional support provided by



STEMfest

www.stemfest.niu.edu

Presented by



October 22, 2011
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
NIU Convocation Center
DeKalb, Illinois

For additional event information,
go to niu.edu/stem or contact

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To request disability related accommodations for any STEM Outreach events, please contact Kay Chapman at (815)753-4751 or kchapman@niu.edu. Advance notice is appreciated.



STEMfest by the numbers

99% of last year's attendees said they'd be back for 2011

5 colleges are developing exciting and engaging learning opportunities

200+ hands-on activities

12 exciting stage presentations

10 innovative vehicles

Did you know?

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, "STEM workers drive our nation's innovation and competitiveness by generating new ideas, new companies, and new industry."

17% projected growth of STEM occupations by 2018

26% increased earnings of STEM workers compared to non-STEM workers

2/3 of STEM workers hold at least a college degree, compared to less than 1/3 of non-STEM workers

U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration "STEM: Good Jobs Now and for the Future" July 2011



STEMfest 2011 — Bigger and Better!

- Popular hands-on activities from past years—Haunted Physics, Creepy Chemistry Lab, laser optics, cow eyeball dissections, Micro Alley, and the Tech Playground
- New Haunted Physics Lab activities
- Destination ImagiNation
- Natural science exhibits for green energy, conservation, and forestry
- Batty Biology
- Sci-Fi book talks that explore the real science behind the fiction
- Exhibitors such as the NIU's Davis Hall Observatory and Cave of the Mounds
- And more!

Upcoming Events & Competitions

Experience Sci-Fi with the SF Teen Read

Teens, read the graphic novel *Orbiter* by Warren Ellis and Colleen Doran in October. Discuss it at NIU with physicists and space shuttle experts on October 18th.

Challenge Yourself!

- STEM Video Contest
- Rube Goldberg Wacky Contraptions Poster Contest
- SF Teen Read Essay Competition

Check out stemfest.niu.edu for rules, entry deadlines, and additional competition announcements.

