



# GREATNESS STEMS FROM IOWANS

GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

# STEM and Arts

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is an interdisciplinary approach to learning that sparks an exciting and engaging educational environment. STEM education encourages the use of skills, such as arts, imagination and creativity which translate into innovation and invention. When disciplines converge, a complete academic foundation is formed that inspires minds and strengthens Iowa's economic and workforce development.

The STEM Council provides access to high-quality STEM programs for educators and youth in Iowa. The programs listed below are well-suited for educators across disciplines to participate.

## STEM Scale-Up Program

The STEM Scale-Up Program delivers exemplary STEM programs to Iowa schools, out-of-school programs and other settings for grades PreK-12. Educators across disciplines may apply. Programs range from building robots and wind turbines to virtual reality and coding, demonstrating an appeal to diverse youth, success in improving academic performance, evidence of integrating STEM concepts, development of school+business partnerships and sustainability. Several Scale-Up Programs fit nicely into arts curriculum. [www.iowaSTEM.gov/Scale-Up](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov/Scale-Up)

## STEM BEST Program

Since 2014, the STEM Council has awarded 50 innovative Iowa STEM BEST® sites that immerse students in professional career environments. Cost-shared funding supports professional development that equips teams of educators and business partners to provide learning experiences driven by business and industry needs, a rigorous, relevant and dynamic STEM curriculum and authentic partnerships. Art principles can be applied to future career connections through design and other creative avenues. [www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST)

## STEM Day at the Iowa State Fair

For this family-friendly event, the STEM Council fills the Iowa State Fair's Grand Concourse with opportunities to learn about how STEM impacts our lives daily. Fairgoers are able to engage in hands-on activities from dozens of organizations across the state and experience dynamic STEM stage acts. This event provides a great opportunity to demonstrate the connection between STEM and arts principles. [www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEM-Day-Fair](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEM-Day-Fair)

## Regional STEM Festivals

Each region hosts family STEM festivals every year. The regional STEM manager engages (or collaborates with a planning committee) a broad range of partners throughout the region in organizing, presenting and participating in the event. STEM festivals are free, engaging, hands-on educational experiences for PreK-12 youth and their families. These local events draw connections between STEM and arts through hands-on activities. [www.iowaSTEM.gov/regions](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov/regions)

To learn more about the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council, visit [www.iowaSTEM.gov](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov)