



GENERAL NEWS



February 2022

Love of Science & Community

February is a great month to show our love for community. Science centers and museums play important roles in bettering the community. While our more obvious role is to provide places and programs for learning and gathering, another vital role is sharing information and making connections across the community. Science centers do this in a myriad of ways, with fun, interactive experiences about everything from hand washing to recycling and energy use. When it comes to science communication, supporting human health, and fighting disease are especially close to our hearts. To address COVID-19, the Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) and key partners, developed a nationwide program, [Communities for Immunity](#), to help increase vaccine confidence.



In honor of heart health month, we are sharing another vital community health need. We've all heard about pandemic impacts on supply chains, but we are also experiencing historic challenges with the blood supply in our community! We are fortunate to have amazing regional healthcare organizations and have witnessed their extraordinary dedication to caring for our community during the pandemic. Now, they are battling a blood shortage. Please join us in showing your love for our community this month by giving blood if you are able. [Inova Blood Services](#) is the major provider of blood for Inova hospitals and many other hospitals in our area. Help spread the love and donate blood today!

Sincerely,

Nene Spivy
Executive Director

Join Us As We Celebrate Engineering Week!

We are celebrating Engineering Week with new activities and exhibits focused on the engineering and design process.

Be the first to see our newest exhibit
"3D Printing Experience" presented by AWS

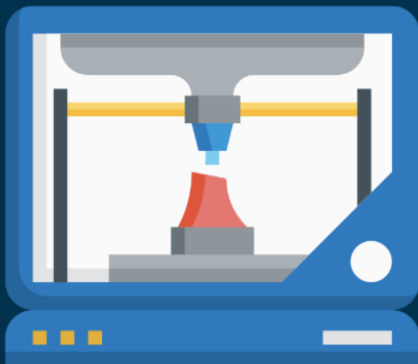
NATIONAL ENGINEERING WEEK

February 20-26, 2022



InCommunities! This experience will walk you through the steps to building a 3D-printed house! See blueprints, models, and find out where it's located. You can even watch it being built in a time-lapse video. Purchase tickets in advance and save \$2 per ticket.

Reserve Your Tickets!



Generously funded by



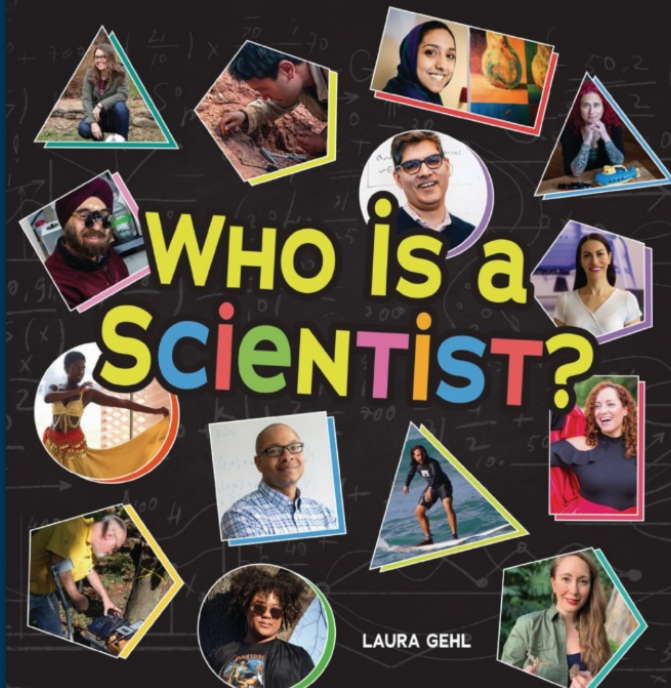
Virtual 3D Printer Workshop

Design and print your
own 3D object!

**Sunday, February 20
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Members sign in to get
\$5 off the workshop!

Register Today!



Author Reading

Local Author, Laura Gehl will be in person reading from her new book

Saturday, February 26
10:30 am

Included with your timed-ticket entry

Camp Season is Here!



2022 Spring Break Camps



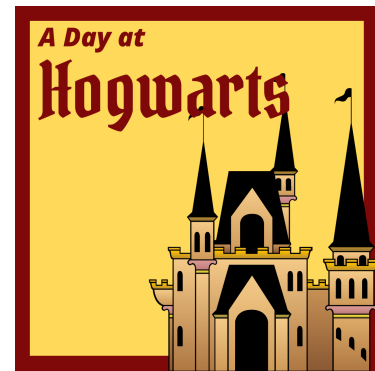
Our Single Day Spring Break Camps are packed with FUN. With 5 exciting themes to choose from, there is sure to be something for all your science lovers to enjoy.

Camps are \$80 per day with a 10% discount for our members. Discounts will be automatically applied when



Monday, April 4

Strap in for a day of engineering, physics, and design, as we loop, twist, and turn through the science behind amusement parks! Explore roller coasters, rides, carnival games, and even design your own park attractions!



Tuesday, April 5

Join us for a Day at Hogwarts! Campers will explore chemistry, programming, and circuitry by attending their Hogwarts classes, getting sorted into their House, and participating in the Triwizard Tournament!

you log in.



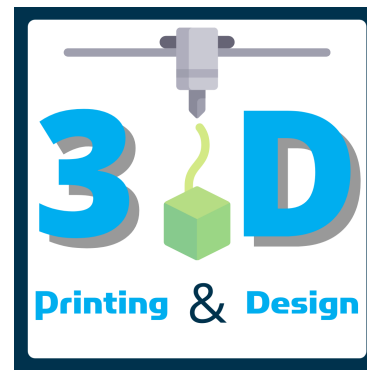
Wednesday, April 6

Have you ever wondered what a day in the life of our animal care staff is like? Well, now you can find out! Help care for our axolotl, frogs, snakes, hermit crabs, lizard, tarantula, and more in our new Bio Zone.



Thursday, April 7

Become a detective for the day, and help us solve the mystery! Science leaves us clues every day that help us discover new information. Use your investigative skills to identify the culprit by examining trace evidence, studying suspects, and more!



Friday, April 8

Have you seen a printer in action, creating a one-dimensional image? What if that printer could make things you hold? Things that saved the International Space Station? That printer exists! In this camp you'll learn all about it: part science, part art, and all fun!

[Register Today!](#)

2022 Summer Camps



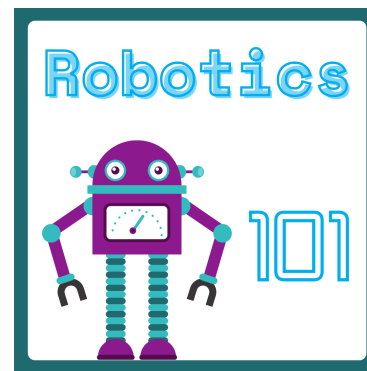
Calling all campers! The Children's Science Center Lab is open again for summer camps! Join us for a summer of hands-on STEM learning by exploring the entire Lab, from testing hovercrafts in the Tinker Shop to creating chain reactions in the Inspiration Hub to experimenting at the Experiment Bar!

Camps are \$395 for a full week of camp with a 10% discount for our members. Discounts will be automatically applied when



June 13-17, July 18-22, & August 15-19

Do you like mixing things together and seeing what happens? Do you love all things slime? Do you want to make things bubble, fizz, change color, ooze, or explode? Then this is the camp for you! Learn all about chemistry, from chemical reactions to molecules and atoms, while having fun.



June 20-24 & July 25-29

Join us for a week of all things robotics! From coding to circuits to building robots, we'll try it all! See your ideas become a reality as we use technology to create robotic solutions for real-world challenges and hone our engineering design skills along the way.

you log in.



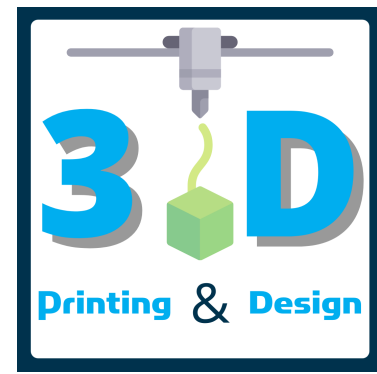
June 27-July 1 & Aug. 1-5

Calling all animal lovers, future vets, and junior zoologists! Join us for Science Safari where we will explore the ins and outs of all things scaly, fluffy, slimey, and feathery to explore biology, zoology, environmental science, and even engineering!



July 5-8

Get ready to go on a journey into the outer reaches of our solar system as you join us for Mission to Space! In just four days, we will prepare for a special mission to space by determining our destination, transportation, technology, and research questions. From planets to stars to moons, we will explore it all!



July 11-15 & Aug. 8-12

Did you know creation and design are part of science? From prototyping inventions to tinkering with technology to designing aircrafts to 3D printing, STEM is all about designing and thinking creatively! 3D Printing & Design is perfect for anyone who loves design or STEM... or both!

Register Today!

Become a Member! **Get a Free STEM Kit**

Membership at the Children's Science Center Lab comes with so many benefits!

Show your love for your local science center this month and become a member! Renew or purchase a membership this month and receive a complimentary STEM kit!

Our membership program also comes with special member-only events. Join today and enjoy the first event of the year this weekend, February 12, 12:00-1:00 pm. We will be offering an up-close meet and greet with our newest animal ambassadors, our Dart frogs. Find out more information about our membership offerings on our [website!](https://www.childsci.org/)



Join Today!

Science Meets Art **Check Out This Program**

Travel to the reaches of space as National Philharmonic and Maestro Piotr Gajewski partner with NASA Goddard for an



otherworldly performance of Holst's The Planets. Visit the fiery red planet, joyful Jupiter, and the serene sights and sounds of Venus in this unique collaboration of science and art.

This program is part of the Capital One Hall Series.

[Learn More](#)

Donor Spotlight

Elaine Chu

"We continue to give because Nova needs a permanent science center for children to experience their curiosity the way my children did." – Elaine Chu, former volunteer and donor

An early supporter, Elaine Chu first found the Children's Science Center Lab as a parent looking for a place to bring her young children to explore and learn. Soon, she was asked to serve on the Board of Directors and began volunteering to write grants for the Science Center. When she moved away from the area to another state, she continued to volunteer and write grants, but eventually, she said, "I phased out of my volunteer role and decided to continue to support as a donor because I believe in the commitment of the vision to bring STEM to families and communities."

Elaine said that during her time volunteering with the Science Center, "it was a joy for me to see families and kids enjoy the STEM mobile labs that we brought to the schools because not everyone has the resources to go to science centers." We are grateful for volunteers like Elaine who help us bring our mission into the community every day! By continuing to support the organization as a donor, she is ensuring that our vision endures as we move closer to building the Northern Virginia Science Center for everyone right here in Northern Virginia.

Thank you, Elaine!



Elaine Chu, long-time supporter, with her children in 2011 and in 2021

Try It At Home

Paper Cup Stool

What do you think would happen if you tried to stand on some paper cups? You would crush them, right? What if you used the power of STEM to stand on the cups without crushing them?

In this engineering challenge, you will create your own stool using some cardboard, and, you guessed it – cups!



Try It At Home!

The Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that operates the Children's Science Center Lab at Fair Oaks Mall and STEM programs traveling to schools and other community venues across the region.

Donate