From the STEM Programs, like those offered by the MathScience Innovation Center, are vitally important for the economic health of the Commonwealth and more specifically, for the Metro Richmond Region. We know that the chasm between students pursuing STEM careers is ever widening, particularly related to class, gender, race and language. At the MSiC, our programs not only inspire all students to become interested in STEM disciplines but to explore and deepen their passions over time.

It is with this laser-sharp focus that we continue to provide K-12 STEM programming for students and teachers throughout the Commonwealth. During our Camp Innovation Summer Camp, we provided STEM programs with expanded programming at the Petersburg Public Library and John Tyler Community College. Our Challenger Learning Center was in heavy rotation with students from programs at VSU, Virginia Tech, Randolph-Macon College, Norfolk, Petersburg, Chesterfield and Henrico public schools. We are looking forward to expanding our Challenger Learning Center programming with additional content in environmental science, energy, botany and emergency preparedness.

We are excited to offer a jam-packed year of programming for the new school year! We encourage public, private, home-schoolers, businesses and community organizations around the Commonwealth to check us out and see how we can support the goals you have for your organization.

We are excited to be a part of making Virginia the best state for economic growth through job placement, education, health, diversity and housing. It is all connected and it all starts with an educated citizenry.

Call, come in for a tour and register. We look forward to working with you this year.

Hollee R. Freeman
Director

https://datausa.io/profile/geo/virginia#economy

Calling all volunteers!
- Want to give back to the community?
- Need school volunteer credit?
- Love geeking out?

This is the place for you!

Contact the Center at 804.343.6525 or by email at Center@mymsic.org
The K-6 MSIC Teacher Conference started off with a song and a story, as keynote speaker Tish Rabe talked with teachers about her career as a children’s author.

During the morning session, teachers explored using literature to teach STEM in context. In the afternoon, teachers learned more about the new thematic based science standards and used this information to begin planning for their upcoming school year.

For the final day of the conference, teachers continued their work on inclusive classrooms and focused on technology and the integration of literature in their math and science classes.

Thanks to the following schools and school divisions for participating in this important work: Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Hanover, Henrico, King William, Petersburg, Richmond and FRIENDS Association for Children.

In 1995, following the death of Dr. Seuss, Ms. Rabe was hired by Random House to write “The Cat In the Hat Learning Library,” a series of rhyming science books for early learners.

For two weeks, the Summer Regional Governor’s School was in full swing. Students in The Next Giant Leap class participated in a simulated Mission To Mars in our Challenger Center. The CSI Academy was busy investigating blood spatter patterns, collecting evidence from a simulated crime scene and examining latent prints and drug analysis in order to understand the differing roles of crime scene investigators, detectives and forensic scientists. Meanwhile, our Nano class experimented with different types of polymers, built liquid crystal thermos sensors and filtered gold nanoparticles. In our Prototyping Nature’s Design course, students built amazing prosthetic devices and learned how to design using SketchUp.

The following school districts/schools participated in this program: Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Hopewell, King William, New Kent, Petersburg, Prince George, Richmond, along with Richmond Montessori School, St. Bridget School, St. Catherine’s School, The Steward School - Richmond and Veritas School - Richmond.
From the STEM

PROJECT RVA
June 24-July 11, 2019
This multi-year social science research course provides a much-needed research space for RPS middle and high school students. Students learn qualitative and quantitative research techniques, work in laboratory settings and conduct their own research project for presentation in various community forums, fairs and competitions.

Highlights:

Students put on their environmentalist hats and explored Tricycle Gardens where they learned about all things agriculture. Huge thanks to Lisa at Tricycle Gardens for showing the students around and engaging them in conversations about agriculture and food justice.

Junior Scientists were welcomed into Dr. Rik van Antwerpen’s lab (Cell Biologist) at Virginia Union University. These future STEM professionals enthusiastically learned about the embryonic growth of Zebra Fish in real time by viewing them under a microscope as they developed from a single cell to a developed organism.

We look forward to expanding this program and continuing to provide research opportunities for students. (This program is funded by Altria Client Services.)

CAMP INNOVATION
June—August, 2019
Camp Innovation is the MSiC’s largest student program. Courses are offered in multiple locations during the summer. Each summer, students in grades 4-9 participate in week-long courses on biology, computer technology, engineering and more.

As always, all of our classes are packed with adventure, creativity, exploration and design. Each Camp Innovation course offers students an opportunity to dive deep into subjects that will prepare them for future academic pursuits and spark interest in career fields they may not have considered before.

SPECIAL GUESTS THIS SUMMER

◊ Elko Middle School
Students in the Elko Soars program at Elko Middle School in Henrico County built a one string electrical guitar, as they applied what they learned about the properties of sound waves in the MSiC’s new Music Makers lesson.

◊ Montgomery County Public Schools
Fourth and fifth grade students from Montgomery County Public Schools in Virginia boarded a bus at 5:45 a.m. to venture to the MSiC for a Challenger Learning Center mission. Fifty-four students from ten elementary schools participated in pre-Challenger lessons virtually using Google Classroom. Students said they loved everything about the mission and were excited to see that being part of a crew going to Mars could be a reality for them!
Looking for an out-of-this-world team building exercise for your group? Call the Center to learn more about our group and corporate team building experience in our Challenger Learning Center.
804.343.6525

MathScience Innovation Center
2401 Hartman Street
Richmond, VA 23223
804.343.6525
www.mymsic.org

MSIC Open House
October 12, 2019!

Girls for a Change
Guess who came to visit the Center today to shoot a video for their song entitled “Young, Black and Beautiful!”
The 15 Optimistics, from Girls for a Change, sang their song of empowerment which highlighted their love for all things STEM.

Special Guests (continued)

◊ Norfolk Public Schools
MSiC Educator Carroll Ellis lead students from Norfolk Public Schools Junior University in a simulated Mission to Mars in our Challenger Learning Center. It was a blast!

◊ Petersburg Public Library
The Petersburg Public Library, Petersburg, VA, welcomed families as they learned about circuits and sound waves during the Build-A-Bot class. They even made their own bots!

◊ Virginia State University
Students from Virginia State University’s Verizon Innovation program flew a Mission to Mars in our Challenger Learning Center and put their physics skills into action in our Innovation Station.

◊ Virginia Tech
High school students in Virginia Tech’s Upward Bound program came to the Richmond area to visit colleges and to spend the day at the MathScience Innovation Center. They participated in a simulated Mission to Mars in our Challenger Learning Center, programmed Ozobots and got chilly with Cryogenics.

If you are an alumni of the MSIC ... or just a STEM nerd ..., consider joining the MSIC Meetup Group. You can find more information at https://www.meetup.com/RVA-Mathematics-and-Science-Center-Alumni/