

KATS Opportunities

April 14, 2017

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Forensic Science Summer Workshop for Educators

CSI: Lawrence Tech

July 10 – 14, 2017, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

LUNCH INCLUDED. COST: \$350

Lawrence Technological University

Interested in developing a forensic science course in your school? Want to learn how to set up a “crime scene”? Need more information about forensic techniques? CSI: Lawrence Tech, designed for educators, can help you develop your coursework, engage your students, and teach forensic science using an integrated science approach. You will work alongside police officers and experts trained in forensic science.

This hands-on workshop focuses on:

- Accident reconstruction
- Blood spatter analysis
- Glass analysis
- Fingerprints and impressions
- DNA fingerprinting
- Forensic entomology
- Crime scene processing
- Legal issues

CSI: Lawrence Tech is organized by Lawrence Technological University in collaboration with Kathy Mirakovits, a Michigan educator who launched this program in 2003 and has offered it ever since.

Participants who successfully complete CSI: Lawrence Tech can earn State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs, formerly SB-CEUs) or up to three graduate credit hours.

The cost of workshop only is: \$350

If you decide to take this workshop for graduate credit, graduate tuition fees will apply (for more information, call [248.204.3516](tel:248.204.3516)).

For further information or to register for the workshop, call [248.204.3516](tel:248.204.3516) or email msedir@ltu.edu.

SciJinks E-Newsletter

What's new at NOAA/NASA SciJinks

What's a Satellite Liaison?

Satellites are tens of thousands of miles above Earth. So, how exactly does your local weather forecaster stay up to date with all of the latest gizmos and gadgets up there? That's where satellite liaisons, like Jorel Torres, come in. Click on the link below to learn what a typical day on the job is like.

Links:

[Weather science fair project ideas](#)

[Steps in science fair project](#)

[What's the scientific method?](#)

[What makes it rain?](#)

[Play Satellite Insight Game!](#)

PhET for Chromebooks

All HTML5 and Flash PhET sims are compatible with Chromebooks! You can find compatible sims by sorting [By Device](#).

You can also easily add a sim to Google Classroom by clicking the [link on a sim page](#).

If your school or district blocks Flash by default, use the instructions below to enable PhET Flash sims:

- See [this help entry from Adobe](#) to enable Flash in Chrome.
- Add " [*.][phet.colorado.edu](#)" to the Flash exceptions list.

Science Matters – April Network News

This April issue of Network News is filled with a huge number of professional development opportunities and ideas for both you and your students. Many were difficult to edit and shorten without losing the content. As a result, they are not numbered. **Several have due dates very soon.** Be sure to check the website given in the actual E-blast to confirm.

The Illinois E-Blast is sent in [PDF format](#). You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to open it. It can be downloaded for free at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>.

Professional Opportunities

- Science and Our Food Supply -4/18
- AMNH Seminars on Science -4/24
- 2017 ChemEd Conference -4/30
- AACT webinars -various dates
- Bioenergy Institute for Educators -5/1
- SimScientists Crosscutting Concepts: Progressions in Earth Systems -5/5
- Teach Computer Science Principles
- Synthetic Biology -8/1
- AACT Summer Professional Development -various dates

Grants, Awards, and Contests

- Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Awards -5/1
- Polymer Ambassadors program -5/1

Classroom Resources

- Skype a Scientist
- New WGBH and PBS Earth and Space Sciences Digital Resources
- Create a Sustainable Garden

Modeling Workshops Nationwide

ATTENTION SCIENCE TEACHERS! Take a Modeling Workshop this summer.

60 summer Modeling Workshops in high school physics, chemistry, physical science, biology, and middle school science will be offered, in many states. Most are two or three weeks long.

- CEUs; optional graduate credit. Stipends at grant-funded sites.
- Modeling Instruction is research-informed, interactive engagement pedagogy.
- Ask your school administration to help pay. Mention the research on NGSS readiness: Modelers are better prepared to transition to NGSS than other teachers, research shows.

Website: <http://modelinginstruction.org>

Workshop descriptions: <http://www.phystec.org/pd/?set=Modeling>

ABOUT MODELING INSTRUCTION:

Modeling Instruction is designated as an Exemplary K-12 science program and a Promising Educational Technology program by the U.S. Department of Education.

Modeling Workshops are peer-led. Content is reorganized around basic models to increase its structural coherence. Participants are supplied with a complete set of course materials and work through activities alternately in roles of student or teacher, as they practice techniques of guided inquiry and cooperative learning.

Each **MODELING WORKSHOP** has these features:

- aligned with National Science Education Standards
- focuses on all 8 scientific practices of NRC Framework for K-12 Science Education.
- addresses multiple learning styles.
- addresses student naive conceptions.
- collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking
- systems, models, modeling.
- coherent curriculum framework, but not a curriculum; thus flexible.
- compatible with Socratic methods, project-based instruction, PBL, etc.
- science & math literacy.
- authentic assessments.
- high-tech and low-tech options for labs.

Models and theories are the purpose and the outcomes of scientific practices. They are tools for engineering design and problem solving. Thus, modeling guides all other practices.

TEACHERS SAY

- I'm a better teacher after modeling, I like my job more, I feel the kids walk away with real transferable skills.
It moves students in the direction of being independent learners, and it puts the responsibility for learning where it belongs - on the students.
- The Modeling program is the only one I have found that is truly grounded in how students learn and attacks head-on the misconceptions students have.
- My administrators are constantly impressed by my teaching methods, and I owe it all to modeling.

Experiment -----> Consensus -----> Representation

Experimentation -----> Modeling -----> Understanding

Questions: contact Wendy Heheman, AMTA Outreach Coordinator:

wendy@modelinginstruction.org

<http://modelinginstruction.org>

^ Reference: Haag, S. & Megowan, C. (2015) Next Generation Science Standards: A National Mixed-Methods Study on Teacher Readiness, School Science and Mathematics Vol 115, number 8.

Virtual Conference: The Dynamic Ocean

The Dynamic Ocean: Changes and Impacts

Virtual Conference

Saturday, May 13

10 AM to 2 PM ET

SAVE \$10! REGISTER BY FRIDAY APRIL 14

The ocean is the defining physical feature of our planet. The interaction of oceanic and atmospheric processes controls our planet's weather and climate, and dominates Earth's energy, water, and carbon cycles. Join NSTA, NOAA, and NOAA partner scientists and educators for an **exciting [virtual conference](#) on Saturday, May 13** to learn about the ocean, how we are changing it, and the impacts these changes are having on our world.

[How to attend a conference from your own home.](#)

Presenters include:

Nicholas Bond
Mark Eakin
Laura Francis
Molly Harrison
Gretchen Hofmann
Bruce Moravchik
Marlies Tumolo
Margie Turrin
Michael Whitney
Chris Zervas

View the [conference agenda](#), read the [presenter bios](#), and [learn more](#).

Busy that Saturday? No problem!

Register and receive access to the conference archives to watch later on-demand.

In addition, participants receive the *Ocean's Effect on Weather and Climate* SciPack with their paid registration (value \$18) at no additional cost.

NSTA Member Price: \$63
NSTA Non-member Price: \$79

NASA Science: Ocean Worlds Video

Ocean Worlds

We once thought oceans made our planet unique, but we're now coming to realize that 'ocean worlds' are all around us.

[Watch the ScienceCast Video](#)

Social & Emotional Learning Grants

Grant Spotlight

[\\$5,000-\\$25,000 Social & Emotional Learning Grants for Teachers and Schools](#)



The [NoVo Foundation](#), [Education First](#), and [Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors](#) are awarding grants to individual teachers and school systems for "teacher-led projects that foster social-emotional skills in students in grades PK-12." Grants of \$5,000 will be awarded to individual teachers, and grants of \$25,000 will be made available to districts and charters. The deadline is only 10 days away.

This is only the second year of the program — the [Innovation in Social and Emotional Learning Awards](#) — and the first year awards are being made to districts and charters. The awards will be given out for

"individual teachers or groups of teachers to implement the project in their classrooms and schools in the 2017-2018 school year. Awardees will also have the opportunity to present their work to a group of national SEL practitioners, experts and advocates at a convening in October 2017," according to Education First.

It's unclear how many grants will be awarded in this year's program. Last year, 23 individual educators and teams received grants (out of 430 applicants).

Applications are due April 21 by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time.

Complete details, an application form and descriptions of last year's winning projects can be found on [the Innovation in Social and Emotional Learning Awards site](#).

[More](#)

[inspirED School Climate Assessment Grant](#) (\$2,500–\$15,000)



[inspirED](#), an organization created through a joint effort between [Yale's Center for Emotional Intelligence](#) and Facebook, is offering [multiple grants](#) of up to \$15,000 per district or up to \$2,500 per school to promote social and emotional learning and to improve school climate.

The funding is to be used "to identify and support schools and districts in measuring school climate and developing and implementing interventions that ultimately support the overall well-being and success of young people," according to the company.

A total of 30 grants will be awarded. Recipients choose an inspirED vendor, such as [Panorama Education](#), to conduct a school climate assessment. From there, inspirED supports schools by providing "pathways

for students and educators to use the [school climate assessment] findings to drive change in their school via access to InspirED website resources" and offers access to an online community "of school climate experts and like-minded educators, administrators and schools to help tackle challenges, share best practices, and celebrate successes."

The application period is open now and closes in less than a month — May 5. Winners will be announced May 30, and payments will be disbursed by July 30.

[Complete details can be found on the inspirED grant site here.](#)

[More](#)

Funding News

[\\$10K Challenge Seeks CTE Skills-Gap Solutions](#)

A company with a cloud-based application that connects students to prospective employers is sponsoring a challenge to generate new ideas for better connecting school outcomes to work. The top winner will be able to claim a prize of at least \$5,000 and possibly more.

[More](#)

[April 13 is Deadline to Seek Competitive Bids for E-Rate Discounts](#)

Thursday, April 13 is the deadline to seek competitive bids for products and services and receive E-rate discounts. Schools and libraries requesting E-rate discounts must seek competitive bids using FCC Form 470, as required by Federal Communications Commission rules.

[More](#)

[Google.org Commits \\$50 Million for Education Nonprofits](#)

Google.org, the philanthropic arm of Google that supports education technology initiatives, has committed \$50 million over the next two years to support nonprofits that are using technology to help tackle problems impacting education globally.

[More](#)

[Program Simplifies E-Rate Filing Process for Texas Districts](#)

Texas school districts worked with networking solutions provider D-Link to prepare a technology plan and upgrade their networks to support digital learning initiatives long-term - while maintaining their budget.

[More](#)

Upcoming K–12 Grants

SparkFun Community Partner Program

Sponsor: SparkFun

Award: STEM/STEAM-related prize packages, event and team sponsorships and other types of support

Number of Awards: Varies

Application Deadline: Third Thursday of each month; awards announced on the last business day of each month

Magnet Schools Assistance Program Competition

Sponsor: United States Department of Education

Award: \$12 million to \$15 million over a period of three to five years

Number of Awards: 23 to 30

Application Deadline: April 11

Academic Enrichment Grants

Sponsor: McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation

Award: \$30,000 maximum (\$10,000 over three years)

Number of Awards: Not specified (five awarded last year)

Application Deadline: April 15

Teacher Development Grants

Sponsor: McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation

Award: \$30,000 maximum (\$10,000 over three years)

Number of Awards: Not specified (two awarded last year)

Application Deadline: April 15 (submissions open Jan. 15)

Siemens Possibility Grant (2017 Siemens STEM Day Sweepstakes)

Sponsor: Siemens Foundation

Award: \$10,000

Number of Awards: 1

Application Deadline: April 28, 5 p.m. ET

Champion Creatively Alive Children Grant Program

Sponsor: Crayola and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)

Award: \$2,500 plus \$1,000 in Crayola gear

Number of Awards: Up to 20 major prizes, plus one Crayola Classpack for every applicant submitting by the early bird deadline

Application Deadline: June 23 (June 5 for early bird prize)

TAF Project-Based Learning Grants for Grades 6–12

Sponsor: Toshiba America Foundation

Award: Two categories: Up to \$5,000 and more than \$5,000

Number of Awards: Not specified

Application Deadline: Up to \$5,000 awarded on a rolling basis; Aug. 1 deadline for applications for more than \$5,000

[Adopt a Classroom](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

[Brinker International Grants](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

[Brown Rudnick Community Grants](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

[Corning Foundation Grants](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

[DonorsChoose.org](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

[Michael & Susan Dell Foundation Grants](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

Award: No more than 10 percent of an organization's annual operating expenses or 25 percent of the total budget for the project being funded; awards have ranged from the hundreds to the millions of dollars.

Number of Awards: Varies

Qualification: Project should "directly serve or impact children living in urban poverty, particularly in the areas of education, family economic stability (including microfinance) and childhood health."

[Naiku Innovative Teacher Grant](#)

Deadline: Ongoing (approx. 10 awards per month)

[Sony Grants for Education](#)

Deadline: Ongoing (grants awarded on a rolling basis)

Call for Papers & Proposals

Submit calls for papers/proposals to dnagel@1105media.com.

Upcoming Events

[ICEEEL 2017 : 19th International Conference on e-Education and e-Learning](#)

April 24-25

Boston, MA

[More events at thejournal.com](#)

Construct3D 2017

May 5–7

Duke University (Durham, NC)

ISTE 2017

June 25–28

San Antonio, TX

[More events at thejournal.com](#)

2017 Clute International Conference on Education (ICE)

July 30–Aug. 3

New York

[More events at thejournal.com](#)

[More](#)

Professional Resources

- [21st Century School Resource Center on THEJournal.com](#)
- [IT Trends Resource Center on thejournal.com](#)
- [Join THE Journal on Facebook](#)
- [More THE Journal Resources](#)

Each year, U.S. educators spend more than \$1.5 billion out of pocket on technology, supplies and gear for their classrooms. K-12 Grant Alert helps connect educators with the resources they need to get the educational tools for their classrooms, from large-scale state and federal programs to corporate grants, competitions and sweepstakes specifically for K-12 schools. K-12 Grant Alert is published monthly.