



SPARTANBURG
SCIENCE CENTER
excite • engage • educate

The Science Center has been serving the greater Spartanburg community with quality STEM education for over 40 years. As a retired science educator I have seen the impact the center has on students and life-long learners alike.

Our mission to excite, engage and educate our community in science, technology, engineering, math and the arts is at the core of everything we do.

We provide supplementary STEM education to every school district in the county and we're the number one provider of programming for the Boys & Girls Club of the Upstate.

We are currently working on our Spring class for the Spartanburg Community Aviation Program for students 16-20 years old, hoping to relaunch our Robotics program in early 2022, and preparing for our sought after Summer Camps which will be released online March 31, 2022.

During the pandemic when most museums closed, we stayed open to care for the more than 40 animals in our animal room. And to make sure we were reaching students wherever they were, we developed virtual programming so STEM education could continue.

While we could not host students at the center, we were able to partner with the Spartanburg Area Conservancy to build a STEAM program that children could engage with through the winter months out in nature and even provided virtual experiences for the Boy Scouts in 29 different states.

Thanks to the generosity of local STEM leaders and the excellent work of our four interns; three Wofford Bonner Scholars – Mae, Grayson, Gabi and one from Spartanburg Community College –Will, the Spartanburg Science Center was sustained with their creative ideas and great work. We can't thank them enough for their dedication and focus to make sure the center came through the pandemic in great shape!

Mary Levens
Executive Director





S P A R T A N B U R G
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REACHING STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC

In partnership with the Spartanburg Area Conservancy and USC Upstate Foundation we created 'Seeing Through Their Eyes,' a STEAM program for children and students in the Spartanburg community that provided a disposable camera and nature guide to explore and document the world around them in the height of the pandemic. The program provided over 300 take-home kits in English and Spanish and offered passes to the Science



Center and guided tours on the Cottonwood Trail and Susan Jacobs Arboretum at the University of South Carolina Upstate campus. Thousands of photos were developed and included in an online gallery, and a panel of local photographers chose 30 images for a student exhibit that debuted during the March 18th ArtWalk, marking the one-year anniversary of the Pandemic shutdown. You can see the collection now outside the Spartanburg Science Museum on the 2nd floor of the Chapman Cultural Center.



SUMMER CAMP!

We hosted over 20 summer camps in 2021 for ages 4K to 12 ranging from Robotics Galore, Found Art, Explore Electricity, Prehistoric Zone, Reptiles Through the Ages, Jump Into Algebra and more!

2022
SUMMER CAMP
REGISTRATION
OPENS

MARCH 31ST

spartanburgsciencecenter.org



VISUAL STUDIO FAFL

AFL provides grant to support technology for Virtual Studio
Thanks to a grant from AFL the Science Center was able to construct a studio to stream virtual learning opportunities during the pandemic. three Wofford Bonner Scholars – Mae, Grayson, Gabi and one from Spartanburg Community College –Will, taught courses remotely including live streaming of our animal room to The Boys Scouts of America in over **29** states. The SSC Virtual Studio is where original programming and online classes will be produced in the new year in an effort to reach students wherever they are.



PROJECT PLACE

This Fall the Science Center launched The Project Place: An Out of School Time Collaborative Initiative funded by the Spartanburg Academic Movement that provides one-on-one student support for STEAM projects for students 13+. Educators, caregivers or students can request materials and support from Science Center staff to be used for Science or STEM projects.



CONTEC MEDIA CENTER

Contec provides the largest corporate gift of 2021 to support the Center during the pandemic, announces commitment for a new Contec Media Center in 2022 and beyond.

The Spartanburg Science Center has been offered a 675 sq foot space that will extend our footprint on the second floor of the Chapman Cultural Center and house the new Contec Media Center in the New Year. Thanks to a generous gift from Contec, the New Contec Media Center will be home to several new programs including the Science Center Virtual Studio, The Project Place powered by the SAM, and a podcast space for our new 'Out of the Lab With...' podcast produced by our Wofford Bonner Scholars in partnership with STEAM leaders in the community.

A VERY GIVING TUESDAY Tindall

Thanks to a generous matching gift by Tindall Corporation, the Science Center was able to raise **\$10,000** towards new exhibits in the museum. "Three of our exhibits have seen better days," shared Mary Levens, Executive Director of the Center. This gift will help us replace one of the physics exhibits and will put us on our way to replacing a second exhibit in 2022.

EXCITING NEW PROGRAMS AND SPACES COMING 2022





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Spartanburg, SC 29306
(864) 583-2777

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THE SPARTANBURG SCIENCE CENTER
REACHES OVER **20,000** STUDENTS
ANNUALLY AND WILL BE CELEBRATING **44**
YEARS SUPPORTING SCIENCE EDUCATION IN
SPARTANBURG COUNTY IN 2022

2022 SPARTANBURG SCIENCE CENTER BOARD

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MILLIKEN LEARNING SPACE OPENS FOR EXTENDED STEAM PROGRAMMING AT THE SCIENCE CENTER

Thanks to a generous gift from Milliken & Co. the Science Center was able to annex a new space adjacent to the museum for extended programming. The Milliken Learning Space will host summer camps, after school robotics club, and sessions for lifelong learners starting in 2022. A beautiful new mural was created for the space by local artist Jeremy Kemp, and the Science Center community celebrated with a Ribbon Cutting on December 15th with Milliken's Director of Communications, Betsy Sikma and scientist Mary Mason, who will be joining the Center's board of directors in January.