STEM Connections

CENTRAL FLORIDA STEM EDUCATION COUNCIL

April 2018

GET INVOLVED

- Reserve Tickets for the MicheLee Puppet's newest show: **Mission STEAMpossible** on April 29th
- Submit your **2018 Engineering Encounters Bridge Design Competition** by May 5th
- STEM Education gets Stamp of Approval from U.S. Government with **New STEM Forever Stamps**

- Like us on Facebook @ **www.facebook.com/CFSTEM**

CFSTEM General Council Meeting Recap - "The Future of Sensors"

The April CFSTEM General Council Meeting was held on 11 April at the **BRIDG** facility in Osceola county. BRIDG is a versatile boutique microelectronics fabrication facility with 200mm (8-inch) wafer fab capabilities. BRIDG accelerates technology commercialization by providing holistic solutions to bridge technology and capability gaps across multiple fields. The Keynote was Chester Kennedy (BRIDG CEO) and he kicked off a great afternoon of discussions and discoveries. We hosted a panel of experts sharing their involvement with BRIDG. Panelists included Nick Englert (VP of Operations, Photon-X), Fran Korosec (Chief Operating Officer, BRIDG), Clarence Thacker (Business Development Director, BIDG), and Bill Summers (Engineering Manager, Harris Corp.). There were educators and administrators represented from Brevard, Osceola, Volusia, Seminole, Orange, Valencia college, Jaeger Education, Mad Science, Orlando Science Center and the YMCA. We concluded with a facility tour.

Thanks to the outstanding BRIDG personnel (Gloria and Janice) for a well-organized meeting!

THE DEVELOPMENT OF STEM STEREOTYPES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There are many reasons why dramatic gender disparities remain in many scientific fields from actual bias and stereotyping to self-concepts, cultural norms, and a lack of mentoring and role models. The National Science Foundation asked social, behavioral, and economic scientists to share details from their research about these disparities and what might be done about them. Today, two behavioral scientists explain how stereotypes and self-concepts develop and how they affect choices students make.

To make a difference, you have to start early in development. We have learned that children acquire stereotypes about STEM at surprisingly early ages. By second grade, before they have learned their multiplication tables, the majority of U.S. children are highly stereotyped, believing that boys = math, and girls = reading. Children acquire stereotypes about robotics and computer science even earlier. *Click here to read the rest of the article*

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April 2018 *(continued)*

michelee puppets

Empowering lives through the art of puppetry.

Sunday Family Fun Days

Puppet Performances and Activities by MicheLee Puppets at Venue on the Lake!

641 Maitland Ave S Maitland, FL 32751 | (407) 647-2111

Mission STEAMpossible

Sunday April 29, 2018
11 AM & 1PM

Explore Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Math! Be inspired by MicheLee Puppets' newest production "Mission STEAMpossible," then enjoy hands-on activities provided by Doctor Geek's Laboratory!

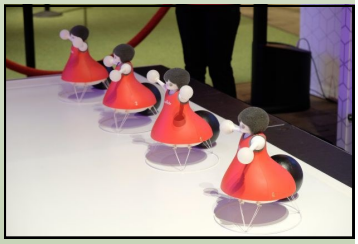
For tickets: MicheLeePuppets.org/FamilyFun

Reservations are recommended. A $5 donation per family is suggested, not required for entry.

These MicheLee Puppets performances and workshops are supported by United Arts of Central Florida, home of OrlandoAtPlay.com and UAArtsEd.com

MURATA'S CHEERLEADER ROBOTS PERFORM AT INNOVENTIONS PAVILION IN EPCOT

In support of National Engineering Week, which celebrates all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), Murata brought their dancing cheerleader robots to Epcot's SpectacuLAB for a special demonstration.



Murata, a Japanese manufacturer of electronic components and also the official sponsor of Epcot's SpectacuLAB show in Innoventions, stopped at the theme park for a special presentation of their famous Murata Cheerleader Robots. The presentation featured the dancing cheerleader robots performing a small group dance number to show off the technology created by the manufacturing company.

The robots sit on top of balls and use advanced sensing, communication, and group control technologies to stay balanced as they quickly move and dance around. The robot cheerleaders were developed by a team of 21 engineers and scientists who worked for over two years to create the robots, which had to be synchronized through special technologies so they can dance in unison.

The Murata Cheerleaders' cheeks light up to signal that they are "excited" and also ready to be placed on their ball. Their pom-poms were designed to change colors as they perform the "wave" and dance in specially designed patterns and follow-the-leader maneuvers.

JOIN THE COUNCIL TODAY OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Submit your **2018 Membership Application** by downloading the form ***here!***

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