



CAPTURING IMAGINATIONS: BUILDING SKILLS

2ND BIENNIAL JOINT CONFERENCE



Conference Mission: To strengthen youth learning by investigating, connecting, and advancing formal and informal STEM education and workforce pathways.

Key Highlights:

Over 200 people in attendance

46 Sessions Offered

12 exhibitors

147 different organizations represented

Up to 12.5 hours offered per attendee for Continuous Educations Units provided by the Minnesota Department of Education

9 Scholarships to attend supported

Conference Themes



INVESTIGATE – the “what and why” of effective STEM and afterschool learning. Key focus areas will include ways to create meaningful learning experiences for youth both in and out of school, the importance of helping youth build a healthy “STEM identity”, issues of access and equity in education, and how STEM and afterschool learning can address our future workforce needs.

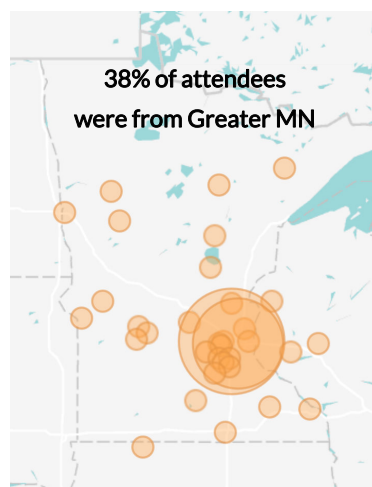


CONNECT – with each other while learning about successful collaborations, partnerships and policies that close gaps in young people’s access to and achievement in high quality afterschool and STEM learning opportunities.



ADVANCE – high quality afterschool and STEM learning opportunities for youth. A key focus will be on effective practices and curriculum that empower and inspire youth and bring our math and science standards to life.

Because of my participation in this conference, I made new connections with individuals and/or organizations.



Quotes from Attendees Post-Conference Survey

“I really enjoyed and appreciated the panel... It really helped broaden my understanding of STEM issues.”

“I got so many great practical ideas that were presented with grounding in youth developmental needs as well as workforce needs.”

“I don't know what else to say except that it was one of the most useful conferences I've attended (and I go to a lot!)”

Because of my participation in this conference...

I have a deeper understanding of how issues of equity and access apply to STEM and afterschool programs.



I have a deeper understanding of what it means for young people to have a healthy STEM identity.



I am more aware of effective ways STEM and afterschool programs can address workforce needs.



disagree or strongly disagree strongly agree agree

*Survey Results: 227 invited to respond with a response rate of 32%

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