

Astrobiology, the Search for Life on Mars

A four-day, three-night residential academy for middle school students sponsored by Rotary Clubs in District #7430

July 9–12, 2026

www.STEMYEA.com



Our world is increasing in complexity. The problems we face must be solved by educated people employing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math skills. Join us in investing in a brighter future for these students.



Our STEM YEA initiative is specifically designed for promising young students that would not otherwise have an opportunity such as this.

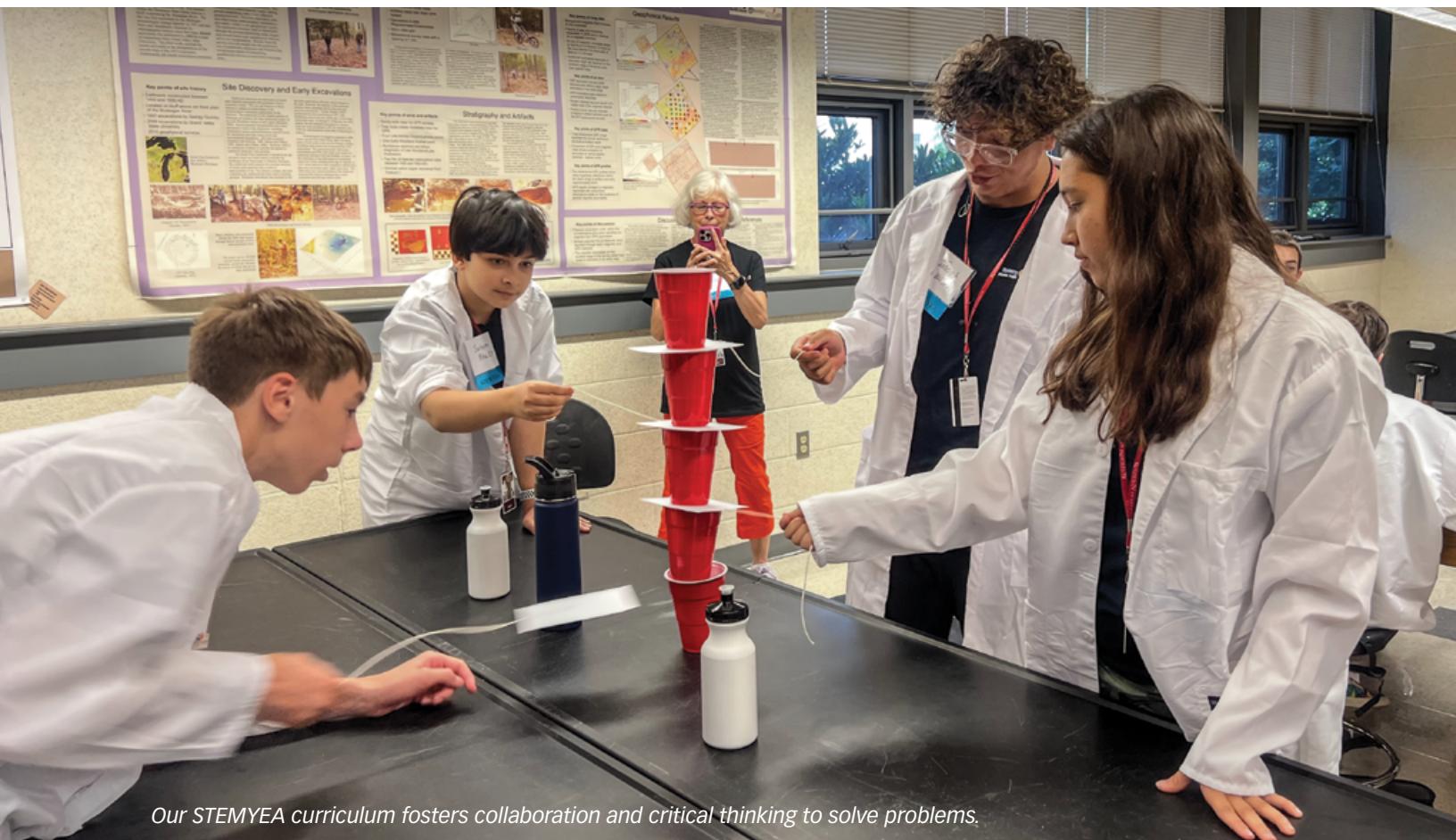
STEM Disciplines Define Our Modern World

STEM-based education delivers more than science and mathematics concepts. Our STEM curriculum helps develop a variety of skill sets that our modern world needs.

Skills attained through STEM education include problem-solving, critical thinking, decision making, leadership, entrepreneurship, acceptance of failure, and more.

We seek to deliver an immersive STEM curriculum that sparks intellectual curiosity and a love of lifelong learning. STEM skills are critical to building a more secure future based on science, humanity and understanding commensurate with Rotary areas of focus such as Protecting our Environment.

We hope to awaken an interest in STEM in our students so that they seek STEM courses and careers as a result of their attendance at STEM YEA.



Our STEM YEA curriculum fosters collaboration and critical thinking to solve problems.



Engaging Middle School Students

Hands on Learning

Research done by the University of Virginia School of Education (UVA) shows that a lack of science engagement among young children can be carried forward into a lack of science engagement as adults.

The question becomes "how do we get and keep students engaged?"—The very latest research from UVA on how to engage students in STEM courses states that activities such as camps, competitions and workshops outside of school have a positive impact on students' engagement. Our STEM YEA Academy contains Intentional Learning Experiences which have been proven to engage students.

We Include Intentional Learning Experiences such as:

- Collaboration
- Discovery
- Creativity
- Hands-on learning
- Caretaking



Help Us Build On Our Success for 2026

2025 STATS

56
STUDENT Participants

32
SCHOOLS Represented

28
DISTRICTS Represented

9
STEM Sessions

6
PROJECT Sessions

The STEM YEA program, sponsored by Rotary Clubs in District 7430, was held at Kutztown University, July 10 through July 13, 2025. The theme was "Astrobiology: the Search for Life on Mars".

Nine STEM sessions and six project building sessions were held over the 3 ½ day event. In addition, participants could visit a mobile planetarium, play corn hole and board games or join others to assemble a variety of jigsaw puzzles.

Investing in STEM YEA Education builds a brighter future for us all.
How many students' futures can we change at STEM YEA 2026?
Contact Gwenn Carr, via E-Mail: Gwenn.Carr@STEMYEA.com



The Boehm Science Center provides an excellent forum for the project sessions.

Rotary
District 7430



STEM YEA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSE LEVEL: \$20,000

- 20 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Introduction by STEM YEA Chair at the Celebration dinner
- Personal tour of the Academy, photos to use in your company's documents
- Photo with STEM YEA Student participants
- Logo on STEM YEA Sponsorship signage at the event
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com



GALAXY LEVEL: \$10,000

- 10 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Introduction by STEM YEA Chair at the Celebration dinner
- Personal tour of the Academy
- Logo on STEM YEA Sponsorship signage at the event
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com

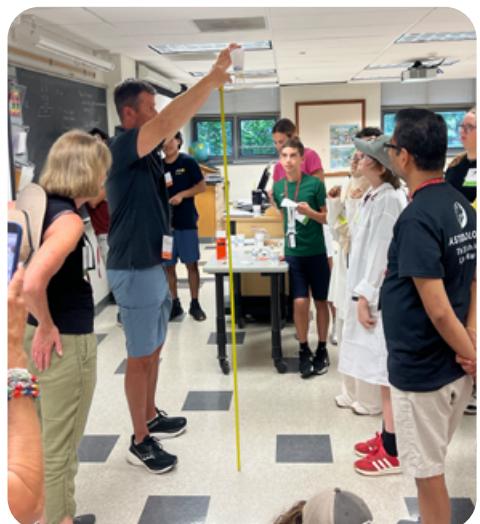


STAR LEVEL: \$5,000

- 8 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Recognition of participation at STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Logo on STEM YEA Sponsorship Signage at the event
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com

SUPERNova LEVEL: \$3,500 (sponsor of the Celebration Dinner)

- 8 VIP tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Introduction and Recognition by STEM YEA Chair at the Celebration dinner
- Logo on STEM YEA Sponsorship signage at the event
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com



PLANET LEVEL: \$ 2,500

- 6 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Recognition of participation at STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com

MARS LEVEL: \$ 1,000

- 4 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Recognition of participation at STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com

EARTH LEVEL: \$500

- 2 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Recognition of participation at STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Logo and brief company description on www.stemyea.com

\$250: DR. KATHY OTT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (provided to a Rotary Club unable to sponsor a student)

- 2 VIP Tickets to the STEM YEA Celebration dinner
- Recognition of participation at STEM YEA Celebration dinner

I/we are pleased to support the STEM-YEA Academy as a:

\$20,000 Universe Level

\$10,000 Galaxy Level

\$5,000 Star Level

\$3,500 Supernova Level (Celebration Dinner sponsor)

\$2,500 Planet Level

\$1,000 Mars Level

\$500 Earth Level

\$250 Dr. Kathy Ott Memorial Scholarship donor

Other

SPONSORSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION:

Individual/Business Name:

Contact Name (For Business Only):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Please recognize my sponsorship using (Logo/Name):

Date

I/we prefer our sponsorship/donation to be anonymous

PAYMENT INFORMATION: CHECKS ONLY

Please make checks payable to the:

Allentown West Rotary Club Foundation

Place 'STEM YEA' on memo line

Rotary Club Foundation of Allentown West is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization EIN: 82-0589636 100% of your pledged contributions to the STEM YEA Program will be used for development and operational expenses for our Rotary District-wide STEM YEA Program (Science Technology Engineering Math – Youth Explorer Academy)
Mail to: Gwenn Carr, STEM YEA 138 Deer Run Road Kutztown, PA 19530

Please return this form by April 15, 2026 to be included in promotional material/signage.
Send Logo or name as it should appear in .jpg format to Gwenn.carr@verizon.net