

MEDIA RELEASE

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STEM Council grants 'Seal of Approval' to four new programs

Recognition endorses non-Council STEM programs and events across the state

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa – The Iowa Governor's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Advisory Council awarded four new programs with the Seal of Approval. The endorsement recognizes STEM programming happening organically across Iowa and those programs or events not affiliated with the STEM Council that help advance the goals of the STEM Council, especially to inspire the next generation of innovators.

"The Seal of Approval expands the umbrella of STEM across our state by recognizing and partnering with excellent, local and homegrown programs and events that strongly align with the STEM Council's goals and high standards," said Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds who co-chairs the STEM Council.

To receive the Seal of Approval, programs or events must advance STEM Council goals and the needs of the community and provide benefits and offerings to meet those needs. Recipients may use the Seal of Approval for promotion, to seek external funding, community awareness and other types of support.

So far, a committee of the STEM Council has reviewed and approved nine programs for the Seal of Approval since March, including the following four new programs added in June:

- "Agriculture in the Classroom" program of the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation
- CoderDojo Muscatine
- Wednesday Workshops at the Science Center of Iowa
- Youth Environmental Agriculture Field Days with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

For more information about each of these programs, visit <http://www.iowastem.gov/seal/recipients>. The STEM Council will review applications for the Seal of Approval three times per year. Programs to be recognized would not be currently affiliated with the STEM Council and include STEM events or programs in Iowa, such as hack-a-thons, conferences, after school programs, citizen engagement, showcase events and more. For more information on the STEM Council's Seal of Approval or to apply, visit www.iowastem.gov/seal.

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About the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council

Established in July 2011 via Governor's Executive Order, the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council is a public-private partnership of educators, companies, and Iowa students and families addressing policies and programs designed to improve Iowa's educational system focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The Council works to engage and prepare students for a career-ready workforce path, regain our State's historic leadership position in education, and provide a vital competitive economic advantage now, and for the future, to ensure that every Iowa student has access to world-class STEM education opportunities. The 47-member Council is chaired by Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds and Vermeer Corp. CEO Mary Andringa. For more information, visit www.IowaSTEM.gov.