

## CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CONNECTION

## **April 2017**

THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING A PRESENCE FOR SCIENCE NETWORK IS SUSTAINED THROUGH THE ADVOCACY OF THE CCAT, CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION, AND THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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NAMES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OUR POINTS OF CONTACT AND KEY LEADERS ARE NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY

#### Resources



Connecticut Science Teachers Association

**Science Professional Development** Opportunities! Are you interested in high quality, low cost, Teacher **Professional Development** opportunities? Visit the **CSTA** website and click on Opportunities. You will not be disappointed.

Contact us if you have questions.



The UConn Integrated **Pest Management** (IPM) and

**Environmental Science curriculum** kits are available at no cost to any teachers or other educators for use in their classrooms. Curriculum kits for grades K/1, 2/3, and 4/5 are available, and they can be picked up at UConn Storrs campus. The curriculum, and alignments completed by Mary Lou Smith, can be viewed on the UConn IPM website. Please contact Donna Ellis (email donna.ellis@uconn.edu; 860-486-6448) for more information.



In New Jersey, their state dept of education has

created an integrated model NGSS curriculum that is required in some specially funded districts and optional in others. To see the topic sequence details and rationale, click

http://www.state.nj.us/education/ modelcurriculum/sci/ms.shtml.



A MESSAGE FROM NSTA: NSTA will be joining as an official partner for the March for Science this April 22.

We are proud to join the other science and education groups for the March for Science and we encourage you to learn more about one of the 393 satellite marches planned for that day.

We know that science teachers work hard every day so that the next generation of citizens will understand and value science. We also work to ensure that all students have access to quality science experiences and evidence based information and research.

The NSTA Board believes that scientific integrity and transparency have been questioned and that as teachers, we must stand with our colleagues to support the fundamental value of science in our society and help people to understand and appreciate scientific knowledge and the importance of fact-based evidence that is exemplified by science.

Rush Holt, CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, recently wrote in an email to his members "It is incumbent on AAAS to help ensure the March has a positive outcome. We want the March to remain a nonpartisan, educational, diverse, and ethical expression of the value of science to society, and we want to make sure the momentum doesn't disappear after the March takes place." We agree with Dr. Holt and believe it is incumbent on NSTA to ensure that the March includes representation from science educators.

We value the opinion of each and every NSTA member, and we understand the decision to engage in the March for Science will not be universally accepted. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and reactions personally, so please email me at devans@nsta.org.

Thank you for your work to prepare the future STEM workforce and the pioneers who will be developing cutting-edge science and technologies that will contribute to our national security, our health and well-being as a nation, and ensure that this country remains competitive. And thank you for being an NSTA member and standing with us at this critical time for science and science education.

Cannot get to Washington? There are 3 satellite marches in Connecticut: https://www.marchforscience.com/satellite-marches/

# UConn's Natural Resources Conservation Academy Environmental Program

We are excited to share with you three opportunities for teens, adults and teachers to engage in exciting environmental education programs through UConn's Natural Resources Conservation Academy (NRCA):

- 1) Conservation Ambassador Program for high school students
- 2) **Conservation Training Partnerships** for high school students and adults
- 3) **Teacher Professional Learning** for upper middle and high school teachers

Conservation Ambassador
Program: The Conservation
Ambassadors Program is great for high school students (grades 9 to 11) that are interested in the environment or science. Students engage in a fun and exciting field experience (July 16-22, 2017) at UConn, and design an individual community conservation project to provide real solutions for their communities. Then, they present their findings at the Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources at UConn.

## 2017-2018 Program Details

July 16-22, 2017: Field experience at UConn's main campus

## June 2017-February

**2018:** Complete a conservation project in each student's own town, at their own pace under mentor guidance.

Mid March 2018: Present at the Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources. Apply today! Applications due April 1, 2017
Learn more about the Conservation Ambassador
Program

## **Conservation Training Partnerships:** The Conservation Training

Partnerships program is a new opportunity for high school students (grades 9 to 12) and adult conservation volunteers to form partnerships to address local conservation issues. Participants learn basic conservation concepts and online mapping technologies in a 2-day workshop, and then partner to carry out conservation projects in their town together. This program is free to all participants!

## 2017-2018 Program Details

July 10-11, 2017: Workshop at UConn's main campus Or July 13-14, 2017: Workshop at TBD, New Haven, CT

**July 2017- March 2018:** The partnership completes a conservation project for any length of time in their own town

Please visit the NRCA website for more information.

## **Teacher Professional Learning**

3) **Teacher Professional Learning** for upper middle and high school teachers

## **Conservation Ambassador Program**

The **Teacher Professional Learning** program immerses upper middle and high school science teachers in a 3-day professional development workshop on relevant local and regional water resource issues. The workshop will teach online mapping tools, and offer curricular and technological resources for participants to design 5-7 modules on a Water and Sustainability Science unit using specific Next Generation Science Standards' (NGSS) Earth and Space Science Performance Expectations. **This program is free to all participants!** 

## -2017 Program Details

August 16-18, 2017: Workshop at UConn's main campus

<u>Apply today! Applications due April 1, 2017</u>
<u>Learn more about the Teacher Professional Learning</u>
program

If you are interested in learning more about our programs, the NRCA is happy to visit schools or give brief presentations for students, teachers, and community members. Please contact <a href="mailto:nrca@uconn.edu">nrca@uconn.edu</a> or <a href="mailto:860-486-4817">860-486-4817</a> to find out more. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Laura Cisneros,** Program Coordinator , **Abby Beissinger,** Program Coordinator

860-486-4817 nrca@uconn.edu nrca.uconn.edu



May 18, 2017 is Outdoor Classroom Day. What are your plans?? Sign up!

https://outdoorclassroomday.com/



Climate Science & Education Professional Development Workshop:

Resilience: It's Not Just Surviving
the Zombie Apocalypse
University of Connecticut Avery
Point Campus, Groton,
Connecticut
Tuesday, July 11 through
Thursday, July 13, 2017

Click here to register for the workshop

(https://goo.gl/FlraHz) **NOAA's Climate Stewards Education Project (CSEP) and Connecticut Sea Grant are** collaborating with Federal, State and NGO partners to convene a climate science and education workshop for formal and informal educators. Participants will learn from and interact with climate science, education and communication experts. The workshop will focus on topics of climate science and resilience strategies for the northeast region of the United States, with a goal of connecting educators and their students and/or audiences to the best available science-based information and pedagogic resources.

Registration for the workshop is on a first come first serve basis and the number of participants is very limited! When enrollment has reached capacity, online registration will be closed.
Registration is \$40 per person. It includes daily lunch, snacks, field trips, and a plethora of resources! Attendees are responsible for arranging their own transportation and lodging.

To register for the workshop you must fully complete the online form and send a check or purchase order to: Connecticut Sea Grant - Climate Workshop, 1080 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340.

You will receive an email confirming your participation in the workshop only when your registration fee has been processed. A detailed workshop itinerary, lodging and dining recommendations, and additional information will be sent to all confirmed registrants well in advance of the workshop. All attendees will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation in the workshop as well as the number of professional development hours earned.

For more info re: the overall workshop, contact Diana Payne at: diana.payne@uconn.edu. phone: 860.405.9248

Questions re: your registration fee? contact Andrea Kelly at:

andrea.kelly@uconn.edu. phone: 860.405.9128

A professional development workshop for formal and informal educators who wish to:

- Increase their knowledge of climate science, and resilience strategies;
- Learn about climate impacts and adaptations in the northeastern US;
- Translate climate science and resilience to the classroom and/or informal education settings.

Times: 8:30am - 5:00pm daily.

Place: Marine Sciences Building, Room 103, The University of Connecticut Avery Point, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340

## **Primary Contacts:**

- · Diana Payne diana.payne@uconn.edu
- Molly Harrison Molly.Harrison@noaa.gov
- Bruce Moravchik Bruce.Moravchik@noaa.gov
- · Peg Steffen Peg.Steffen@noaa.gov

### **Featured Activities:**

- Presentations by scientists and educators on climate science and resilience.
- Activities to increase participant climate science knowledge.
- Activities and demonstrations on teaching climate, engaging in resilience activities and related topics.
- Connections to the Next Generation Science Standards.

## **Notes on Food & Lodging:**

- Lunch and snacks will be provided during the workshop.
- Participants must make their own travel and overnight arrangements. Lodging and dining recommendations and additional information, will be sent to all confirmed registrants well in advance of the workshop.

## Professional Learning: Archaeology Field School for Educators

Dr. Brian Jones, State Archaeologist, CSMNH UConn Monday, July 10 through Friday, July 14, 9 am to 3 pm, Windsor, CT

Advance registration required: \$45 (\$35 for Museum Members and Donors)

Educators will spend a week doing hands-on archaeology at the Archaeology Field School for Teachers sponsored by the **Connecticut State Museum of** Natural History at UConn and Office of State Archaeology. This field school is designed to give educators who teach history or social science in a classroom or museum setting a deeper appreciation of the importance of archaeology as a tool for learning about Connecticut's fascinating past. The field school will cover the basics of field methods, paperwork, data management, and artifact identification. Learning proper archaeological methods will develop the participant's understanding of the ethical aspects of archaeology and the archaeologist's responsibility to preserve the data they retrieve so that it will remain valuable to future researchers. These lessons provide a first step toward developing the skills needed to undertake your own archaeological investigations with students.

Participants will experience an authentic and significant archaeological investigation, working with primary sources at a historic site in Windsor, Connecticut. They will also learn about the role of the Connecticut Office of State Archaeology and how it can be an important resource in developing archeological lessons and activities for students. Space is limited. To request a registration form please contact David Colberg at david.colberg@uconn.edu or 860.486.5690.

## Guide PBS Education's Work Today to Improve Resources for Teachers Tomorrow!

**Would** you like to help shape the resources and services PBS Education offers teachers across the United States?

Join our new research panel to share your insights! UPDATE: We encourage participation from teachers across the preK-12 spectrum – but in order to balance our current panel numbers, we are seeking preschool-3rd grade teachers. We appreciate your help in spreading the word!

## **PBS Teachers' Advisory Group Members:**

 Provide instant feedback through an easy, online survey once or twice a month.

Share opinions on our curriculum resources, professional development offerings, and other programs in development.

 Weigh in on a variety of topics including teacher needs, best practices, classroom experiences and more.

To join the PBS Teachers' Advisory Group, please click (the working) 'Join Now' button below where you can access the qualification and screening questionnaire.



The information you provide will be kept confidential and

only shared in aggregate with PBS staff.



NASA Wallops Flight Facility is pleased to announce the seventh Wallops Rocket Academy for Teachers (WRATS), June 19 – June 23, 2017. This professional development opportunity offers high school teachers a unique look into NASA's Sounding Rocket Program utilizing the

expertise of program engineers and technicians to learn the basics of rocketry as well as flight and safety operations. The week culminates in the launch of Terrier-Orion rocket containing payloads built by college and university students in the Rock ON! And Rock SAT-C programs. These programs are being held simultaneously along with the WRATS workshop as part of NASA Wallops' Rocket Week. Space is limited Participants must be US Citizens. A \$1000 stipend will be provided upon completion of the workshop requirements to help offset any travel and lodging expenses. A block of rooms at the Wallops Lodge has been reserved for participants. Lodging costs per night are \$59 for single occupancy (double occupancy is not possible). Contact information for the Wallops Lodge will be provided once you have been accepted as a participant. For information regarding the WRATS workshop or to apply, contact Linda Sherman

at <a href="mailto:linda.a.sherman@nasa.gov">linda.a.sherman@nasa.gov</a>



The Walton National Sustainability Teachers Academy will provide two intensive workshops this June. These professional development opportunities are available to pairs of K-12 teachers (of any subject) from the same school or district. We are hoping to recruit teachers from your state who will lead the way toward a more sustainable future. **Teachers will learn about** sustainability from expert scientists from ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability, collaboratively generate a plan of action, and receive a comprehensive collection of lesson plans and teaching materials to implement in the classroom. Each teacher who attends will receive a \$700 stipend with an opportunity to receive an additional \$300 for implementing a project in their school. Costs of meals, housing and travel are covered as well. Please encourage teachers in your network to apply. For more information, please visit our website at: sustainability teachers academy

Register at <a href="www.jason.org/ct">www.jason.org/ct</a> using your school email address for free access to JASON's award-winning curriculum. JASON offers hands-on labs, digital simulations and games, articles, videos, interdisciplinary connections, and powerful classroom management tool for teachers. Explore earth science, forces & motion, energy, climate, recycling, ecology, environmental science, oceanography, weather, wetlands and more.

Contact Amy O'Neal at amy@jason.org or 860-885-4688 with questions.



## FREE PERFORMANCES OF EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

Earth Day Every Day, written by Eastern Connecticut State University Alumni

Deborah Stauffer,\* is performed by our own cast of characters. Take a trip with Roger Recycle, Penelope Precycle, Elmer Energy, Chadwick Composter, and Scarlet Upcycle as they try to convince the energy inefficient Mr. Gas Guzzler to rethink his ways. By the end, the whole audience will be cheering "Earth Day Every Day!"

We are thrilled to offer at NO COST a live theatrical production focusing on using energy wisely, designed for elementary school students and families. The program - Earth Day Every Day - features a zany cast of characters, who will have everyone rolling in the aisles as they are learning about energy efficiency and green energy decisions that will make the world a better place for us all.

Thursday, April 13 Energize Connecticut Center 122 Universal Drive North North Haven, CT 06473 Performances are at 1:00 and 2:30. Please call 203-799-0460 to let us know which performance you'd like to attend.

Friday, April 14 The Stafford Palace Theater 75 Main Street Stafford Springs, CT 06076 Performance at 10:00

\*2016 college level eesmarts student contest winner

Energize Connecticut – programs funded by a charge on customer energy bills

## Green Teacher Upcoming Webinars

Check out these webinars at the following site:

http://greenteacher.com/webinars/ where you can also learn

Time to Depave Paradise?, Presenter: Alix Taylor Wednesday, April 12th 2017 7:30-8:30pm EST

Best Practices in School Gardens, Presenter: Mary Dudley Wednesday, September 27th 2017, 7:30-8:30pm EST

Eco-System Monitoring Programs, Presenter: Daniel Shaw Wednesday, October 25th 2017, 7:30-8:30pm EST, Register

http://greenteacher.com/webinars/



GREAT WORKSHOPS OFFERED BY THE CT. DEEP Registration is open for the following workshops.: Each workshop provides participants with: An educational resource guide Supplemental materials for classroom use Certificate of Participation Resource support for further implementation All workshops engage educators in the use of materials and provide demonstrations, small group work and applications to

NGSS and Common Core implementation. Materials support educator planning initiatives and direct use in classrooms through investigations and real world explorations. Fee for each workshop is \$40.00 per educator with discounts provided for multiple registrations from a single site. All workshops take place at Kellogg Environmental Center unless otherwise noted. Details at registration link. Register here!

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES** (NIEHS) recently developed a Climate and Health learning module for use in high school classrooms interested in exploring the health impacts of climate change. It promotes learning about the complex interactions between climate change, the environment and human health and uses content from the US Global Change Research Program's 2016 report, *The Impacts of Climate* Change on Human Health in the **United States: A Scientific** Assessment. The materials are free of charge and can be adapted for other grades and informal educational settings. The module integrates multiple science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and cross cutting concepts for earth and life science.



If you are interested in Modeling Workshops™, please visit our

website: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/2017mo">http://tinyurl.com/2017mo</a> deling .



BERMUDA NEXT SUMMER!!
Interested in a professional
development workshop this summer
from June 26-July1 in Bermuda at
the Bermuda Institute of Ocean
Sciences? Learn the latest in data
collection techniques including
ocean "gliders." Also learn how to
plan and implement a field study
course at BIOS for your students.
Contact Ed Argenta at:

<u>Edandpat74@comcast.net</u> or Kaitlin Baird at: <u>kaitlin.Baird@bios.edu</u> for more information.

Go here for the program flyer: http://www.bios.edu/education/educator-workshops-at-bios/



Small World Initiative Partner Instructor Application – High School

If you are a biology/environmental/life science teacher and interested in doing research in May focused on sustainability/conservation in the rainforest in Costa Rica —this opportunity would be for you!

Any teacher can apply to the Costa Rica experience at <a href="https://www.chance.psu.edu">www.chance.psu.edu</a>

However, for a scholarship opportunity through Penn State (\$6500 stipend):

With the research that you do in Costa Rica, Penn State will be supporting you through PD to develop classroom research projects based in NGSS/PA standards and provide you materials you need to implement your classroom research project. PA teachers around the Pittsburgh area are encouraged to apply as the PD will occur in Pittsburgh and at University Park upon your return. For further details about this piece go to:

http://www.csats.psu.edu/overview-of-csats-programs/research-experiences-for-teachers We also have research placements at University Park and Westinghouse this summer ranging from \$5000-\$6500.

Amanda J. Smith, M. Ed STEM Outreach & Engagement Liaison, ajs398@psu.edu http://csats.psu.edu



Earn graduate credit this summer with <u>Seminars on Science</u>, the American Museum of Natural History's online professional learning program. The 6-week <u>online courses</u> are co-taught by Museum scientists and classroom educators and are accessible anytime on your schedule. Get access to cutting-edge research,

rich content, and powerful classroom resources. <u>Graduate credit</u> is available from our university partners.

The <u>next session</u> starts May 22. Save \$50 when you use code SCIENCEMATTERS. Plus, register by April 24 to save another \$50 for a total \$100 savings! Courses in the life, Earth, and physical sciences include Climate Change; The Diversity of Fishes; Earth: Inside & Out; Evolution; Genetics, Genomics, Genethics; The Link Between Dinosaurs and Birds; The Ocean System; Sharks and Rays; The Solar System; Space, Time and Motion and more. For more information about the program, check out Seminars on Science at <a href="mailto:amnh.org/learn">amnh.org/learn</a>. If you have any questions, send us an email at <a href="mailto:learn@amnh.org">learn@amnh.org</a> or call (800) 649-6715.

Full Time Positions Available
New England Science & Sailing (NESS) is looking to hire full time year round positions. As part of NESS's world class program staff, these positions will assist in building inquiry-based learning with innovative programming to guide students on their personal journeys of discovery. This is a great opportunity for passionate, motivated individuals to be an integral part of this vibrant, growing organization. Programs include academic year classes and summer programs, primarily for Pre-K-12 youth. You must be motivated, able to work within a team as well as on your own, and have proven skills working with children. To apply: Download the position description and application from <a href="http://www.nessf.org/work-with-ness/employment-opportunities">http://www.nessf.org/work-with-ness/employment-opportunities</a> and mail, fax or email your resume and cover letter to the appropriate Program Director listed on the position description. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.nessf.org">www.nessf.org</a>.

## California Education and the Environment Initiative: The

California Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) is a free K-12 curriculum that teaches critical skills in science and history-social science using environmental topics, such as water and energy, as a lens. The EEI Curriculum makes learning relevant and fun for students by engaging them in topics they care about – the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the food they eat. All content is California State Board of Educationapproved and helps support Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Use the free EEI Curriculum to build your students' understanding of their relationship to the environment and prepare them to be critical thinkers and 21st century problem solvers.

http://www.californiaeei.org/

# CLIMATE COST PROJECT'S 016/2017 WITNESSING CHANGE VIDEO COMPETITION. The

competition gives advanced high school and college students an opportunity to show local impacts of climate change, educating themselves, their communities, and the public. In addition to the video contest, the Climate Cost Project provides interdisciplinary education al materials on the economics of climate change, including a climate change economics game and 101 environmental economics chapter. You can find out more about the competition, and our work and mission, in the short video further below, and on our website.

We hope to see some of your student's submissions in the spring, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video\_id=YWaB3wbNuCQ">https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video\_id=YWaB3wbNuCQ</a>

## ANNOUNCING GENES IN SPACE 2017 – DESIGN AND LAUNCH YOUR DNA EXPERIMENT TO SPACE!

We invite students in grades 7 through 12 to design DNA experiments for space. Students will pioneer DNA research on the International Space Station to address real-life challenges of deep space exploration. Five finalist teams will receive mentoring from Harvard and MIT PhD scientists, present at the 2017 International Space Station R&D Conference, and receive miniPCR DNA Discovery System™ for their education institutions. Winners will also attend Space Biology Camp and send their DNA experiment to space! Submission deadline is April 21st 2017.

Genes in Space is a partnership between miniPCR, Boeing, Math for America, CASIS, and New England Biolabs. The contest is free, and does not require equipment. Proposals will be judged solely on their creative and scientific merit. miniPCR DNA Discovery System™ will also be awarded to the top 5 teams from grades 7 and 8 (Junior Scientist Awards) and to the school with the highest number of submissions from each of the 5 US regions (Constellation Awards). Teachers − Here's how you can turn contest submissions into a class assignment that's aligned with national standards.

Find us on the web at **GENES IN SPACE Web site** 

### **ETHNICALLY-DIVERSE CONNECTICUT TEACHERS!**

Enhance your environmental education methods and knowledge.

We are awarding SIX 80% Scholarships for summer 2017

WHAT: Sharing Nature: An Educators' Week Workshop WHERE: Hog Island Audubon Camp, Muscongus Bay, Maine

WHEN: JULY 16 - JULY 21, 2017

SCHOLARSHIP: \$900 towards \$1,095 registration fee (Price includes program, lodging, boat travel, all meals)

Features of Educators' Week:

- \* Designed for science and non-science educators to generate exciting ideas for creating and incorporating environmental education activities into your curriculum.
- \* Inspiring and experienced instructors will share their favorite approaches, methods, and activities for engaging you, and your students, with nature.
- \* Workshop presentations and guided field trips on the island share techniques in field biology, art, music, photography, theater, journaling, and other disciplines.

Interactive workshop: "Increasing Diversity in Environmental Education" led by Chandra Taylor Smith, Ph.D. Vice President, Community Conservation and Education, National Audubon Society. TO APPLY: E-mail letter of interest and names & contact info. of 2 professional references to Camp Director Pete Salmansohn at psalmansohn@audubon.org.

Awards given on a rolling basis, so early application is strongly suggested. For details, photos, videos about the camp visit:

audubon workshop informattion

The Spring issue of the CASE Bulletin is <u>now available</u>. In this issue:

- Posing 'Grand Challenges': IBM Watson Health is transforming global healthcare
- Meet IBM's Kathleen McGroddy-Goetz
- The Connecticut River
   Museum: Discover New
   England's Great River
- News from the National Academies:
  - Human Gene Editing:
     Science, Ethics, &
     Governance
  - New Report Examines
     Role of Engineering
     Technology
  - Federal Statistics:

     Combining Data

     Sources While

     Protecting Privacy
  - Undergraduate
     Research Access for
     STEM Students
  - New Report Details
     Accomplishments of US
     Global Change
     Research Program
  - Calculating the Social
     Cost of Carbon Dioxide
- IN BRIEF: Science and Technology News from Around the State

http://www.ctcase.org/bulletin/32\_ 1/32\_1.pdf Take a look!



THE MILTON FISHER SCHOLARSHIP wants to support students who excel as creative problem-solvers and to help make their higher education goals more accessible. We encourage you to read the short description about the scholarship below. Please forward this information along to any promising student applicants that you may know and/or to relevant staff members.

To access the online application, see answers to frequently asked questions and read about previous winners, visit our website: <a href="www.rbffoundation.org">www.rbffoundation.org</a>
Applications due: April 30, 2017 We offer up to \$20,000 (up to \$5000 per year for four years) the scholarship is open to exceptionally Innovative and Creative High School Juniors, Seniors and College Freshmen who are: Graduating from a high school in Connecticut/New York City Metropolitan area (and plan to attend or are attending college anywhere in the U.S.)

OR ② Graduating from a high school anywhere in the U.S. and plan to attend (or are attending) college in CT or NYC Apply for this scholarship if you are . . .② a student who has solved an artistic, scientific, or technical problem in a new or unusual way, ② a student who has come up with a distinctive solution to problems faced by your school, community or family, ② a student who has created a new group, organization, or institution that serves an important need. The Milton Fisher Scholarship for Innovation and Creativity is administered by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

### **NSTA Launches new Safety Blog!**

With a new school year starting soon, science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) students will be participating in hands-on activities and demonstrations, which means that safety must be addressed. For a safer and more memorable learning and teaching experience, check out the new NSTA Safety Blog: <a href="http://nstacommunities.org/blog/category/safety">http://nstacommunities.org/blog/category/safety</a>

## Why use the Blog?

- · To share up-to-date information on legal safety standards and better professional practices for a safer working and learning environment and a safer STEM instructional experience;
- To disseminate current information on safety incidents occurring in K–12 classrooms, labs, and maker spaces;
- · To provide support and initiate dialogue in efforts to answer safety-related questions from bloggers, either teaching or supervising in K–12 classrooms, labs, and maker spaces.

Anyone can subscribe for free! Just go to the blog address above and scroll down to the bottom of the page. Follow instructions for a complimentary subscription!

### **NEW MATERIALS, PROJECTS NASA**

https://www.nasa.gov/audince/foreducators/index.html
National WWII Museum'sReal-World ScienceSummer Teacher Seminar



Please follow us on

TO GET THIS YEAR'S DATES





) Vicit our

website www.ctinventionconvention.org



What Is Science Matters? Science Matters is an initiative by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to bring content, news, and information that supports quality science education to parents and teachers nationwide. Science Matters builds on the success of the Building a Presence for Science program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. Building a Presence for Science—now Science Matters—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia. Why does Science Matter? Science is critical to understanding the world around us. Most Americans feel that they received a good education and that their children will as well. Unfortunately, not many are aware that international tests show that American students are simply not performing well in science when compared to students in other countries. Many students (and their parents!) believe that science is irrelevant to their lives. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy, and this innovation depends on a solid knowledge base in science, math, and engineering. All jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. The most recent ten year employment projections by the U.S. Labor Department show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully compete for a job. This is why Science Matters. Quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—are critical to science literacy and our future workforce. Feel free to publish this information in school newsletters and bulletins, and share it with other parents, teachers, and administrators.