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Date: January 30, 2025

To: STEP Sponsors
From: Gordon Bourns, STEP Chair
Yamileth Shimojyo, STEP Vice Chair

Subj: STEP Sponsorship and Report on 2024 Achievements

The mission of STEP is to “inspire students to pursue careers in STEM.” Over the past 25 years, at no cost to the participants, STEP has served over 150,000 students and 10,000 teachers, with a focus on disadvantaged schools, underrepresented students, and opportunities for women to pursue STEM careers in the Inland Empire. The economic strength of the Inland Empire depends upon building and maintaining a technologically advanced workforce, which begins with the education provided for our students. We are pleased to share with you our 2024 accomplishments, thanks to the dedication of our STEP Team and the support of our sponsors.

From its founding, our best-known event has been the STEP Conference, recently rebranded as STEPCON. Today it consists of three separate one-day programs. The first event, STEPCON – Student, provides students with hands-on opportunities to learn about STEM careers from professionals. Our second event, STEPCON – Educator, provides teaching tools and strategies to make STEM more relevant and interesting. Our third event, STEPCON – Counselor, provides STEM education pathway information for school counselors. Our STEM Summer Learning Labs and STEM Academies provide week-long career-focused programs for 5th-grade to 12th-grade students by engaging them in team projects that utilize STEM.

We are including a 2025 Sponsorship Form and table of Sponsorship Benefits for your consideration. STEP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax deductible. You will promptly receive a thank you letter and an IRS-acceptable receipt for your sponsorship. If you have any questions, please email STEP.STEM@gmail.com or call (714) 925-9062.

Thank you for helping STEP achieve our mission to expand our programs to inspire students to pursue careers in the STEM fields as we focus on economically disadvantaged schools, underrepresented students, and the opportunities for women in STEM careers in the Inland Empire.

With gratitude,

Gordon Bourns, STEP Chairman

Yamileth Shimojyo, STEP Vice Chair

Attachments:
2024 REPORT OF STEP PROGRAMS
2025 STEP Sponsorship Benefits and Sponsorship Form



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP™

2024 REPORT OF STEP PROGRAMS

The mission of STEP is to “inspire students to pursue careers in STEM.” Over the past 25 years, at no cost to the participants, STEP has served over 150,000 students and 10,000 teachers, with a focus on disadvantaged schools, underrepresented students, and the opportunities for women to pursue STEM careers in the Inland Empire. The economic strength of the Inland Empire depends upon building and maintaining a technologically advanced workforce, which begins with the education provided for our students. We are pleased to share some of the successes we achieved in 2024, thanks to the dedication of our STEP Team and the support of our sponsors.

STEP was founded in 2000 by Congressman Ken Calvert to inspire students to pursue STEM careers. This was accomplished through the STEP Conference held at no cost for students from 3rd grade through 12th grade. Now branded as STEPCon, the programs have been expanded to include educators and last year, school counselors:

- The STEPCon24-Student Conference was held at no cost to participants on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at the Bourns Technology Center. This STEM Conference provides 4th – 12th grade students a “Science-On-Stage Show” that focused on States of Matter, and STEM exhibits provided “hands-on exposure” interaction with STEM professionals. This conference was broadcast “live” on October 10th to allow a greater audience of students to engage, and it was “on demand” for 1 month thereafter to continue to provide access to the STEM content. The focus of the STEPCon – Student Conference is to excite K-12 students in the Inland Empire about careers in STEM.
- The STEPCon24-Educator Conference was held at no cost to participants on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at the Bourns Technology Center. The focus of the STEPCon – Educator Conference is to build a STEM culture in the Inland Empire by inspiring educators with motivating keynote speakers, immersive workshops, hands-on activities, engaging discussions, and resources they can readily use with their students to make STEM relevant and interesting.
- The STEPCon24-Counselor Conference was held at no cost to participants on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the Bourns Technology Center. The focus of STEPCon – Counselor Conference is to provide Inland Empire K-12 school counselors with STEM education roadmaps that they can use to guide students in selecting courses to best prepare them for STEM degrees in college consistent with their career interests. A particular focus is on advising students who are interested in STEM careers to take Advanced Math in 7th grade and to continue through math courses to graduate from high school having completed 1st-year Calculus.

Our STEM Summer Learning Labs, initiated in 2015, provide week-long career-focused programs for high school students. In June and July 2024, STEP conducted 8 in-person programs for 350 Inland Empire 5th through 12th grade students:

- STEM in Public Utilities (STEM PULL) was conducted by STEP in partnership with Riverside Public Utilities, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Inland Regional Energy Network, Metropolitan Water District, and California Baptist University. STEM PULL focused 50 high school students on the challenges of keeping our Inland Empire and communities powered and water safe and secure. This is especially important regarding cybersecurity and environmental sustainability, which the students learned about and include in their Design Challenge Project Presentations at the end of the week.



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- STEM in Law Enforcement and Public Safety (STEM LEAPS) was conducted in the City of Riverside by STEP with the support of the Riverside Police Department, Riverside Fire Department, and California Baptist University for 60 high school students. STEP also held STEM LEAPS at the Ben Clark Training Center in partnership with Riverside County Sheriff's Department, CAL FIRE and Moreno Valley College for 50 Inland Empire high school students. In both STEM LEAPS programs, students learned about the application of STEM for making our first responders more effective and safer in performing their critical police, fire and EMT jobs.
- STEM in Advanced Manufacturing (STEM I AM) was conducted by STEP in partnership with Niagara Bottling, Martinez and Turek, and the Rialto Unified School District. The 2024 STEM I AM program provided 30 students with plant tours where they learned first-hand about STEM-related jobs in manufacturing that will grow our economy in the Inland Empire and provide excellent career opportunities. The students also engaged in a business simulation program that allowed them to make quarterly decisions toward improving their virtual companies' financial and operating results.
- STEM SOLUTIONS utilized extensive support from the UC Riverside College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) and the UCR College of Engineering – Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT). STEM Solutions engaged 60 students in sustainability research programs related to local and global needs to for sustainable solutions related to our communities' resources and quality of life. The focus of STEM Solutions changes each year to be in tune with current challenges facing our communities.
- STEM In Defense (STEM ID) was conducted by STEP in collaboration with the Naval Surface Warfare Center, the Corona Unified School District, UC Riverside, and Norco College. The program focused 25 high school students on exciting and high-paying career opportunities in cybersecurity, data science, and defense. The students developed their Design Challenge Projects and Presentations for the purpose of improving the defense of our nation and the application of defense technologies to solve non-defense problems.
- STEM Patterns, Puzzles and Practice (STEM P³) was conducted by STEP in partnership with the Moreno Valley Unified School District, the Riverside Unified School District, the Val Verde Unified School District, and the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center. It focused 30 5th and 6th grade students on foundational STEM skills needed for future rigorous coursework. The intent of this academy was to provide hands-on STEM learning for younger students to be excited about STEM careers as they navigate through 5th and 6th grade. STEM P³ encouraged the students to take more advanced math classes in middle school and high school. In teams, the students developed a math-based board game and presented it to a panel of judges, their peers, and their parents.
- STEM FUNDamentals was conducted by STEP in partnership with Riverside Public Utilities, the Moreno Valley Unified School District, the Riverside Unified School District, and Bourns, Inc. It focused 30 7th and 8th grade students on intermediate-level STEM skills needed for gathering and analyzing data. The intent of these academies is to provide hands-on STEM learning for middle school students to be excited about STEM careers as they chart their roadmaps for courses in middle school and high school. STEM FUNDamentals encouraged the students to take more advanced math classes in middle school and high school. In teams, the students developed and presented their plan to make Riverside Park a more fun place to play while also making it drought-tolerant and more sustainable.



**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP SPONSOR BENEFITS**

STEP

Post Office Box 21100
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Phone 714-925-9062

Benefits	Atom PLUS \$15,000	Atom \$10,000	Electron \$5,000	Proton \$2,500	Neutron \$1,000
Special STEP Recognition.	✓	✓			
Exclusive STEP Sponsor Dinner Invitation	8 tickets	6 tickets	4 tickets	3 tickets	2 tickets
Company name/logo recognition on Impact Report	Company Name & Logo	Company Logo	Company Name	Company Name	
Company name/logo recognition in A/V presentations shown to all attendees.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Company name/logo recognition in STEP literature and official STEP Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to STEP Conference VIP Tour	8 tickets	6 tickets	4 tickets	3 tickets	2 tickets
Link on the STEP website if desired	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
A Big "Thank You" from all our participating students and teachers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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CONTACT US FOR DETAILS.**

**TO BENEFIT FROM STEP SPONSOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES THAT OCCUR
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING AN EARLY STEP SPONSOR.**

Please call (714) 925-9062

Visit <http://www.stepconference.org> or email

STEP P.O. Box 21100, Riverside, CA 92516-1100



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Post Office Box 21100
Riverside, California 92516-1100
Phone 714-925-9062

2025 SPONSORSHIP FORM

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Contact Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

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Atom Sponsor:	\$10,000
Electron Sponsor:	\$5,000
Proton Sponsor:	\$2,500
Neutron Sponsor:	\$1,000

This supports all annual STEP programs including, but not limited to, the STEPCon Student Conference, the STEPCon Educator Conference, STEPCon Counselor Conference, Awards for Science Fair Winners and the STEM Summer Learning Labs programs.

STEM Educational Materials **Donations Value: \$**_____

Materials will be distributed to ~1,500 students who attend the annual STEPCon Student Conference.

Other **Amount and/or Value \$**_____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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STEP
P.O. BOX 21100
RIVERSIDE, CA 92516-1100
(708) 526-8781
STEP@MyScienceEducation.com

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Please see Sponsorship payment options below:

Please make the check payable to:

Science and Technology Education Partnership
P.O. Box 21100
Riverside, CA 92516-1100

Wells Fargo EFT Instructions:

Name of Correspondent Bank:	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
Bank City:	San Francisco
Bank Account State:	California
Bank Zip Code:	94104
Bank Country:	United States
Bank Contact Name:	Kimberly Striegl
Bank Contact Phone Number:	949-251-4999
Bank Contact Email Address:	kimberly.j.striegl@wellsfargo.com
Beneficiary Bank Account Number:	4187433636
ABA/Routing Number:	121000248
Bank Account Type:	Checking
Beneficiary Customer A/C Name:	Science and Technology Education Partnership
ACH Deposit Authorization Agreement:	(Use drop-down to indicate "Yes")
Bank Street Address	420 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104

I certify that I am responsible and authorized to execute this Invoice on behalf of the Science and Technology Education Partnership (STEP), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Federal Tax ID # 33-0928247.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon L. Bourns".

Gordon L. Bourns, STEP Chairman/President