

Welcome to the Congressional STEAM Caucus mailing list! We're excited about the depth and variety of interest in the STEM to STEAM movement, and we're looking forward to working with all of you as this caucus moves forward. We currently have 40 Members of Congress in the Caucus, and dozens of interested stakeholders from the fields of education, arts, science, industry, and entertainment who are all excited about STEAM. Our goal is to be an informational resource for Members of Congress and a forum for interested groups to share STEAM ideas and jumpstart efforts to promote them.

In pursuit of that, we are open to your ideas and suggestions for making STEAM a national initiative. This newsletter will keep you informed about upcoming events hosted by the STEAM Caucus, as well as exciting STEAM initiatives and happenings around the country. Please share it with your colleagues and anyone who has an interest in this effort.

Please enjoy this first edition of the STEAM Caucus Newsletter, and let us know if your organization has any events, initiatives, or research that you would like us to share with our mailing list in the next issue.

To get involved in STEAM, or if you have any questions, please contact Carly Katz in Rep. Bonamici's office at carly.katz@mail.house.gov or Kelli Ripp in Rep. Schock's office at kelli.ripp@mail.house.gov.

Suzanne Bonamici Member of Congress

Aaron Schock
Member of Congress

STEAM Caucus Inaugural Event

The STEAM Caucus held its first-ever event on February 14th in the Capitol Visitors Center. The standing room only event featured presentations from across the STEAM spectrum by representatives from the Rhode Island School of Design, New York Hall of Science, Adobe, U.S. Patent and Trade Office, and the National Endowment for the Arts. View a press release on the Caucus here and watch the event here.



Reps. Bonamici and Schock at the STEAM kick-off event.

STEAM on the Hill

This year, Arts Advocacy Day welcomed Yo-Yo Ma as the Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts & Public Policy presenter. During his lecture, Mr. Ma highlighted the importance of the STEM to STEAM movement, and he specifically mentioned the STEAM Caucus and Reps. Bonamici and Schock's leadership. You can watch the full lecture here.

Former Guns N' Roses drummer Matt Sorum, joined Mr. Ma on Capitol Hill to promote the importance of the arts and music in education. Mr. Ma and Mr. Sorum also hosted a Google+Hangout with Bob Lynch, President and CEO of Americans for the Arts, and artists and educators from across the country to talk about arts advocacy issues and strategies.

Hundreds of arts advocates from all 50 states attended Arts Advocacy Day 2013.

STEAM in the News

Rolling Stone published an <u>article</u> covering Red Hot Chili Peppers drummer Chad Smith's recent visit to Capitol Hill as an advocate for music education in public schools and his meeting with members of the STEAM Caucus.

National Journal profiled STEAM leader and RISD president John Maeda, the STEAM Caucus, and why design is essential to innovation and STEM success.

Scientific American had a guest blog post by Real Clear Science's Steven Ross Pomeroy in which he makes the case for STEAM.

Sesame Street Promotes STEAM

Sesame Street, now in its 43rd season, has devoted this year's curriculum to STEAM, focusing on the incorporation of math and science concepts through Elmo's musical adventures. The segment, titled "Elmo the Musical," invites children to interact with Elmo as he travels through magical worlds, using mathematical concepts like enumeration, relations concepts, addition/subtraction, geometric shapes, along with creativity and innovative thinking to solve problems. Read more about the Sesame Street STEAM curriculum here.

STEAM Journal

<u>The STEAM Journal</u> is a recently-founded academic, peer-reviewed online publication run by graduate students at Claremont Graduate University in California. The Journal publishes articles from STEAM scholars and practitioners from diverse disciplines on the intersection of the Arts with STEM. The STEAM Journal is published quarterly and welcomes submissions from across the STEAM spectrum.

STEAM heads South by Southwest

For the second year in a row, the South by Southwest Conference, held in Austin, Texas, hosted a <u>STEM to STEAM panel</u> in March. RISD President John Maeda again was joined by Jon Perera, Vice-President of Adobe Education; Matt Goldman, Co-founder of the Blue Man Group and Blue School; Ainissa Ramirez, PhD, Science Evangelist and Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Yale University; and Rosemarie Truglio, PhD, Vice President of Education and Research, Sesame Workshop. This dynamic panel stressed the importance of integrating arts and design into traditional STEM learning to develop an innovative and creative generation of outside-the-box thinkers.