

COSAM OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 2021 - JULY 2022



An outreach and public engagement office in the
College of Sciences and Mathematics



DEAR SCIENCES AND MATH ENTHUSIASTS,

This academic year revitalized many of our programs that have been dormant the past few years. We, once again, watched children experience and grow in their love for science and remember the ‘why’ behind what we do. We are forever grateful for in-person experiences.

STEM Outreach at Auburn University brought back many of our favorite programs — from our large, sports-like competitions to the more intimate, family-focused science nights. We hope to continue to grow through new programs over the next few years.

Our team also expanded to reflect the increased interest in outreach in science and mathematics. It’s an exciting time to be involved with STEM education.

Best,



Mary Lou Ewald

Director COSAM Outreach

OUR MISSION

The College of Sciences and Mathematics at Auburn University aims to promote scientific and mathematic literacy and interest among K-12 students, teachers and communities in our region, state and nation.

“The best way to renew thought is to go outside the human imagination.”

— Bernard Werber



AUGUST 2021 - JULY 2022 IMPACT NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

INDIVIDUALS

6,384

AGES
















ALL

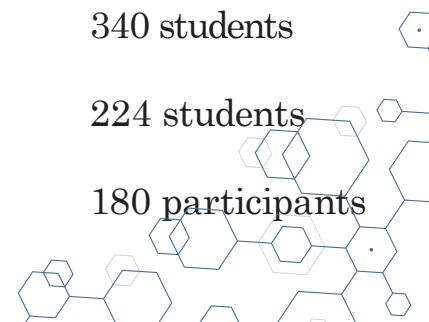
DAYS

60

PROGRAMS

NUMBER IMPACTED

South's BEST, 12/4 - 12/5/2021		2,500 participants
AJAS Paper Reading Competition (virtual)		12 students
EmpowHER, 2/11/2022		69 students
GEARSEF Junior Division, 3/2/2022		84 students
GEARSEF Senior Division, 3/2/2022		50 students
MaPP, 3/12/2022		98 students
State Science Olympiad, 3/26/2022		1,545 students
ASEF Junior (virtual), 4/4 - 4/8/2022		119 students
ASEF Senior (virtual), 4/4 - 4/8/2022		90 students
Elementary Science Olympiad, 4/30/2022		935 students
Summer Science Institute, 6/5 - 6/11/2022		13 students
AP Institute, 7/11-7/14/2022		125 teachers
Science Matters Camps (five weeks)		340 students
GUTS (four)		224 students
Science Cafe/Pub (five)		180 participants



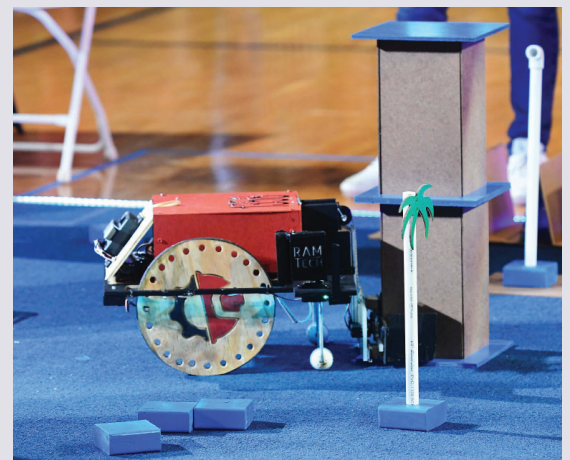
PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

SOUTH'S BEST ROBOTICS COMPETITION

BEST inspires students to pursue careers in STEM through participation in a competitive robotics program that fosters knowledge, teamwork and communication. It provides students an authentic problem-solving experience based on real-world science and engineering challenges. The 2021 theme, “Demo Daze,” challenged students to employ robots to plan and execute a building demolition, perform construction security and safety measures, clear the site of trash and recapture reusable and recyclable construction and demolition materials. The South’s BEST Regional Championship at Auburn University is the final competition for top southeastern teams. It is a energetic environment that impacts nearly 3,000 people each year through students, teachers, families and volunteers.

“Being involved in robotics has defined my future. I have simply fallen in love with it, which has led me to fall in love with engineering.”

— Josh Medler, Age 18



SCIENCE MATTER'S CAMP

Science Matters offered five sessions covering topics like genomes, weather, dinosaurs, rocks, forensics, space and more. It impacted 340 total students in rising 1st - 6th grades, providing a supercharged science experience utilizing age-appropriate experiments, technology, art projects and hands-on activities.

This year, experts partnered with COSAM's Office of Outreach to provide informative presentations and demos on wide-ranging scientific topics. Partners included the Auburn City Schools, College of Education, College of Engineering, School of Forestry and Wildlife Science, College of Architecture and even athletics. This collaborative effort enriched the camp experience for all.

The collaborative efforts with community and campus partnerships enhanced the camper's experiences and the provided a wide-reaching opportunity to promote science, technology, engineering and math educa-



GREATER EAST ALABAMA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR (GEARSEF)

GEARSEF hosts 6th through 12th grade science projects from southeast Alabama counties. It advances students from the Junior and Senior divisions to the state competition and the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF). Intel ISEF is the world's largest international precollege science competition. Annual teacher training sessions are also hosted.



SUMMER SCIENCE INSTITUTE (SSI)

SSI is a summer science program for rising 11th and 12th grade students with a high aptitude and interest in the fields of science and mathematics. The program — supported by the College of Sciences and Mathematics at Auburn University — partners students with experienced research faculty to explore advanced topics. Students are selected through an extensive application process.

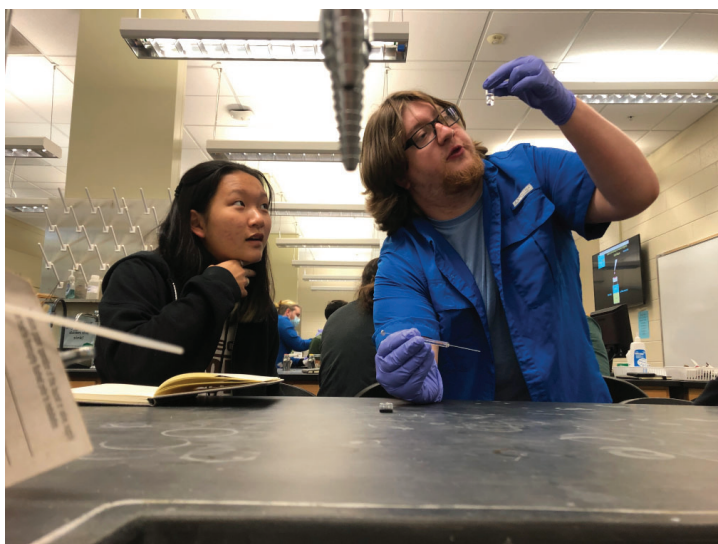
“SSI was such a unique experience that I will truly remember forever.”

— Anne Stewart Rogers, Age 17

THANK YOU

Thank you to our countless employees, mentors, donors, and volunteers during the 2021-22 academic year. We would not have accomplished the resurgence of programs without your support.

Your commitment to meaningful exposure to the sciences and mathematics enabled our youth to learn and explore their environment and increase their scientific literacy.



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
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