

FEBRUARY  
2026



National Girls  
Collaborative  
Project



Missouri Girls Collaborative Project Launch – Missouri is now home to a new initiative connecting girls across the state with mentors in STEM careers. The program will feature workshops, coding challenges, and innovation showcases, aiming to close gender gaps in tech and engineering fields.

### Quick Insights:

#### Our Mission

To **CONNECT**, **CREATE**, and **COLLABORATE** to transform the STEM experience for all youth and advance gender equity in the field.

#### Overview

The National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) is a network of organizations committed to informing and encouraging girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Founded in 2002 and partially funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the NGCP uses a "NETWORK of NETWORKS" model to bring together thousands of organizations across the United States. The goal is to reduce duplication of effort, share resources and best practices, and maximize the impact of programs dedicated to girls in STEM. The NGCP facilitates collaboration among more than 42,500 organizations, which collectively reach over 20 million girls and 10 million boys.

#### NGCP'S THREE PRIORITY GOALS

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b></p> <p>Build and sustain a network of advocates to provide equitable and inclusive STEM opportunities.</p> | <p><b>2</b></p> <p>Catalyze equity in STEM from research to practice by providing actionable knowledge that transforms the STEM experience.</p> | <p><b>3</b></p> <p>Increase our collective impact by strengthening organizational effectiveness and enhancing our fiscal sustainability.</p> |
|--|---|--|

#### How to Get Involved?

Whether you're a student, parent, Professional educator, or STEM professional, there are plenty of ways to join the movement. Sign up for local workshops, mentor young innovators, nominate a STEM STL HERO, or share your story with our community. Together, we can expand opportunities, inspire future leaders, and build a stronger STEM network across Missouri.



STEM Connect



#### MO STEM

### Honoring Historic Black Women



**Hadiyah-Nicole Green**  
Medical Physicist



**Hazel Browne Williams**  
STEM Education Pioneer



**Cynthia Chapple**  
Black Girls Do STEM Founder



**Gloria Washington**  
Computer Scientist, Founder



**Josephine Silone Yates**  
Chemist & Educator at Lincoln University



**Madam C.J. Walker**  
Entrepreneur & Haircare Seff Millionaire

#### MO Girls STEM

#### Snapshot of the Month

Tech founder turned ecosystem architect, Emily Hemingway transforms communities through entrepreneurship and innovation. Emily has become a powerhouse in economic development, an award-winning event producer, startup accelerator director, and much more!

Nominate a STEM HEROes  
at [Medusasrobotics@gmail.com](mailto:Medusasrobotics@gmail.com)

**STEM STL HEROES**

Emily Hemingway  
Executive Director of TechSTL  
National Ecosystem Builder

**Awards and Recognition**

- Founding Executive Director of TechSTL
- Hosted an award winning conference drawing in over 10,000 attendees
- Co-Founder & National Director at TACTIX
- Chief Communications Officer at WNC Press Pass



# 5 Directions, 1 Mission



**PlantTech Jam**  
**March 7, 12-4pm**  
**Donald Danforth Plant Science Center**

The PlantTech Jam is free hands-on science, tinkering, and robotics fun for the whole family. This interactive event features science innovation and technology related activities for all ages. Learn more about the Danforth Center through a behind-the-scenes tour of our scientific facilities and prairie. [Registration](#)

## Missouri Science and Engineering Fairs

Missouri is buzzing with STEM activity in March 2026, particularly for students involved in competitive science and robotics.

Here are the key events and competitions happening across the state:



**Gear Up for Greatness:**  
**VEX Worlds Lands in St. Louis!**

Get ready to witness innovation in motion! This April, the 2026 VEX Robotics World Championship is taking over the America's Center Convention Complex in downtown St. Louis from April 21-30. As the world's largest robotics competition, this high-octane event will bring together thousands of the brightest young minds from over 60 countries to face off in a true "Sport of the Mind."

Whether you're cheering on our local Missouri teams who fought hard at the State Championships or exploring the massive sponsor exhibits and opening ceremonies, the energy is guaranteed to be electric. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to see the next generation of STEM leaders prove that the future is being built right here in our backyard! [More Information](#)

| MARCH  |                                 |  |           |   |                                      |   |
|--|---------------------------------|--|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sunday   | Monday                          | Tuesday  | Wednesday | Thursday  | Friday                               | Saturday                                    |
| 1  | 2                               | 3  | 4         | 5   | 6                                    | 7   |
| MO Academy of Science - State Registration Opens         | American Cup Chess Begins (STL) | SEMO Regional Science Fair (Cape Girardeau)              |           |   | Eastern MO Science Bowl              | VEX IQ State Elem Champ (Wentzville)        |
| Art in the City @ Science City                           |                                 |  |           |   |                                      | FTC MOIKS State Champ (Rolla)               |
|  |                                 | Northeast Regional Science Fair (Central Methodist Univ) |           | Tri-County Fair (St. Charles)                               |                                      |   |
| 8  | 9                               | 10   | 11        | 12  | 13                                   | 14  |
| VEX IQ Middle School State (Wentzville)                  |                                 | Ozarks Science Fair (Springfield)                        |           |   | American Cup Chess Ends              | STL Regional Science Academy (Marquette HS) |
| 15   | 16                              | 17   | 18        | 19  | 20                                   | 21  |
| Mastodon Region Art and Science Fair (Jefferson College) |                                 |  |           |   |                                      |   |
| FIRST Robotics Heartland Regional - Shawnee, KS          |                                 |  |           |   |                                      |   |
| 22   | 23                              | 24   | 25        | 26  | 27                                   | 28  |
|  |                                 | Southern MO Regional Science Fair (Joplin)               |           | IMAX STEM Films (STL Science Center)                        | IMAX STEM Films (STL Science Center) |   |
| St. Louis FIRST Regional (SLU)                           |                                 |  |           |   |                                      |   |
| 29   | 30                              | 31   | 1         | 2   | 3                                    | 4   |
| MO Academy of Science - State Registration Closes        |                                 |  |           | FIRST Robotics City of Fountains Regional - Kansas City, MO |                                      |   |

## March is Women's History Month

Did you know that there is NO National Holiday that recognizes a Women's Achievements in the US!

Check out the Petition that is trying to change the narrative!!!

[Woman National Public Holiday on Change.Org](https://www.change.org/p/woman-national-public-holiday-on-change)



# 5 Directions, 1 Mission

## PI Day Across the STATE Missouri Pi Day Highlights (March 13-14)

### St. Louis - 314 Day Citywide Celebrations

- March 8-14, 2026
- The region celebrates the 20th anniversary of 314 Day with a week of events, deals, and community activities across neighborhoods.
- Includes pop-up events, performances, food specials, and community gatherings.

#### Featured event:

- 3.14 Day Showcase
- March 13, 2026
- The Sovereign, St. Louis
- Evening entertainment and celebration tied to 314 Day.

### Missouri University of Science and Technology - Campus Pi Day Celebration

- Annual Pi Day activities hosted by the math department.
- Typical events include:
  - Graduate research poster competition
  - History of Pi presentations
  - Writing long chains of Pi digits
  - Pie-eating activities and social events
- Great model of a university-level STEM celebration.

### Rolla and College Town Celebrations

- Many Missouri colleges and math departments host:
  - Pi recitation contests
  - Pie socials
  - Math-themed challenges
- Example: statewide math organizations even mark registration deadlines or special notices on Pi Day as part of the culture of the date.

### Kansas City - School & Library Pi Day Activities

- Public libraries and school districts typically host:
  - Family math nights
  - Pi-themed crafts
  - Pie tastings and contests
- Many events are announced locally during the first week of March.



### 🏀 March Madness... But Make It STEM! 🧠📊

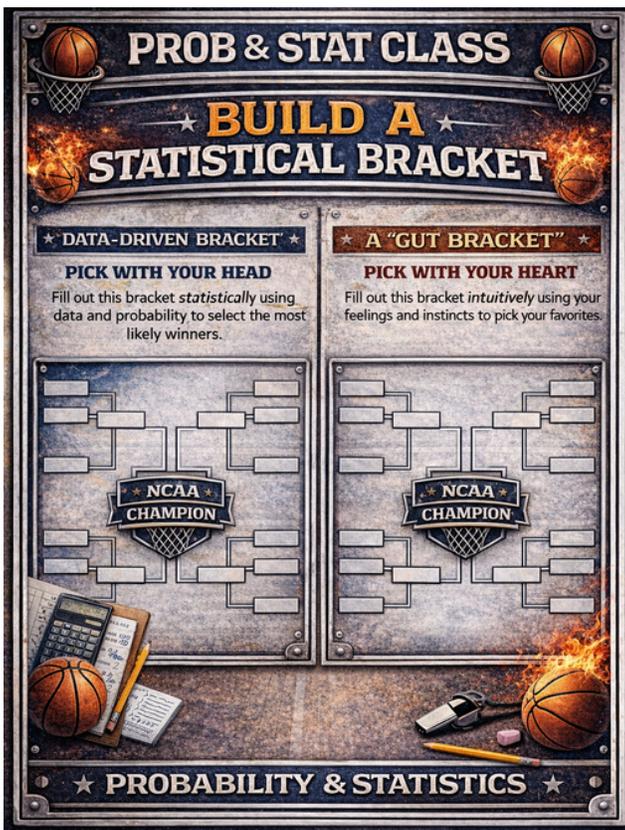
It's that time of year again — brackets, buzzer beaters, and big dreams! While the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament has everyone talking basketball, we're turning the excitement into a STEM celebration.

Behind every bracket prediction is probability, statistics, data modeling, and strategic analysis. Who advances? What are the odds? How do historical trends influence outcomes? That's real-world math in action! From predictive analytics to performance metrics, March Madness is a live case study in applied STEM.

This month, we're encouraging educators and mentors to use bracket challenges as a way to:

- Explore probability and statistics
- Analyze data trends and upsets
- Discuss predictive modeling
- Highlight careers in sports analytics and data science

Let's show girls that STEM isn't just in the lab — it's on the court, in the data, and behind every big play. Game on, STEM style.





# 5 Directions, 1 Mission

## 2026 Summer STEM Camp Guide: Missouri

As February ends with Engineers Week, it's the perfect time to look ahead to summer. STEM camps provide an intensive, hands-on environment where students can experience real-world engineering projects. They allow them to step outside their comfort zone.

### Community Highlight: KC STEM Alliance Camp Directory

The Kansas City STEM Alliance is a great place to check out all of the camps in the metro area.

- **Focus:** Variety of STEM Camps such as AI, Robotics, and even Agriculture!
- **Information:** [KC STEM Alliance Summer Camps](#)

| Organization                                 | Location    | Dates                               | Name of Camp                                   | Website   |
|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| University of Missouri Science & Technology  | Rolla       | various                             | Various  | <a href="https://summer.mst.edu">https://summer.mst.edu</a>                                 |
| University of Missouri Kansas City           | Kansas City | June-August                         | Various, coming soon                           | <a href="#">Camp Descriptions - Camps - Home Suite   University of Missouri-Kansas City</a> |
| St Louis University                          | St Louis    | June 1 - August 7                   | Various including Mad Science and Aviation     | <a href="#">Summer at SLU</a>   |
| Metropolitan Community College               | Kansas City | June - August                       | Various, coming soon                           | <a href="#">College for Kids - Summer Youth Camp</a>  |
| William Jewell & Liberty Hospital            | Liberty     | June 25 & 26                        | Summer Nursing Camp                            | <a href="#">High School Nursing Camp   William Jewell College</a>                           |
| Rockhurst University                         | Kansas City | June 25 & 26                        | Robotics IQ, eSports, Computer Science         | <a href="#">Summer @ The Rock</a>   |
| Southern Illinois University Edwardsville    | St Louis    | June 1-5, June 8-12, July 20-31     | Engineering, Odyssey Science Camp              | <a href="#">Summer Camps at SIUE</a>  |
| Webster University                           | St Louis    | July - August (varies)              | Psychology, Health Data, Virology              | <a href="#">Summer Camp Offerings at Webster University</a>                                 |
| Challenger Learning Center, St. Louis        | St Louis    | June - July (varies)                | Space science, drones, inventor                | <a href="#">Summer Camps at Challenger Learning Center St. Louis</a>                        |
| The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum | St Louis    | Varies - some sessions are sold out | Maker  | <a href="#">Fun Summer Camps for Kids Ages 5-11   Magic House</a>                           |
| St. Louis Aquarium Foundation                | St Louis    | June - August (varies)              | Biology, zoology, environmental                | <a href="#">Camp Programs - Saint Louis Aquarium Foundation</a>                             |
| St. Charles Community College                | St Louis    | June- August                        | Chemistry, robotics, coding, science, rocketry | <a href="#">Summer Camps</a>  |
| University of Missouri - St. Louis           | St Louis    | June                                | Engineering, Geospatial                        | <a href="#">Summer Youth Programs and Camps   UMSL</a>                                      |
| aSTEAM Village                               | Kansas City | June 9 - July 3                     | STEAM Investigations                           | <a href="#">2026 STEAM Challenges Summer Camp</a>   |
| American Royal Ag STEM Camp                  | Kansas City | June 11 (1 day)                     | Animal and Ag technology                       | <a href="#">American Royal STEM Summer Camp</a>   |
| Barstow Summer Camps                         | Kansas City | June- August                        | 50 STEAM themed camps, incl. AI                | <a href="#">Summer at Barstow</a>   |
| Inspirit AI @IdeaSpace                       | Kansas City | June 15-26                          | half-day AI program                            | <a href="#">Dan &amp; Cassidy Towriss IDEA Space KC</a>                                     |



# 5 Directions, 1 Mission

MONorth, MOSouth, MOeast, MOWest, MOcentral



[SWENext Clubs:](#)  
[Lead Change In Your Local STEM Community](#)

Despite making up nearly half of the U.S. workforce, women hold only about 15% of engineering jobs nationwide.

Representation is even lower in fields like mechanical, aerospace, and electrical engineering. Programs like NGCP and initiatives at schools like ours are working to change that by encouraging girls to explore STEM early, providing mentorship, and showcasing female role models in engineering. Every spark of curiosity today could be the innovation of tomorrow!

Consider partnering with the Society of Women Engineers to start a SWE NEXT club.

## Did You Know?



**Sewing for Boeing**  
Before **Rosie the Riveter**, women made their mark on aviation manufacturing by hand-stitching fabric coverings on aircraft.



### Resource Spotlight:

TeachEngineering is a free, online collection of K-12 engineering lessons, activities, and design challenges created by educators and universities. The site offers standards-aligned, classroom-ready resources that make it easy to bring hands-on, real-world STEM learning into any classroom, club, or home. Search by grade level, topic, or engineering field to find engaging activities that inspire the next generation of innovators.



### K-3rd Grade

**Rosie Revere, Engineer** - picture book

### 4th-6th Grade

**Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition**

### Middle School

**Path to the Stars** - memoir of a Latina rocket scientist  
**Teens (High School)**

**Radium Girls** - history of women factory workers and science ethics

### Adults

**Broad Band** - women who shaped the internet

