

Upcoming Events at Port Discovery in Baltimore

- April 7th—Health First Saturday: 10am-5pm
Enjoy a day that's devoted to healthy living for children and their families. Learn how you can help your family make healthy decisions on nutrition and fitness!
- April 14th—Pet Faces in the Oasis: 11am-1pm
Enjoy this story time featuring some of your favorite furry friends courtesy of Pets on Wheels.
- May 5th—Cook and Tell with Whole Foods Market: 1pm; 2pm
Enjoy an interactive story time on the book, "100 Hungry Ants", and learn how to make delicious snacks "Ants on a log!"
- May 26th—FunDrum Rhythm Circles: 1pm; 1:30pm
Join professional facilitator, Jonathon Murray of FunDrum Rhythm Circles, for a fun and interactive family drumming circle. No experience is necessary and all instruments are provided.

Esteem Staff

ESTEEM Leadership: Dr. Anita Komlodi, Claudia Morrell, Michelle Wolff, Pamela Ezzat
Student Leads: Kamalika Das, Dana Douglas, Swetha Mettupalli, Denise Van
CWIT Fellows: Ramya Ambikapathi, Shelai Clark, Erin Doxater, Oluwafunmike Ojewoye, Ayo Olumide, Geetha Susai, Dara Witt, Tiffany Williams
Classroom Consultants: Ruth Akers, Michelle Antinozzi, Craig Drenning, Donna Fava, Colleen Freda, Stephanie Jones, Tessa LeFevre, Kathy Piet, Brooke Smith, Melissa Wallace, Toni Wallace
Parent Liaisons: Angela Dunn, Byron Nichols, Towanda Santiago, LaSonia Wilson
Contact CWIT at cwit@umbc.edu.

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«Teachers»
«F2»
«F3»
«F4», «F5» «F6»

Projects and curricula for the ESTEEM program were written by ESTEEM staffers or adapted from the Techbridge program of the Chabot Space & Science Center.

The ESTEEM program is funded by the National Science Foundation in partnership with the Shriver Center and CWIT, both located at UMBC.

Corporate friends of the ESTEEM program are Northrop Grumman, Sogeti USA LLC, and System Source.



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Enhancing Science and Technology Education and Exploration Mentoring

VOLUME 4

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UPCOMING ESTEEM EVENTS:

- **Field Trip to Northrop Grumman—April 10th (OMMN)**
- **Field Trip to System Source—March 27th (Corkran and BPMS), March 30th (DCMS and Catonsville)**
- **Taste of ESTEEM—April 21st**
- **Computer Mania Day—May 5th**

Mark Your Calendars!!

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A Letter to the ESTEEM Community

As the spring 2007 semester of the ESTEEM Program continues and we look forward to this summer's Camp ESTEEM, The Center for Woman and Information Technology (CWIT) would like to thank all of the students, teachers and parents for participating and helping us with another successful semester and an all around successful program. This semester, nearly 100 students participated in the two-hour, weekly after school program at six local school sites.

This semester we have explored the areas of chemistry, physics, computer programming, and engineering as well as many other technologies. By participating in these

activities, students were able to explore the many wonders of technology—all while having a great time! In the coming weeks we will also be supplementing these in-class learning experiments with fieldtrips to Northrop Grumman and System Source.

The ESTEEM grant funding will end at the conclusion of Camp ESTEEM, so this will be the final semester of the after school portion of the ESTEEM program. The Center is currently seeking additional funding in order to continue the program. The ESTEEM staff is grateful for all of the support and dedication it has received from students, teachers, parents and other affiliates. We appreciate your partnership in this project

and encourage any type of feedback you can give to the ESTEEM staff.

To celebrate this successful program we will be hosting a "Taste of ESTEEM." We welcome all family and friends to attend this event and help us celebrate what our program has accomplished in its two and a half year span.

Pamela Ezzat
Director K-12 Programs



Corkran students working on the simple machines activity.

Taste of ESTEEM A Celebration of Our Program

This year we will be hosting a celebratory event in honor of the ESTEEM Program entitled Taste of ESTEEM. It will be held at the UMBC Campus on April 21st starting at 9:00a.m. The day will begin with a welcome from ESTEEM staff members and will continue with a science fair-style atmosphere presented by the students in the program. There will also be

opportunities for the parents to test their science and technology knowledge to see who knows more; students or parents. Refreshments will be served at the event. Also, a special video has been produced and will debut at this celebration event. It will feature the students of ESTEEM and present everything the program has to offer. All family and friends are welcome and

encouraged to attend. Additional information will be forthcoming.. See you there!!



Catonsville students working on the lava lap activity.

In Their Own Words

- Quotes from ESTEEM Participants

How does ESTEEM make you want to learn more about technology?

"It makes learning about it more fun" - Jay Colie (OMMN)

"By learning what was made and how we can do it ourselves." - Jamia Santiago (DCMS)

"It keeps you interested and the interactivity of the project is great." - Robert Haynes (Corkran)

"ESTEEM makes learning about technology more fun in a educational way" - Maykelin Rivera (BPMS)

What do you like most about ESTEEM?

"I like the idea of everyone working together as a team" - Maria El Hani (Catonsville)



Old Mill students working on the bridge design activity.

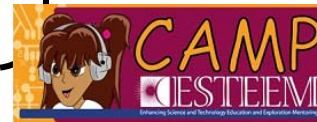
A Welcome to Pamela Ezzat

The Center and the ESTEEM Program are happy to welcome the new director of K-12 programs and Director of the ESTEEM Program; Pamela Ezzat. Pamela has been a faculty member of several universities and has a great deal of experience in educational programming. She has worked at the R.H. Smith Business School at the University of Maryland, College Park as well as the University of Maryland School of Nursing and School of Medicine where she worked in

the OIT department. Over the past several months, Pamela has been working hard to obtain additional funding for the ESTEEM Program. She is a strong advocate for women's interests and is a strong believer in the program. Pamela has been instrumental in the continued success of the program with the addition of many fresh, new ideas. We would like to thank Pamela for everything she has done for the program and for her continued support.



Brooklyn Park students working on the flash lights activity.



Camp ESTEEM The Fun Continues Into the Summer

Camp ESTEEM is a technology camp for middle school students that serves as a continuation of the ESTEEM program that is run throughout the school year. It is a youth-based summer program that incorporates a highly effective curriculum focusing on technology applications using engineering, science and information technology. Camp ESTEEM focuses on girls as an important step in increasing diversity in technology

classrooms and the workforce. The camp runs for two weeks from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Daily activities are taught to students and lunch is provided for the campers. An array of topics including computer hardware, robotics, technology careers, computer software and personal development are discussed and emphasized. There will also be fieldtrip opportunities for the campers to places such as Booz Allen Hamilton, Johns Hopkins University as well as the

National Air and Space Museum. All current ESTEEM participants can attend for FREE. Bus transportation is provided to and from each school. To arrange a carpool to and from the schools with other participants, contact your child's ESTEEM teacher to obtain your school's Parent Liaison's contact information. For more information about the camp, please contact an ESTEEM staff member or classroom consultant.

Old Mill Middle North Working to Continue Program

As the Center works to extend the ESTEEM grant to continue to implement the program, one school is taking the initiative to raise funds on its own. Led by classroom consultant, Kathy Piet, Old Mill Middle North students and parents have come together to support the continuation of ESTEEM at

the school by selling food items and even hosting a McDonald's School Night. Since students can only participate in ESTEEM for one year, these current parents and students are generously ensuring the continuation of the program for the benefit of students coming behind them. We would like to thank

Kathy Piet and these OMMN students and parents for their continued support of the program. If you are interested in helping to fundraise at your child's school, please contact the Center. On behalf of the next cohort of ESTEEM participants, we all say "Thank You!" to OMMN!

Computer Mania Day Approaches



The final fieldtrip of the Spring semester of ESTEEM will be to Computer Mani Day at UMBC on Saturday, May 5, 2007. Computer Mania Day provides student's in 6th-8th grade with a day of technology-related activities. Due to the continued under representation of girls in information technology classes and careers, this day is geared toward girls and their parents, however boys are

The picture to the left is Jennifer Webb; our digitally animated guest speaker. Meet her at Computer Mania Day on May 5th!!

each workshop, the students will learn about the application of technology to the world of work through fun and interactive activities. An adult program will complement the day by providing a

welcome to attend. Up to 800 students will be gathered in small groups of no more than 25 and will rotate between various hands-on technology workshops. At

variety of breakout sessions that will allow parents and teachers to learn more on special topics such as cyber safety, hot technologies, and opportunities for girls in IT. Adults will receive advice from business professionals and education leaders that will better prepare them as their children prepare for college and begin thinking about their future careers. This day is provided to students free of charge but registration is required. To register and for more information, please visit www.computer-mania.info.



Deep Creek students working in the computer lab.

"Over the past three years the ESTEEM program has grown immensely both in numbers and experience."

A Teacher to Highlight Stephanie Jones of Corkran MS

Stephanie Jones is a classroom consultant at Corkran Middle School. She is the only classroom consultant who has been with ESTEEM since its beginning in the Spring of 2005 when the program was only implemented in Corkran and Brooklyn Park Middle Schools. Ms. Jones has seen the ESTEEM program grow from these two school sites to the

current six school sites. "Over the past three years, the ESTEEM Program has grown immensely both in numbers and experience. " Throughout this time, Stephanie has actively participated in the activities each week and has been consistently available for the ESTEEM participants as well as the staff. She demonstrates that she is a firm believer in the

ESTEEM Program and its mission. Her dedication and support is greatly appreciated and we wish her the best of luck in everything that she does in the future.



Ms. Jones actively participating in the simple machines activity

Getting Your Child Interested in Science and Technology

We at ESTEEM enjoy having your child in our ESTEEM Program but we encourage you to take an active role in continuing our mission, especially after your child's participation in the program comes to end. Here are some steps you can take to encourage your child to become and to remain interested in science and technology.

- >Buy computers for girls, not just for boys
- >Do not discourage use of the family

- computer by putting it in a son's room
- >Work with girls to help them develop computer proficiency
- >Help girls learn how to do things for themselves—don't do things for them
- >Help girls set educational and career goals
- >Encourage girls to take SMET courses
- >Encourage girls to participate in after-school science, math, or computer classes/clubs

- >Praise girls for their SMET achievements
 - >Take girls to museums and science centers
 - >Maintain a positive attitude toward math
 - >Be a positive role model for girls to observe
- Thank you for supporting our program and for encouraging your child to be interested in science and technology.