

March 2015

## Get Involved!

- Sign up your child to compete in the [Engineering Encounters Bridge Contest](#)
- The American Society of Civil Engineers is hosting their [9th Annual Central Florida Field Trip](#) (email [MMcBride@drmp.com](mailto:MMcBride@drmp.com) for more information)
- Have your child (ages 6-12) join the [OCLS Whiz Kids](#), the tech club that creates comics, animates images, mixes music, makes movies and much more!
- Sponsor our upcoming [CF STEM General Council](#) in May!

## Message from the Chair

You may have noticed that everywhere you turn these days you are reading about STEM....new products, new programs, new ideas for teaching about it. The focus on the importance of STEM is



also evidenced by the 1st ever STEM Pavilion at the recent Central Florida Fair. The Council had a presence there and we had the opportunity to talk to numerous parents, students and teachers.

The Council exists to gather and share information as well as provide you opportunities to network and connect. Everyday we are receiving emails about new STEM activities in the community and the need for community members to step up and volunteer. We post that information on our website and include some of it in this newsletter. If you have information you would like us to share, please let us know. I hope to see you at our next Council meeting in May.

- Carol Ann Dykes

*Building a Brighter Future Today!*

## CF STEM's General Meeting Recap



Ben Noel (UCF FIEA) presents to an engaging audience

Nearly 100 attendees joined us at the February meeting to learn about programs in the community that teach skills for the \$70 billion game industry or that use games in their STEM education products. [SourceCode B46](#) is in dozen of Orange County elementary schools. [Oak Ridge High School](#) will open their Game Development magnet program this fall. The UCF [Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy](#) offers a masters degree. When they graduate, many go on to

work for [Electronic Arts Tiburon](#), located in Maitland. [Trobo](#) is a new story-telling robot that teaches about STEM topics. [CelleC Games](#) has released fun educational STEM games and a platform to support measuring academic progress.

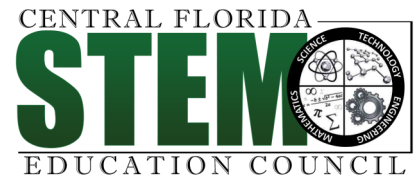


Chris Harden introduces the audience to TROBO

### ***Special Thanks to all the Presenters:***

**Ben Noel , UCF Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy (FIEA); Daryl Holt, EA Tiburon; Kyle Steele, SourceCode B46; Taylor Plumblee, Oak Ridge High School; Chris Harden, TROBO; and Gerard Merritt, CelleC Games**

# STEM Connections



March 2015 (cont.)

UCF is dedicated to providing [STEM related summer opportunities](#) for area middle and high school students. The Summer Institute (SI) currently offers tracks in Biology, Computer Science and Programming Competitions. More than just a summer camp, each track offers a mix of activities designed to maximize learning through hands-on, individualized instruction with outstanding instructors.



**Programming Competition**

June 15 - 26, 2015



**Biology**

July 20 - 24, 2015



**Computer Science**

July 6 - 24, 2015

## Gaming Development Resources

### Featuring Local Organizations:

- [Code School](#) is an online learning destination for existing and aspiring developers that teaches through entertaining content
- [Indienomicon](#) is a community banded together and on a mission to bring awareness to the excitement and incredible talent of the indie developers of Central Florida
- The [Iron Yard](#) exists to create exceptional value for people and their ideas through code education, startup accelerators and coworking spaces
- [SourceCode B46](#) is a course for K-5 students that helps them transform a written story into an animated movie by software coding
- [Code.org](#) provides educational resources with online courses for all ages, free of cost
- If you love gaming, come to the [Orange County Library](#) to hear how others have made a career out of gaming or attend a gaming night and play a Wii with your fellow gamers

## New Members!

**Nexutech** supports educational opportunities including the SEAPERCH program and other unmanned and robotic systems student outreach programs



## Join the Council!

Membership Application can be found at [www.centralfloridaSTEM.org](http://www.centralfloridaSTEM.org)



## Mark Your Calendars!

**Florida Engineering Education Conference (FEEC)**

**04.24.2015**

**CF STEM's General Meeting**

**5.20.2015**

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