



NSTA STEM Forum and Expo



Dr. Kenneth Wesson

The Atlantic City Convention Center will be the location for the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Stem Forum and Expo on Thursday to Saturday, May 17–19, with an exhibits preview on Wednesday evening, May 16. This first-time event promises to be engaging, innovative, fun, enlightening, and useful in the development of STEM education in New Jersey and across the country.

The strand sessions are organized by grade levels: preK–2, grades 3–5, grades 6–9, community/after school/outreach programs, and administrators. Dozens of workshops are scheduled. Visit www.nsta.org for details.

Keynote speakers include:

- Dr. Kenneth Wesson, a world-renowned educational consultant in neuroscience, who will share how STEM should be delivered in learning contexts in which disciplinary interdependence is highlighted for young learners.
- Mary Ellen Weber, two-time Space Shuttle astronaut, engineer, scientist, and pilot, who will speak on encouraging students “To Boldly Go: The Unbounded Opportunities in Science and Math.”

A Family STEM Night will be held on Friday evening. Participants will observe how much fun families can have discovering the excitement of STEM teaching and learning.

NOTE: N.J. Acting Commissioner of Education Chris Cerf has issued a waiver of the prohibition for reimbursement for overnight lodging for this event. Details can be found on the NSTA website.

Date: May 17-19 with an exhibits preview on Wednesday evening, May 16.

Location: Atlantic City Convention Center

Time: Exhibits preview Wednesday, 4–7 p.m.; presentations and exhibits 8 a.m.–6 p.m. daily Friday and Saturday

Cost: \$200

Contact: NSTA Registry Department

Phone: 703-243-7100, Fax: 703-243-3924

Email: reg@nsta.org

Website: www.nsta.org

Online registration: yes. **Downloadable form:** yes

Registration deadline: May 16

Rutgers Writing Program Institute Summer College for Teachers

The Summer College invites teachers to visit the Rutgers campus to work with Writing Program Institute (WPI) directors and teachers from school districts across the state for two program opportunities this summer, June 4–5 and Aug. 6–7. The program will cover the following:

- Teaching the reading of non-fiction prose.
- Designing problem-posing assignments that ask students to place texts in conversation with their own ideas.
- Developing a collaborative writing community in the classroom.
- Teaching revision as the flexibility to rewrite, reimagine and reformulate ideas.
- Addressing grammar as controlling error in the context of writing.
- Writing revision-oriented comments.
- Organizing grading as a shared commitment to high expectations.
- Using technology in the teaching of writing.

The Rutgers Writing Program provides instruction to over 11,000 undergraduates each year and is committed to improving standards throughout the state. WPI develops curricula and trains over 250 college writing instructors each year.

Date: June 4–5 or Aug. 6–7

Location: Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Time: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. daily

Cost: \$500; \$400 per participant for groups of three or more. Fee includes tuition, breakfast and lunch.

Contact: Alessandra Sperling

Phone: 732-932-5787

Email: wpi@rci.rutgers.edu

Website: <http://wpi.rutgers.edu>

Online registration: yes. **Downloadable form:** yes

Registration deadline: June 1

Arts for Learning Lessons: An Arts-Based Approach to Literacy

Dance, music, theater, and visual arts help students learn by making abstract literacy concepts concrete through the use of images, sounds, movement, language, body, and voice. Arts for Learning Lessons is a nationally designed and scientifically tested series of “Lesson Units” for grades four to 12—classroom-ready materials and references that target crucial points in the language arts curriculum. Skills reinforced through the curriculum include: understanding character, perspective, making inferences, summarizing, and determining importance.

This workshop on Arts for Learning Lessons will be held on Thursday, June 14, and is sponsored by Young Audiences New Jersey Arts for Learning. It will be held at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. Work from the museum’s exhibition “American Perspectives: The Fine Art Collection” will be used while exploring the lesson plans.

Date: June 14

Location: New Jersey State Museum, Trenton

Time: 5 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5

Contact: Janet Field

Phone: 609-292-1382

Email: janet.field@sos.state.nj.us

Website: www.newjerseystatemuseum.org

Online registration: no; **Downloadable form:** no

Registration deadline: Open registration



Mary Ellen Weber