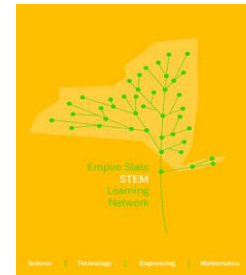


2019 Summer Institute Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Awards



To honor the memory of Margaret Ashida, the New York State STEM Education Collaborative will honor a STEM Leader in K-12/Higher Ed/STEM Workforce each year with a “Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Award.” Margaret was an outstanding woman who created waves of change by her tireless efforts to create connections between business/ industry and STEM educational leaders in colleges and the K-12 sector, not only here in New York State, but across America! She was a “thought leader” often creating ideas and connections between and among educators and business/industry to further the implementation of pathways for developing America’s STEM workforce. Through her advocacy, the NYS State STEM Hubs were created, pulling together New York communities in unique ways to foster the development of STEM career pathways. The Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Award seeks to honor persons who are making significant STEM connections within their community through their time, actions, talents and dedication. The honorees selected serve as a role model for STEM Leadership as they are striving to enhance the STEM workforce through their connections between business/industry and STEM educational leaders.

The Mission of the Empire STEM Learning Network (STEM Hubs): to advance STEM education to prepare all students – regardless of their career goals – for college and career success, to fuel innovation and economic vitality in the Empire State.

Margaret was the Founding Chairperson for the Empire STEM Learning Network, a statewide, community-led collaborative; and a board member for the NYS STEM Education Collaborative (NYSSEC), a coalition of AMTNYS, NYSSPE, NYSTEEA, and STANYS. The Founding Members and Supporting Partner Members of the NYSSEC work collectively and collaboratively to deliver STEM Education in the spirit and vision of New York State’s MST Frameworks and Learning Standards and to skillfully and completely address the concerted national cry for STEM Literacy. Margaret will be missed but forever remembered by her work ethic, her dedication to excellence and her friendship to all she met.

**Please consider nominating an outstanding STEM Leader from your community for the
2020 Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Awards!**

Nominations October-March <http://www.cnystem.com/>

Committee Co-Chairs: Gwen Maturo-Grasso (gmaturo@syr.edu) & Hilary Reilly (HReilly@questar.org)

Thank you to committee members: Joe Vargo, Chuck Goodwin, Mark Vaughn

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Margaret Ashida
STEM Leadership Awards — — — — —

2019 Margaret Ashida STEM Leader, K-6



Jennifer Leonberger

Ms. Leonberger’s journey with STEM education began when she was a second-grade classroom teacher. The district she worked for informed her they would be acquiring a new, integrative, science curriculum (FOSS) and consequently provided monthly training. Once she began learning more about STEM and teaching through inquiry, it not only changed how she taught students, it also changed the way she thought about education. “I knew right away it was a field I was interested in becoming part of!” Ms. Leonberger applied for a job entitled “STEM Curriculum Mentor” with her local BOCES (GST). Today, she continues to work in the STEM field educating teachers and students alike.

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2019 Margaret Ashida STEM Leader, 7-12



Ellen Falk

Educated in New York and teaching mathematics for the past 33 years, Ms. Falk has made it her passion to keep mathematics real and relevant for her students. She truly believes that “STEM content provides excellent pathways for students to see value in what they learn and why they are learning it.” She enjoys spreading the word through professional development purporting the value of STEM experiences in mathematics curricula. Ms. Falk encourages other teachers to take risks and share their experiences as well. Ellen Falk is currently a mathematics teacher at North Salem High School and is active in AMTNYS, NYSED, and the NYS STEM Education Collaborative.

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2019 Margaret Ashida STEM Leader, Higher Education



Lorena Harris, PhD

Dr. Lorena Harris is the Director of Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (C-STEP) and Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program (LSAMP) at SUNY Schenectady where she teaches. Dr. Harris is the coordinator of the Summer STEAM Academy for Capital Region students and responsible for the establishment of a NYS Regional Crypto-Club in coordination with NY STEAM Girls Collaborative Project. After her NIH Fellowship in Cancer Research and a year teaching at a College in Boston, Ms. Harris joined SUNY Schenectady in 2012 as participant in the Math, Science, Technology and Health Internship Program for the Development of Minority Faculty. Ms. Harris holds a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences and Molecular Biology from Bowling Green State University.

Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Awards

2019 Margaret Ashida STEM Leader, District Level



Lisa Blank

M.A.T. Mathematics and Science Education, University of Wisconsin
M.Ed. in Educational Administration, Grand Canyon University

Ms. Blank is the Director of STEM Programs for Watertown CSD, a member of the leadership team of the North Country STEM Learning Network, and a STEM Ecosystems LEAD STEM Fellow. Her experience in STEM/STEAM education and technology implementation includes working as a classroom educator, district technology coordinator, and grant writer, coordinator and reviewer. Ms. Blank is passionate about creating enriching STEM learning opportunities that bring joy to learning. She sees the value of STEM as a tool for empowering students, resulting in the development of skills and dispositions for success well beyond high school.

2019 Margaret Ashida STEM Leader, Workforce



James King

Jim King, Partner
King + King, Architects
jimking@kingarch.com
@JimKing77720605

Mr. King is partner-in-charge of the K-12 Education Design Studio, specializing in the K-12 education market with an excellent reputation among educators as a collaborator and instructional space specialist. Jim holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Syracuse University and has been a licensed architect since 1983.

As an employer in a STEM field, Mr. King understands the importance of partnering with education at all levels. He frequently serves as an in-class resource for project-based learning activities, provides opportunities for job shadowing, and hosts professional development sessions for educators. He frequently hosts students in his office for “problem-solving days.” Mr. King believes that engagement of students from diverse backgrounds with STEM businesses is critical to increasing the numbers who choose STEM focused careers.

Mr. King also serves on the leadership teams of the Central NY and Northern NY STEM Hubs, the Empire State STEM Learning Network, and the ESM and North Country STEM Learning Ecosystems. This involvement has helped fuel his passion to change the way education is delivered in NY State and beyond. King + King, under Jim’s leadership, is a founding partner in the Collaborative Educator Summit, a two-day, cost-free professional development experience for school-based teams.

Margaret Ashida Legacy STEM Leadership Past Awardees

2015

STEM Workforce: Cheryl Davidson

Executive Director of Long Island Works Coalition

Pre-K-12 Schools: Donna DeSiato, Ph.D.

Superintendent East Syracuse Minoa Central Schools

Higher Education: Dean Nina Leonhardt

Associate Dean at Suffolk County Community College

2016

Pre-K-12: Mr. Marvin Cadornigara

Teacher New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math NYC

Pre-K-12 Schools/Higher Education: Michelle Kavanaugh, Ph.D.

Retired Superintendent of Schools; President WNY STEM Hub

STEM Workforce: Frank Roma, P.E.

NYS STEM Education Collaborative President-Elect

2017

PK-20: Mark D. Vaughn, Ph.D.

Manager, Technical Talent Pipelining for Corning Inc and
Lead, Technology Community Office of STEM-Corning Incorporated

Higher Education: Dr. Candice Foley

Chemistry Professor Suffolk County Community College

STEM Workforce: Marc A. Chiffert, P.E.

Managing Member of CHIFFERT Engineering P.C.

: Craig Clark, P.E., Ph.D.

Vice President for Economic Development-Alfred State

2018

PK-12: Mr. Omer Zengin

High School Math, Robotic Team Advisor-Syracuse Academy of Science

Instructional Coach: Aaron Straus

Instructional Coach of STEAM-Salamanca City Central School District

District Level: Kathy Southwell

Executive Director of Curriculum, Learning and Instruction-East Syracuse Minoa School District

Higher Education: Mary Margaret M. Small, Ed.D.

Office of Educational Partnerships-Clarkson University