STEAM Resources – Inland Empire

California State PTA Districts: 34, 5, 23

“STEM” stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education. Add Art, and you have “STEAM.”

Young people with competency in the STEAM disciplines are more likely to prosper in their lives and their careers.

Building the capacity of young people in science, technology, engineering, and math – and doing so within the humanistic frame that the arts help provide – is essential. They will need a high level of STEAM literacy to make decisions about their daily lives and to fulfill their role as informed citizens. Our schools need to make sure our kids are prepared. Families also play an essential role.

In every community in California, you will find organizations like museums, after-school programs, and other community groups focused on helping kids access STEAM information.

Examples of Local STEM/STEAM Resources:

It appears that STEAM activities in the Inland Empire are generally orchestrated by individual school districts and organizations, rather than being coordinated through a regional network.

- School district officials and school site leaders may be the best source of information about what is happening in your local area
- The offices of education in Riverside and San Bernardino counties concentrate on supporting classroom instruction, but may have some parent resources available
- Youth serving organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America also provide some STEAM resources
- UC Riverside, CSU San Bernardino and the San Bernardino Community College District all put some focus on STEM/STEAM education as well, including the preparation of teachers in these fields

Online Resources:

- NASA Jet Propulsion Lab: https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/learn/

• STEMworks: http://stem-works.com/

• California STEM Network: https://www.childrennow.org/castemnetwork/

• California Department of Education
  o STEM Resources: https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/stemintro.asp
  o Visual and Performing Arts Resources: https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/vp/vaparesources.asp

• Information about the annual California STEAM Symposium: https://www.stemcalifornia.org/Page/1

• California Department of Water Resources: https://water.ca.gov/What-We-Do/Education

• Mad Science for kids from K-6: https://www.madscience.org/

• California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom: https://learnaboutag.org/about/index.cfm

**California State PTA Tips and Resources**

• Arts Education webpage: https://capta.org/focus-areas/education/curriculum/arts-education/

• Next Generation Science Standards webpage: https://capta.org/focus-areas/education/curriculum/next-gen-science/

• Ideas for STEAM activities to do at home and at PTA events: https://capta.org/focus-areas/education/curriculum/stem/