

August 26, 2013

EAST TENNESSEE SCIENCE EXPO



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Dear Sir or Madam:

The third annual East Tennessee Science Expo is scheduled for October 26, 2013 at the Knox County STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Academy in downtown Knoxville. We need your help to make this event a great success!

The Science Expo provides a day of hands-on fun and science for more than 200 kindergarten through 5th grade students from all over East Tennessee – as far away as Chattanooga. Five hands-on science-related sessions will be offered. Children will use radiation detectors to hunt down hidden source material, build simple circuits, explore computer science and help put robots to work. The children will also be able to take home several of the items they build. First-hand assistance with the experiments will be provided by local professionals in STEM fields and by engineering students at the University of Tennessee. The Science Expo is offered to registered participants free of cost.

We are writing this letter to ask for your financial or in-kind support of this event, which raises awareness of the importance of STEM education and opportunities in STEM careers. We need financial or in-kind support for consumable materials used in the science sessions (tape, batteries, bags, circuit materials, construction materials, etc.), take-home science kits and event T-shirts for participants, and printed materials for parents and teachers. We also provide lunch for the students, their parents and our many volunteers. Our goal is to accommodate up to 250 students, their parents, with as many as 100 volunteers working in two shifts.

Event sponsors will be recognized on event signage and handout materials at the event, as well as in press kits assembled for visiting media. Special recognition will be given for contributions of \$1000 or more. Local television outlets as well as regional and local newspapers will be invited to the event as in past years.

The Science Expo is hosted by the Science Club, which was started in January 2006 with the support of the local Oak Ridge/Knoxville section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) and the Oak Ridge chapter of Women in Nuclear (WIN). The Science Club is an outreach effort in East Tennessee for children K-5, and is a collaboration of local STEM professionals who volunteer their time to encourage children to explore science in the world around them. The previous Science Expo was held last January with 200 participating students and their parents. We were pleased to offer this event at no cost to the participants thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, and look forward to building on this success in October.

Please join us in supporting the next generation of scientists and engineers! Contact me today for details on how to make your financial or in-kind contribution.

Sincerely,

W. David Pointer
Science Expo Co-Chair