Flight Night 2015 Raises $501,827 for STEM Education

“Trajectory Tomorrow: Illuminating STEM Pathways” set as 2016 theme

FLIGHT NIGHT MOBILE FAB LAB Thanks to proceeds from Flight Night 2015, the mobile fab lab will continue making its rounds to Tulsa area schools and youth organizations in the year ahead, bringing access to digital fabrication equipment such as 3D printers, laser cutters and a 3-axis mill, and building student interest in STEM subjects wherever it goes.

STUDENTS YOU HAVE INSPIRED

2015 TULSA FLIGHT NIGHT STATS

Funds Raised $501,827
Attendees 700+
Predicted 2016 Reach 70,000 Area Students*

BENEFICIARIES

> Fab Lab Tulsa
Funds Allocated $81,500
Students Reached 12,000

> Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance (TRSA)
Funds Allocated $420,327
Students Reached 58,000

NOTEWORTHY SURVEY RESPONSES

Program Attendees Experiencing Their First-Ever STEM Learning: 39%

TRSA Event-Goers Who Agree Having a STEM Job Would be Fun: 71%

Teachers Who Agree Just One STEM Event Improved Student Interest in Engineering: 86%

Student Participants Planning to Graduate High School and Attend College: 90%

*Outreach numbers projected for 2016

ENGINEERING ENTHUSIASM Your Flight Night donation brings STEM education to local youth all year long.
Expanded Quadcopter Competition
Flight Night 2015 proceeds will finance expansion of Oklahoma’s only quadcopter challenge, with this year’s effort set to involve more students and educators in a competition that rewards student-built flying machines for performance in maneuverability, speed and retrieval courses.

Upgrades for Flight Night™ Mobile Fab Lab
This year, we’ll provide additional equipment for and fund ongoing operation of our unique mobile ‘fab lab,’ which hit the road at the start of the 2015 school year, featuring multiple experiential learning labs, digital fabrication tools, such as 3D printers, laser cutters and a three-axis mill. The unit moves from school to school in a custom-built, high-tech trailer, with no cost to students, teachers or schools.

STEM Exploratorium & Access Programs
Flight Night proceeds also make possible a hands-on “STEM Exploratorium” led by STEM experts from around the region to help kids see the connection between mastering the STEM sciences and future career success; and roughly 20 “STEM Access” events for grades K-12, focusing on creative thinking, problem-solving and awareness of STEM careers.
Flight Night Mobile Fab Lab brings 3D modeling software to Grand Lake area

BY NATHAN PRITCHETT, Fab Lab Tulsa Executive Director

On Nov. 18, the Flight Night Mobile Fab Lab made its first trip outside of the Tulsa metro area to visit Cleora Public School.

Located between Afton and Ketchum, along the west shore of Grand Lake, the school serves 111 students from Pre-K to 8th grade. Eleven students participated in the program using Autodesk 123D Design modeling software and 123D Make slicing software, which converts 3D models into 2D build plans.

The student designs represented their personal interests and items that were clearly near and dear to their hearts, such as dogs, cats, horses and creepers.

Next, the students laser-cut the 2D plans from cardboard using the lab’s Epilog Laser Cutter carts, then glued the 2D parts together, recreating a physical version of their original digital designs. Since the launch of the Flight Night Mobile Fab Lab in August of 2015, it has served 2,529 students in Tulsa and the surrounding areas of northeastern Oklahoma.

In addition to Cleora, the Flight Night Mobile Fab Lab traveled to these school districts last year: Barnsdale, Broken Arrow, Jenks, Muskogee, Sand Springs, Tulsa and Union public schools.

Other schools and organizations also receiving visits from the Mobile Fab Lab include: All Saints Catholic School; Bishop Kelley High School; Boys and Girls Clubs of Tulsa County; Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma; Indian Nations Council Boy Scouts; Town and Country School; Tulsa Community College; and several home school groups.

“Attending Tech Trek actually changed my opinion of a STEM job. I am very glad I got this opportunity to help me create a path for my life.”

— A Female Tech Trek Camper
GET SET FOR ANOTHER EXTRAORDINARY EVENING TO BENEFIT OKLAHOMA’S STUDENTS AND FUTURE WORKFORCE: JOIN US AS SUMMER IS WINDING DOWN FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL FLIGHT NIGHT, FEATURING OUTDOOR AERIAL ENTERTAINMENT AND AN EXCITING, ALL-NEW INDOOR SHOW THAT — LIKE THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WE SPONSOR — IS DESIGNED TO CAPTURE THE IMAGINATION.

This year's theme: “Trajectory: Tomorrow - Illuminating STEM Pathways.” Mark your calendar for Thurs., Sept. 15 at Jones Riverside Airport in Tulsa.