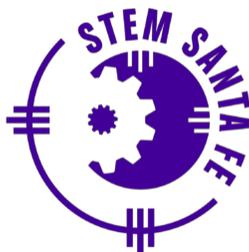


NEWS RELEASE
12/1/2018



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A Vast Broadening of Horizons

On October 13th, 2018, one hundred and sixty-three schoolgirls, grades 5 through 8, from communities across Northern New Mexico, spent the day laughing and learning, giggling and gawking about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). The girls were at the Santa Fe Community College attending the Expanding Your Horizons conference, an annual event designed to give the impressionable young ladies a better appreciation of STEM and to demonstrate how they can use STEM to question, explore, challenge, and change their world. More than a dozen sponsors* helped fund the event that was organized by STEM Santa Fe, local non-profit dedicated to ensuring that all youth, and especially young women, are given the opportunity to be educated and to develop skills in STEM fields.

“Our world has seen significant changes in the past three decades that are largely due to advances in STEM fields” said Lina Germann, founder and Chief Executive Officer of STEM Santa Fe. “Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, girls in middle school are most vulnerable to losing interest in STEM including lacking the confidence that they can succeed in STEM fields.”

The conference featured more than a dozen hands-on workshops, each led by one of New Mexico's top women researchers and each requiring the use and knowledge of STEM, ie, math, physics, computer science, etc. And while the students were gleefully learning, for example, about “Girl Powered Robotics,” how to be a “DNA detective,” or the ins and outs of “The Physics of Sediments,” the presenters were subtly serving as role models showing how women could use STEM their way to explore and contribute knowledge to the modern world. After rubbing elbows all morning and afternoon with scientists, engineers, and researchers, the charged-up group of young girls left for home, having made new friends, new memories, and perhaps gained new sense of what is possible. A full summary report can be found at www.stemsantafe.org.

Dr. France A. Córdoba

The STEM Santa Fe Expanding Your Horizons Conference on October 13, 2018 was indeed privileged to have as keynote speaker Dr. France A. Córdoba, current director of the National Science Foundation and one of the most honored and respected science leaders in the country. Dr Cordova shared her personal story regarding the many different leadership positions she's held in STEM fields, from deputy group leader in the Earth and Space Sciences Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory, to chancellor and distinguished professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of California, Riverside, to the president of Purdue University. She concluded her talk with a question and answer session with the girls.

**STEM Santa Fe gratefully acknowledges the following conference sponsors: Los Alamos National Laboratory, Wildflower International, Ingersoll Rand, Santa Fe Community College, Air Force Research Lab New Mexico, Los Alamos Women in Science, Meow Wolf, Del Norte Credit Union, CHRISTUS St. Vincent, Awesome Foundation Santa Fe, Walmart, Los Alamos National Bank, New Mexico Children's Foundation, AAUW of Santa Fe, Souder Miller & Associates, Flow Science, NM Network for Women in Science and Engineering.*

STEM Santa Fe advocates for, develops, and provides STEM programming, mentoring, and resources for all youth, especially under-presented groups in STEM, to realize their potential and expand their opportunities in a dynamic world.