Celebrate the Holiday Season with the DuPont Planetarium!

Join us for a delightful show about the season that holds some of the warmest and brightest celebrations of the year. It is also the coldest and darkest of seasons. Tracing the development of many of the world’s endearing holiday customs, and how they light up the winter season, we portray everything from the burning Yule log and sparkling Christmas tree lights to the lighting of the Menorah and luminaries. ‘Tis the Season also recounts the historical religious and cultural customs practiced during the time of winter solstice, including Christian, Jewish, Celtic, Nordic, Roman, Egyptian and Hopi. We explore the possible astronomical explanations for a “Star over Bethlehem” including comets, meteors, novae, supernovae, and planetary conjunctions. The show also takes a look at some of our more light-hearted seasonal traditions: gift-giving, kissing under the mistletoe, songs about lords a-leaping and ladies dancing, the custom of decking the halls with greenery and candles, and Santa Claus. We also catch a few Northern winter constellations, and illustrate how the seasons are caused by the Earth’s tilt and orbit around the Sun.

‘Tis the Season is one of our most popular, longest running shows. Many families come back year after year to rediscover the Christmas spirit through this holiday tradition. Make your reservations soon for public showings of ‘Tis the Season on any of the dates below:

December 7, 4, 16 at 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.
December 21, 23, 28 at 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.

You may also schedule a private showing of ‘Tis the Season (or any other planetarium program) by calling 641-3313.
K-12 Student Programs

This fall a record number of K-12 students will visit the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center with their teachers. The RPSEC currently offers 52 hands-on, inquiry-based programs. All of our programs are aligned with South Carolina and Georgia academic standards, and many of our programs are interdisciplinary. Our Student Programs website includes program descriptions, standards correlations, and related Traveling Science and Mathematics Kits that support and extend each lesson. These kits contain excellent post-visit activities and are available, free of charge, for checkout. To reserve a kit, go to http://rpsec.usca.edu/traveling science/ or call (803) 641-3683.

The deadline has passed for reservation requests for the 2013-2014 school year. Once again, we received many more requests than we will be able to serve, and our schedule is now full. We are unable to schedule additional programs at this time, but will be happy to place your request on a waiting list in the event of a cancellation. To download a reservation request form, please go to: http://rpsec.usca.edu/student/.

Thank you for your interest in the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center’s programs.

Home School Mondays

Program offerings and the reservation request form for Home School Mondays 2014 is now available online. The programs will again be held on Monday afternoons from January through May. One Monday per month, each child may attend (2) one-hour, back-to-back science or math programs. The programs will begin at 1:00 PM and conclude at 3:30 PM. Over the course of the spring semester, each child will attend a total of 10 programs. The two programs for the younger students (Grades K-3) will be held at the same time as the two programs for the older students (Grades 4-8). Different programs will be offered each year with a 3-year rotation cycle.

Reservation request forms with pre-payment ($30 per student) must be mailed or delivered to the RPSEC by Monday, December 2, 2013 at 5:00 PM. Reservations are first come, first served, and we may fill up before the deadline. Parents may request that their child(ren) be grouped with specific child(ren). A final schedule with dates and participant lists will be e-mailed to parents by December 16, 2013. For more information, go to: http://rpsec.usca.edu/student/1314/HomeSchoolMon-Spr2014Request.pdf
Wells Fargo Grant

Thanks to the generous support of Wells Fargo, every sixth grade student at Sego Middle School in Augusta, GA was able to visit the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center (RPSEC) this fall. The Wells Fargo STEM Success project was designed to provide access to, and increase middle school students’ interest in, science technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This grant enabled 239 sixth grade students from Sego Middle School, a Title I school in Richmond County, to attend a series of field trip experiences at the RPSEC on the campus of the University of South Carolina Aiken in September 2013. The project provided funding for transportation costs and program fees. The students visited the DuPont planetarium and participated in hands-on classroom programs that are aligned with academic standards and infused with exploration and discovery. The programs included Mission to Mars, Minerals, Ores, & Fossil Fuels, and Are You Dense? Many thanks to Wells Fargo, and to Judith Goodwin, Development Officer at USC Aiken, and Stacey Mabray, Science Curriculum Coordinator of Richmond County Public Schools, for helping us make this experience possible!

NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT GRANT: CE-MIST CONTINUES

The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center (RPSEC) is pleased to announce a new partnership with Ridge Spring Monetta Elementary Middle School. We recently learned that our proposal to initiate a new grant funded project, which is similar to CE-MIST, has been accepted for funding by the National Writing Project. The purpose of this project is to provide 30 hours of ongoing professional development for approximately 25 teachers (Grades 3-8) related to Common Core- English Language Arts, with an emphasis on writing across the curriculum. These sessions will follow the model established by the Center of Excellence in Middle-level, Interdisciplinary Strategies for Teaching (CE-MIST) as well as the National Writing Project’s “Teachers Teaching Teachers” philosophy. Dr. Lynne Rhodes, CE-MIST staff, and Aiken Writing Project (AWP) Teacher/Consultants will engage the participants each month in interdisciplinary curriculum development using model lessons developed during CE-MIST and AWP Summer Institutes. The project will culminate with the development of six new Traveling Interdisciplinary Literacy Trunks (TILTs) with a budget of $800 per trunk for instructional materials. In addition to the professional development program for teachers, every student from Ridge Spring Monetta Elementary Middle School (kindergarten through grade 6) will attend a series of hands-on, standards-based programs at the RPSEC this year.
**Masters Degree in Educational Technology**

**Earn Your USCA Degree Online**

Do you enjoy using your computer? Do others ask you how to do something on their computers? Do you enjoy showing to others something new on your computer? Have you considered getting a masters degree? Then maybe it is time for you to consider the Masters of Education in Educational Technology (MEd Tech). The MEd Tech program at University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) and the University of South Carolina (USC) Columbia is accepting applications for enrollment. For more information visit [http://edtech.usca.edu/](http://edtech.usca.edu/).

The focus of the program is to develop capabilities essential to the effective design, evaluation, and delivery of technology-based instruction and training (e.g., software development, multimedia development, assistive technology modifications, web-based development, and distance learning) in order to (1) prepare educators to assume leadership roles in the integration of educational technology into the school curriculum, and (2) to provide graduate-level instructional opportunities for several populations (e.g., classroom teachers, corporate trainers, educational software developers) that need to acquire both technological competencies and understanding of sound instructional design principles and techniques.

Anyone interested in enrolling in this program should contact Karen Morris at 803-641-3489.

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**Foundational Core Courses (6 hours)**

- AERM/EDRM 700 – Introduction to Research in Education
- AEET/EDET 709 – Applications of Learning Principles

**Design Courses (15 hours)**

- AEET/EDET 603 – Design and Development Tools I
- AEET/EDET 703 – Design and Development Tools II
- AEET/EDET 722 – Instructional Design and Assessment
- AEET/EDET 755 – Design and Evaluation of Information Access and Delivery
- AEET/EDET 793 – Advanced Instructional Design and Development

**Technology Core Courses (12 hours)**

- AEET/EDET 650 – Internship in Educational Technology
- AEET/EDET 735 – Technological Applications for Diverse Populations
- AEET/EDET 746 – Management of Technology Resources
- AEET/EDET 780 – Seminar in Educational Technology

**Electives (3 hours chosen from the following courses)**

- AEET 731 – Instructional and Informational Applications of Technology or
- EDTE 731 – Integration of Technology and Instruction
- SLIS 706 – Introduction to Information Technologies
- TSTM 790 – Advanced Study in Technology Support/Training Management

---

**STEP**

(Science Technology Enrichment Program)

Do you want your students, scouts or youth group to explore the critters that live in a healthy pond, investigate the chemistry of our local soils or go on a bird hike or mammal walk? How about explore the importance of insects, dig for archaeologically important artifacts or learn to navigate out of the deep woods?

There are still openings for these programs this spring!

The Science and Technology Enrichment Program (STEP) is a cooperative effort between Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Silver Bluff Audubon Center and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center. Exciting and engaging environmentally focused field trips can take place at either location. Each program is age appropriate and state standardized and led by experts in the field! Scout badge programs are available and led by a certified badge counselor. There still openings for a variety of Boy Scout badge programs planned this winter and spring.

Please contact Shannon Unger, STEP Program Director, at ShannonU@usca.edu for more information or to register!
The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and the USCA Classified Employee Assembly have again joined together to support the Annual Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots program. USCA faculty, staff, and students as well as local residents are encouraged to bring in a new, unwrapped toy to the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center during regular business hours. The deadline for donations is December 6th.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price Level</th>
<th>Objects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$75 level</td>
<td>Galaxies and Nebulae:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44. Cat’s Eye Nebula, NGC 6543</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45. Cat’s Paw, NGC 6914</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46. Crab Nebula, M1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47. Dumbbell Nebula, M27</td>
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<td></td>
<td>48. Flame Nebula, NGC 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49. Helix Nebula, NGC 7293</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50. Horsehead Nebula B33, IC434</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51. Horseshoe Nebula, M17</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52. Lagoon Nebula, M8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53. Orion Nebula, M42</td>
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<td></td>
<td>54. Owl Nebula, M97</td>
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<td></td>
<td>55. Pillars of Creation (M16)</td>
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<td>56. Ring Nebula, M57</td>
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<td></td>
<td>57. Rosette Nebula, NGC 2237</td>
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<td>58. Seagull Nebula, IC2177</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59. Stellar Spire (M16)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60. Tarantula Nebula, NGC 2070</td>
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<td></td>
<td>61. Trifid Nebula, M20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>62. Andromeda Galaxy, M31</td>
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<td>63. Black Eye Galaxy, M64</td>
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<td>64. “Cigar” Galaxy, M82</td>
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<td>65. Pinwheel Galaxy, M101</td>
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<td></td>
<td>66. Sombrero Galaxy, M104</td>
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<td>67. Sunflower Galaxy, M63</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>68. Tadpole Galaxy, UGC 10214</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>69. Whirlpool Galaxy, M51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| $50 level | Other Constellations: |
| 70. Centaurus |
| 71. Cetus the Sea Monster |
| 72. Columba the Dove |
| 73. Corona the Crown |
| 74. Corvus the Crow |
| 75. Delphinus the Dolphin |
| 76. Lepus the Hare |
| 77. Monoceros the Unicorn |
| 78. Sagitta the Arrow |

| $100 level | Special Constellations: |
| 26. Andromeda the Princess |
| 27. Aquilla the Eagle |
| 28. Auriga the Charioteer |
| 29. Bootes the Herdsman |
| 30. Canis Major the Big Dog |
| 31. Canis Minor the Little Dog |
| 32. Cassiopeia the Queen |
| 33. Cepheus the King |
| 34. Crux the Southern Cross |
| 35. Cygnus the Swan, Northern Cross |
| 36. Draco the Dragon |
| 37. Hercules |
| 38. Lyra the Harp |
| 39. Orion the Hunter |
| 40. Pegasus the Flying Horse |
| 41. Perseus the Hero |
| 42. Ursa Major, Big Dipper |
| 43. Ursa Minor, Little Dipper |

| $150 level | Zodiac Constellations: |
| 13. Virgo |
| 14. Libra |
| 15. Scorpius |
| 16. Ophiuchus |
| 17. Sagittarius |
| 18. Capricornus |
| 19. Aquarius |

| $400 level | Other Constellations: |
| 1. Sun |
| 2. Moon |
| 3. Milky Way |
| 4. Mercury |
| 5. Venus |
| 6. Earth |
| 7. Mars |
| 8. Jupiter (Dwarf $399.99) |

Thank You to our 2013 Galactic Guardians

**Sun**  
Ms. Barbara Fenstermacher

**Canis Major**  
Darlene Smalley

**Canis Minor the Little Dog**  
Brooke Nicholson

**Owl Nebula, M97**  
John & Deborah McMurtrie

**Columba the Dove**  
Bobby Cue

**Sagitta the Arrow**  
Mr. Robert & Mrs. Nancy Harrington

**Albireo, a double star**  
Darlene Smalley

**Beehive cluster**  
Darlene Smalley

**Hercules globular cluster**  
Mr. Roderick C. Lee

**Polaris, the North Star**  
Dr. and Mrs. David W. Hayes

**Aldebaran**  
Dr. Paul & Mrs. Monica Dainer

**Stars and Star Clusters:**

- 79. Albireo, a double star
- 80. Beehive cluster
- 81. Alcor & Mizor, double stars
- 82. Hercules globular cluster
- 83. Pleiades, the Seven Sisters
- 84. Polaris, the North Star

**Brightest Stars:**

- 85. Aldebaran
- 86. Altair
- 87. Antares
- 88. Arcturus
- 89. Betelgeuse
- 90. Capella
- 91. Castor
- 92. Deneb
- 93. Fomalhaut
- 94. Pollux
- 95. Procyon
- 96. Regulus
- 97. Rigel
- 98. Sirius
- 99. Spica
- 100. Vega
## Thank You to Our 2013 Adopt an Animal Sponsors!

The Ruth Patrick Science Education Center is grateful for the support of the following 2013 Adopt an Animal sponsors:

- Barred Owl- ADOPTED by Bruce & Karen Morgan
- American Alligator- ADOPTED by Gloria Allen
- American Alligator- ADOPTED by John M. Hutchens
- Albino Corn Snake- ADOPTED by Tristan Davis
- Corn Snake- ADOPTED by Cory and Darya McMurtrie
- Snapping Turtle- ADOPTED by Mr. and Mrs. James M. Ferrell
- Painted Turtle- ADOPTED by Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Perrine
- Barking Tree Frog- ADOPTED by Drs. Carol and Bob Botsch
- Green and Gray Tree Frog- ADOPTED by Mrs. Beatrice A. Crawford
- Tiger Salamander- ADOPTED by NA Middle School Science Dept.

## Adopt an Animal Program 2014

The RPSEC is looking for sponsors to help support the cost of feeding and caring for the animals used in our K-12 educational programs for one year beginning in January 2014. Donations are tax deductible. For more information, please contact Deborah McMurtrie at DeborahMc@USCA.edu or (803) 641-2834.

**BIRDS**
- Barred Owl (Strix varia) Non-releasable male, Raleigh .......................................................... $500
- Eastern Screech Owl, grey phase (Megascops asio) Non-releasable fem, Lina .................. $350
- Eastern Screech Owl, grey phase (Megascops asio) Non-releasable fem, Charlotte .......... $350

**REPTILES: CROCODILIANS**
- American Alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) male, hatched 2012, Al ................... $250
- American Alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) male, hatched 2009, Tex ................ $250

**REPTILES: SNAKES**
- Eastern Kingsnake (Lampropeltis getula getula) .............................................. $100
- Grey Rat Snake (Elaphe obsoleta spiloides) .................................................... $100
- Corn Snake (Elaphe guttata) female ............................................................. $100
- Corn Snake (Elaphe guttata) male ............................................................... $100
- Albino Corn Snake (Elaphe guttata) .............................................................. $100

**REPTILES: TURTLES**
- Box Turtle (Terrapene carolina carolina) ............................................................... $75
- Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina) ........................................................... $75
- Painted Turtle (Chrysemys picta picta) ........................................................... $75
- Chicken Turtle (Deirochelys reticularia) ............................................................ $75
- Red-Eared Slider Turtle (Trachemys scripta elegans) female .................................... $75
- Red-Eared Slider Turtle (Trachemys scripta elegans) male ..................................... $75
- Yellow-Bellied Slider Turtle (Trachemys scripta scripta) ......................................... $75

**AMPHIBIANS**
- Barking Tree Frog (Hyla gratiosa) ......................................................................... $50
- Green Tree Frog (Hyla cinerea) ........................................................................... $50
- Gray Tree Frog (Hyla versicolora) ........................................................................ $50
- Southern Toad (Bufo terrestris) ................................................................................ $50
- Spotted Salamander (Ambystoma maculatum) .................................................... $50
- Tiger Salamander (Ambystoma tigrinum) .............................................................. $50
Nine New Traveling Interdisciplinary Literacy Trunks (TILTs) Now Available for Checkout!

What are TILTs? Traveling Interdisciplinary Literacy Trunks (TILTs) are teacher-designed, interdisciplinary units of study that are aligned with academic standards from multiple content areas with an emphasis on writing across the curriculum. Teachers compete annually to develop grade-level units and purchase instructional materials with a budget of $200 to $800 per trunk. The trunks are funded through the Center of Excellence in Middle-level, Interdisciplinary Strategies for Teaching (CE-MIST) and the Aiken Writing Project.

TILT unit plans developed through this project are now available, free of charge, to all teachers at http://rpsec.usca.edu/CE-MIST/Trunks/CE-MIST_TILT.html. In addition, some of the trunks have been duplicated and are available for check-out through the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center’s Traveling Science and Mathematics Demonstrations Program. Each completed TILT includes a unit plan, children’s literature, class sets of novels, science equipment, math manipulatives, teacher resource lists, and more. For more information about reserving a trunk for your classroom, please e-mail us at travelingscience@usca.edu or call (803) 641-3683.

CSRA Science and Engineering Fair

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, in partnership with the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center, once again proudly sponsors the Savannah River Regional Science and Engineering Fair. The 2014 event will take place at USCA on Saturday, March 15, 2014. First place winning projects by 4th through 12th graders from Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) public, private and home schools are invited to enter. Projects are judged for scientific reasoning, creative ability, thoroughness, technical skill and clarity. As in the past, judging will be performed by scientific, engineering and other technical professionals from SRS, USCA and the surrounding community. The science fair promotes students’ interest by providing public recognition of outstanding work and by giving students the opportunity to interact with community scientists. Lots of great prizes will be given during the awards ceremony. For additional information, contact Kim Mitchell, SRS Education Outreach Programs, at kimberly.mitchell@srs.gov or 803-952-8782.

Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) Territory:

The Georgia counties of Columbia, Burke, Richmond, Lincoln, Wilkes, Jefferson, Taliaferro, Warren, McDuffie, and Glascock

The South Carolina counties of Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield, Saluda, Hampton, Bamberg, and McCormick
Upcoming Boy Scout Events

Programs meet many, and in some case all, badge requirements and are led by a trained badge counselor. Each badge program is $15/Scout except the Environmental Science Badge which is $25/scout for both required sessions. Each session can accommodate 10-25 scouts.
For more information please visit: http://rpsec.usca.edu/

Upcoming Sessions:

Geology  
February 1st, 2014

Environmental Science  
March 1st, 2014  
and March 8th, 2014

Soil and Water Conservation  
April 19th, 2014

Forestry  
April 19th, 2014

Bird Study  
May 3rd, 2014

28th Annual Science Education Enrichment Day (SEED)

The 28th Annual SEED offered the community over 65 science and mathematics related exhibits and activities hosted by business, industry and school organizations. Visitors had the chance to make their own paper, build straw towers, make slime, learn about nano-technology, interact with the Cat in the Hat, drive robots and much more. Students also had the chance to test their skills with SEED trivia, completing math puzzles and exploring other thought-provoking exhibits. Over 4100 people attended this year’s event.

Thank you to our Platinum and Presenting Sponsors!
The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. This program combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a hands-on application as students present their vision of a city of the future.

### Participating Schools

- Aiken Area Home Educators
- Alcorn Middle School
- Ashley Hall
- Banks Trail Middle School
- Barnwell Elementary School
- Carver-Edisto Middle School
- Edgewood Middle School
- Felton Laboratory School
- Jackson Middle School
- Jefferson Davis Academy
- Kennedy Middle
- Langley-Bath-Clearwater Middle School
- Merriwether Middle School
- Mid-Carolina Middle School
- New Ellenton Middle School
- North Augusta Middle School
- Palmetto Middle School
- Paul Knox Middle School
- SAIL
- St. Mary on the Hill
- Tanglewood Middle School
- W.A. Perry Middle School
- Westview Middle School

The SC Regional Future City Competition is sponsored by the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and Savannah River Site Education Outreach Programs. For more information visit http://futurecity.org/

### FREE Teacher Resources and Visiting Scientists Available

The Traveling Science and Mathematics Demonstrations Program has over 300 science and math kits available for use in the classroom. Supplement your curriculum with nationally recognized and state adopted exemplary materials. Kits have been correlated to SC state standards. Many kits contain children’s literature so that you can integrate your science and language arts lessons.

In addition to these resources, you can request a visiting Scientists with Traveling Resources and Neat Demonstrations (STRAND) volunteer for classroom presentations.

For more information please visit http://rpsec.usca.edu/travelingscience/ or call us at 803-641-3683.
Where big ideas become the next big thing.

**ONLY AT CAMP INVENTION.**
Camp Invention inspires confidence in curious children like yours. Not just for a day or a week, but for a lifetime.

Act Now to Save Big. $25 off through March 28.
Sign up at CAMPINVENTION.ORG

Brought to your community by local educators.

Ruth Patrick Science Education Center
471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801
June 16 - 20, 2014 from 9:00AM to 3:30PM

Questions? 800.968.4332 or campinvention.org
2013-14 Teaching and Assessing
The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Mathematics
Quarterly Kindergarten through High School
Content Support Sessions

Register online at: http://tinyurl.com/RPSEC2013-14

Each fun-filled, high quality CCSS Mathematics Content Support Session is designed to assist school teams in effective implementation of the CCSS Mathematics. Participants in each session will:

- Explore exemplary instructional strategies for teaching the CCSS Standards
- Examine implications of the Standards for Mathematical Practice on building and improving student competency
- Apply strategies that facilitate effective use of the eight CCSS mathematical practices to learn mathematics content.
- Examine strategies to improve student competency and understanding of mathematics concepts
- Explore effective instructional resources for teaching the standards
- Use the Smarter Balanced Achievement Level Descriptors (ADLS) aligned to CCSSM to gauge student progress
- Share ideas, techniques, and suggestions for effective technology integration with other teachers in a professional setting
- Understand how effective implementation of the CCSSM can have a positive impact on classroom instruction and student achievement

Participants will experience grade level strategies for integrating the mathematical practices, modeling multiple representations, and employing a variety of instructional technologies (e.g. SMART technology, TI NSpire graphing calculator applications, online resources and applets, etc.). Using SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium Item and Content Specifications as guides, participants will be able to explore formative and summative assessment activities that provide evidence of learning and reveal student misconceptions about the mathematics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grade Band</th>
<th>Area of Emphasis</th>
<th>Status/Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 20, 2013</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Counting and Cardinality Number and Operations in Base Ten</td>
<td>Registration Open RPSEC USC Aiken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 8, 2013</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</td>
<td>Registration Open RPSEC USC Aiken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 10, 2014</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Measurement and Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 28, 2014</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
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<td>Friday, September 27, 2013</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Number and Operations - Fractions</td>
<td>Registration Open RPSEC USC Aiken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 22, 2013</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 24, 2014</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Measurement and Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 7, 2014</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
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<td>Friday, October 11, 2013</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Ratios and Proportional Relationships The Number System</td>
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<td>Friday, December 6, 2013</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Expressions and Equations Functions</td>
<td>Registration Open RPSEC USC Aiken</td>
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<td>Friday, March 21, 2014</td>
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<td>Geometry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 18, 2013</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Number and Quantity, Algebra</td>
<td>Registration Open RPSEC USC Aiken</td>
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<td>Friday, March 28, 2014</td>
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<td>Geometry</td>
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</table>

For more information, please email gloriaa@usca.edu, bobbyc@usca.edu, or gwenj@uca.edu.
In Memory
Dr. Ruth Patrick
November 26, 1907 - September 23, 2013

On Monday, September 23, 2013, the world lost a world-renowned scientist who was a friend to South Carolina. Dr. Ruth Patrick died at Lafayette Hill in Pennsylvania at the age of 105. She was not only a pioneer in the field of limnology, but she had roots in South Carolina and had an enormous impact in the Central Savannah River Area of South Carolina.

Ruth was born in Topeka, Kansas where she learned to share her father’s love for nature and microscopic plant life. From there she came to South Carolina and in 1929 she earned a Bachelor’s degree from Coker College in Hartsville, SC. In 1934, she earned a PhD from the University of Virginia.

In the early 1950s, at the request of Crawford Greenewalt, then Chairman of DuPont, she was assigned by the Atomic Energy Commission to collect baseline data on the water quality and biota of the Savannah River prior to the opening of the Savannah River Plant. Dr. Patrick responded by forming a team of scientists to study the area, which she continued to do for over 50 years. She was the first scientist to diagnose the health of a river or stream by using plant and animal life. Her pioneering efforts have since been modeled by ecologists worldwide, and the recognition that biodiversity is the chief indicator of water health is now known as the “Patrick Principle.”

Dr. Patrick’s career has been marked with many awards and accomplishments. She held the Francis Boyer Chair of Limnology at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, PA. She received the Award of Merit from the Botanical Society of America in 1971, the Eminent Ecologist Award from the Ecological Society of America in 1972, and the Gold Medal of the Royal Zoological Society of Belgium in 1978. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1970 and to the American Philosophical Society in 1974. In 1989, Dr. Patrick was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science by the University of South Carolina, and in 1996, she was inducted into the South Carolina Hall of Science and Technology.

Ruth’s impact on Aiken, South Carolina and the University of South Carolina Aiken continues to be witnessed everyday at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center. Each day busloads of children attend programs that are designed to inspire and infuse the love for learning science, technology, engineering and mathematics. In 1990, Dr. Patrick was kind enough to allow USC Aiken to use her name for the Science Education Center. Since the dedication of the new building in 1991, there have been over 1.3 million visits to the various programs offered through the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center at the University of South Carolina Aiken.

The world of science may have lost a giant, but we at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center at the University of South Carolina Aiken have lost a friend.
**Spirit of Ruth Patrick Award Presented to Gabrielle Morgan**

The 2012-2013 Spirit of Ruth Patrick Award was presented to Gabrielle Morgan at the Aiken County School Board meeting in October. Gabrielle, a Career Specialist at Langley-Bath-Clearwater Middle School, is an active participant in the Future City Program which allows her to introduce her students to the world of STEM related career opportunities.

Since 2006 this prestigious award has been presented annually to a K-12 educator who has demonstrated a keen interest in mathematics and science and has been effective in providing meaningful learning for K-12 students. This award recognizes an educator in the CSRA who demonstrates a passion for teaching and infusing a love of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

**Alison Churm Named the Dr. Robert Alexander Outstanding Administrator of the Year**

Alison Churm, Principal of Belvedere Elementary School, received the Dr. Robert E. Alexander Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award at the October Aiken County Board of Education meeting. The award is named after the retired USC Aiken chancellor and is presented to a school administrator who promotes science, technology, engineering and mathematics education.

Ms. Churm encourages and supports her teachers to embrace new ideas in math and science elevating students to a new level of understanding. She strives to maintain a high level of resources and to foster an environment where students develop a lifelong love of math and science.

**Looking for that perfect holiday gift?**

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