

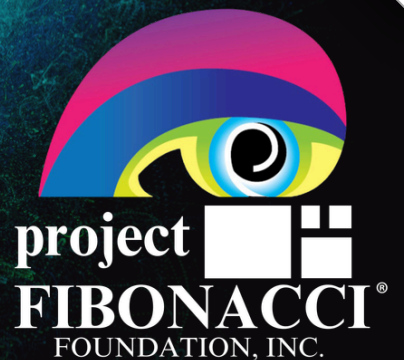
2026 ADVANCE PROGRAM

**THE QUANTUM REALM:
TIME, TELEPORTATION &
ENTANGLEMENT**

**8th Annual
Project Fibonacci STEAM
Leadership Conference**

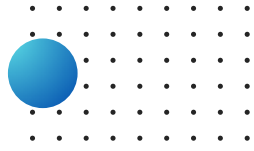
JULY 26 - AUGUST 1, 2026

**Griffiss Business & Technology Park
Rome, NY**

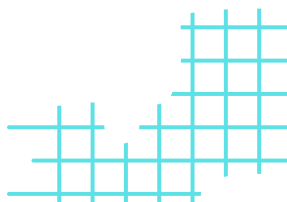
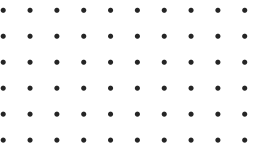




WHAT'S INSIDE



Message from the Founder	2
About Project Fibonacci®	3
Meet the STEAM Team	4-6
Our Impact	8
Conference Theme	9
Capstone Assignment	10
Daily Schedule Overview	11
Speakers Series & Special Events	13-15
Workshops & Off-Sites	17-22
What to Pack	24
Attention: Parents	25
Scholar Opportunities	26
FAQs	27
Get Involved	28-29
Special Thanks to Our Supporters!	30



MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear Scholars, Friends and Supporters,

Coming to you secretly from a nearby Quantum research lab with an array of curious blinking lights and strange exotic sounds...

Welcome to the 8th Annual Project Fibonacci®STEAM Leadership Conference where curiosity-driven learning rules!

As a lifelong learner, a key lesson that has guided me throughout my career is, never stop being curious. The greatest discoveries, innovations, and breakthroughs often begin with a simple question: *What if?*



DR. ANDY DROZD
Founder &
Chairman of the Board

This year's conference theme, The Quantum Realm: Time, Teleportation & Entanglement, may sound complex or even a little intimidating at first. But at its heart, quantum thinking is not just about science—it's about embracing uncertainty, exploring new possibilities, and remaining open to ideas that challenge the way we see the world.

The future rarely arrives with a clear roadmap. New technologies emerge, industries evolve, and problems become increasingly interconnected. Success will belong to those who can adapt, think critically, collaborate across disciplines, seek and find opportunities in the unknown.

At Project Fibonacci®, we believe the most powerful ideas happen when we stop thinking in silos, consider infinite possibilities, and start making connections. Math, science, technology, art, creativity, and innovation are not separate subjects—they are different ways of understanding the same world. Innovation happens when we bring these perspectives together.

Throughout the conference week, STEAM scholars will work alongside experts, mentors, educators, and peers to explore big ideas, challenge assumptions, and tackle real-world challenges. More importantly, our scholars will develop the skills needed to navigate a future that is constantly changing. The Quantum realm adds new dimensions of statistical probabilities and uncertainties that are meant to inspire curiosity and thought—from the physics of the small (the atom) to the physics of the large scale (planets, stars, black holes, galaxies and so on).

As you embark on this journey, I encourage you to stay curious, ask bold questions, and embrace uncertainty. The unknown should not be feared—it should be explored. Every great discovery begins with the willingness to venture beyond what we already know.

Thank you for joining us for what promises to be an unforgettable week of learning, leadership, and discovery, including self-discovery and what you can accomplish.

We are excited to see the ideas you generate, the connections you make, the future you help create, and the breakthroughs you may contribute as part of the future Quantum workforce.

Full STEAM Ahead!

Dr. Andy Drozd
Founder and Chairman
The Project Fibonacci®Foundation, Inc.



ABOUT PROJECT FIBONACCI®

The Project Fibonacci® Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to inspiring the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers through immersive STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education. In partnership with schools, businesses, higher education institutions, and community organizations, we create transformative learning experiences that connect classroom learning to real-world opportunities.

Our year-round programs help students develop leadership skills, critical thinking abilities, and an entrepreneurial mindset while exploring emerging technologies, workforce trends, and future career pathways. Through hands-on challenges, mentorship, and collaborative problem-solving, scholars learn to navigate complexity, embrace innovation, and prepare for an ever-changing world.

We believe the Arts are essential to driving scientific discovery and technological advancement. By integrating creativity with STEM disciplines, we cultivate adaptable, resilient leaders capable of addressing the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow.

Through curiosity, collaboration, and innovation, Project Fibonacci® is helping build the diverse talent, leadership, and workforce needed to create a stronger future for our communities.

Our Mission

To introduce our youth to a culture of interdisciplinary STEAM learning, teaching them to become creative, independent leaders of community resurgence.

Our Vision

Enriched STEAM Communities Driving a Modern Renaissance



Inspiring Curiosity. Cultivating Leadership. Creating the Future.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



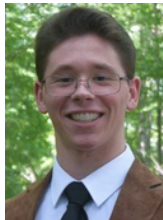
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Chairman of the Board & Founder
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ROBERT BOJANEK
Executive Co-Chair; Business
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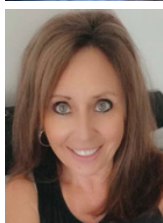
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Institute of Medical Ethics



AMY JAWORSKI: CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON

Amy has been part of PFF from the very beginning and has worn just about every hat imaginable along the way. Fueled by caffeine and controlled chaos, she is usually found speed-walking between activities with a walkie-talkie, a to-do list, and at least three things on her mind—all while keeping conference week on track. If something is happening at conference, there's a good chance Amy had a hand in making it happen. Outside of PFF, Amy serves as General Administrator and Public Relations Director at ANDRO Computational Solutions.



DR. ANDY DROZD: CONFERENCE VICE CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Andy Drozd is the mad scientist behind Project Fibonacci® (literally). A lifelong learner and champion of curiosity, Andy believes the world's biggest breakthroughs happen when we stop thinking in silos and start connecting ideas. To him, math, science, art, technology, and creativity are all part of the same conversation. After decades of developing cutting-edge technology at ANDRO Computational Solutions, Andy founded Project Fibonacci® in 2016 to help cultivate the next generation of innovators, leaders, and problem-solvers.



TAMALIN MARTIN: CURRICULUM & OUTREACH

Tamalin has dedicated her life to education and has long been the sunshine of the Project Fibonacci® team. Though she insists she's not retired—just repurposed—this will be her final year on the Core Team. Her positivity, compassion, and leadership have impacted countless scholars. We are grateful for her years of dedication, positivity, and leadership, and look forward to making this conference extra special as she begins her next chapter. If you hear a cheesy joke followed by a contagious laugh, chances are Tamalin is nearby.



BOB BOJANEK: CURRICULUM & OUTREACH

Bob will be the first to tell you that he's where fun goes to die...but, where ideas go to live! Despite that questionable claim, Bob is an invaluable member of the Project Fibonacci® family and a passionate entrepreneur dedicated to making our community a better place. Bob has worked tirelessly to develop a curriculum that will challenge your assumptions, stretch your thinking, and occasionally make you question his motives. Don't worry—it's all part of his mission to help develop the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers.



JESSICA GRIFFIN: WORKSHOPS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Jessica has been part of the Project Fibonacci® team since day one and is a proud advocate for fun. She helps create many of the STEAM workshops, off-site tours, and special events that scholars look forward to each year. If something exciting, engaging, or memorable is happening at conference, there's a good chance Jessica had a hand in making it happen. Outside of PFF, Jessica serves as Director of Human Resources at ANDRO Computational Solutions.



MICHELLE MINICOZZI: DIGITAL MEDIA & OUTREACH

Michelle is a driving force behind conference planning and outreach, always coming up with new ideas to make the scholar experience even better. She may be small, but she's mighty—you'll somehow spot her everywhere at once, usually with a camera in hand capturing the moments that make conference special. As ANDRO's Digital Marketing Specialist and PFF's social media queen, Michelle helps share the Project Fibonacci® story with the world.



COURTNEY NEWVINE: REGISTRATION CHAIRPERSON

As Registration Chairperson, Courtney is often your first point of contact with Project Fibonacci®. This is her third conference, and she plays a critical behind-the-scenes role in keeping scholars informed, organized, and on track. Her attention to detail helps ensure everything runs smoothly from registration through conference week. Outside of PFF, Courtney serves as ANDRO's Cultural Ambassador and Administrative Assistant.



RAMONA SMITH: JUDICIAL BOARD & OUTREACH

Mona is a tough cookie with a heart of gold. She'll challenge you to step outside your comfort zone, ask thoughtful questions, and maybe even get you talking when you'd rather stay quiet. As a member of the Judicial Board, she's also the first line of defense against conference nonsense. If you can make Mona smile, you're doing something right. Then again, her favorite childhood pet was an alligator named Smiley, so she's never been one to back down from a challenge.



BARB WELCH-DROZD: JUDICIAL BOARD & OUTREACH

Barb Welch-Drozd is the President and CEO of AndroMetaX, a minority woman-owned company focused on drone education and workforce development. With a background in psychotherapy and a passion for helping others succeed, Barb brings both insight and compassion to the Project Fibonacci® team. As a member of the Judicial Board, she helps ensure scholars have a safe, supportive, and positive conference experience.



DR. EVAN DROZD: MEDIA PRODUCTION

From STEAM Scholar to entrepreneur, mentor, and recent Utica University graduate, Evan is living proof that the Project Fibonacci® journey doesn't end after conference. As the founder of Acceliphi, a med-tech company, he's helping shape the future while giving back to the next generation. If you see someone sprinting around with a camera, it's probably Evan collecting footage for the legendary closing-day highlight video.

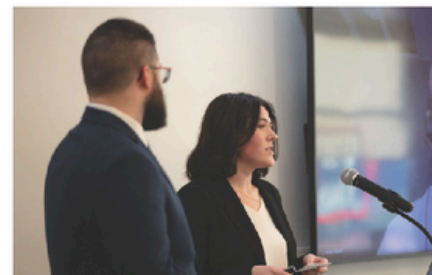
NYSTEC is committed to supporting STEAM education in communities where we live and work.

NYSTEC STEAM Programs

- + The **IgniteU STEAM** program delivers hands-on, project-based learning experiences that introduce high school students to career pathways in STEAM. Through interactive workshops and classroom activities, students build practical skills while exploring a variety of fields.
- + The **IgniteU Fellowship** connects students with small businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations, where they work independently under the guidance of an industry mentor. Fellows apply critical thinking, research, and analytical skills to solve business challenges while gaining professional experience in the workplace.

About IgniteU

IgniteU, powered by NYSTEC, is dedicated to the sustainable development of New York State by building specialized programming to support its economic and educational initiatives.



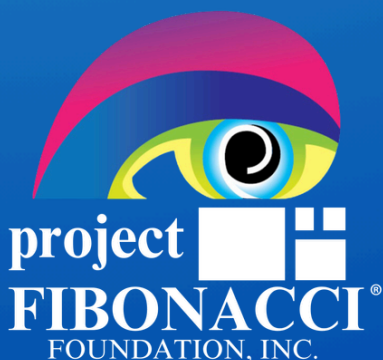
10 YEARS OF IMPACT

570+
CONFERENCE
ALUMNI SINCE 2016

300+
STUDENTS
PARTICIPATING IN
2026 PROGRAMS

\$135K
CONFERENCE
SPENDING
REINVESTED INTO
LOCAL BUSINESSES
IN 2025

75+
VOLUNTEERS AND
PRESENTERS
ANNUALLY

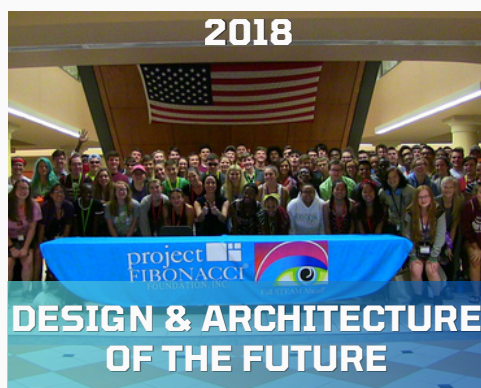
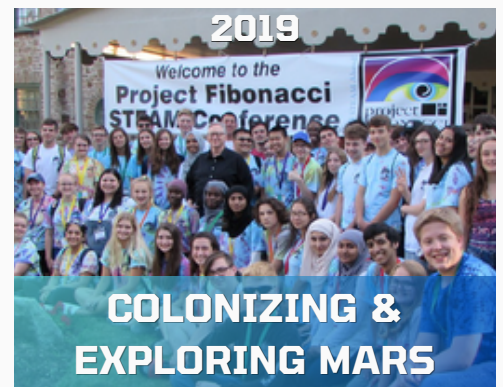


Since 2016, hundreds of scholars have gathered each summer to explore big ideas, challenge assumptions, build lasting friendships, and develop the skills needed to thrive in an ever-changing world. What began as a bold experiment has grown into a community of innovators, entrepreneurs, artists, scientists, educators, and leaders.

This year, you become part of that legacy.

As you explore the themes, challenges, and experiences of this year's conference, remember that you are joining seven generations of STEAM Scholars who dared to think differently, ask difficult questions, and imagine new possibilities for the future.

The next chapter of the Project Fibonacci® story starts with you.



2026 CONFERENCE THEME

THE QUANTUM REALM: TIME, TELEPORTATION & ENTANGLEMENT

Every generation faces uncertainty about the future.

Your generation faces it at a scale never seen before.

Artificial intelligence, automation, emerging technologies, and rapidly changing industries are transforming the world around us. New careers are emerging, familiar careers are evolving, and the skills needed to succeed are changing faster than ever before.

So how do you make smart decisions when the future itself is uncertain?

This year's capstone project is inspired by a lesson from quantum science: uncertainty is not a problem to be solved—it is a reality to be navigated.

Throughout the week, you and your team will explore workforce trends, emerging technologies, and future career opportunities. You will challenge assumptions, evaluate evidence, uncover hidden variables, and adapt your recommendations as new information emerges.

The goal is not to predict the future.

The goal is to learn how to make informed decisions when the future cannot be known with certainty.

Like quantum particles, our future does not exist as a single predetermined outcome. It exists as a range of possibilities. The choices we make, the evidence we gather, and the opportunities we pursue help determine which future becomes reality.

THE FINAL CHALLENGE

On the final day of the conference, you will take a quantum leap 40 years into the future.

During the **2066 STEAM Scholar Reunion**, you'll come face-to-face with the future versions of the two scholars your team has guided throughout the week. You'll discover the choices they made, the opportunities they pursued, the challenges they encountered, and whether your recommendations helped them navigate an uncertain world.

Your team's success will not be measured by whether you predicted the future perfectly.

It will be measured by whether your recommendations were resilient enough to adapt as the future changed.

Because in an uncertain world, the most valuable skill is not predicting what comes next.

It's learning how to adapt when it does.

CAPSTONE ASSIGNMENT

THE UNCERTAINTY OF CHOICE CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING

You and your team have been tasked with exploring the possible future pathways of two former STEAM Scholars. At the start of the week, each scholar exists in a state of uncertainty—a range of possible careers, opportunities, and outcomes.

As you gather evidence through Jeopardy Assertions, workforce data, technology trends, and emerging research, you will test assumptions and refine recommendations.

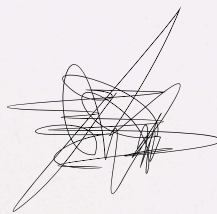
Every new piece of evidence has the potential to change the outcome.

*The Question is NOT:
What career should they choose?*

*The Question IS:
Which pathway remains strongest as the
future changes?*

MISSION OBJECTIVES

- Analyze 2 hypothetical students
- Test assumptions using evidence
- Evaluate future workforce trends
- Adapt recommendations as new information emerges
- Present your team's final pathway recommendations



THE FUTURE EXISTS IN
MANY POSSIBILITIES

FINAL DELIVERABLE

- Recommended career pathway for each scholar
- Evidence supporting your recommendation
- Hidden variables that could change the outcome
- Confidence Level (High, Medium, or Low)
- What evidence caused your recommendation to change?



A TYPICAL CONFERENCE DAY

8:00-9:00 AM

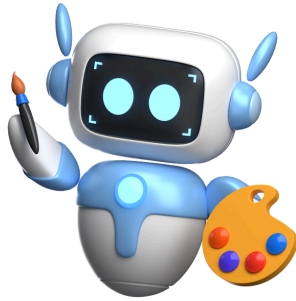
Breakfast

9:00-10:00

Team Tag Ups: Jeopardy Selection

10:00-12:30

Workshops



12:30-1:30

Lunch

1:30-3:30

Workshops/Off-Site Tours

3:30-6:00

Team Tag Ups/Project Development

6:00-7:00

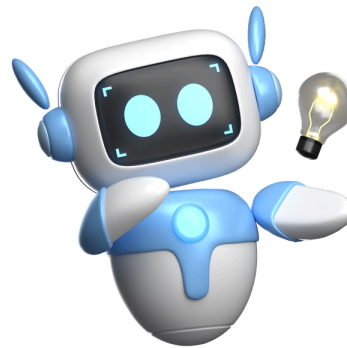
Dinner

7:00-8:00

Daily Project Pitches (T-F)

8:00-10:00

Social Options



ANDRO

Building the Future
Be Part of the Vision

About Us

ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC is a leader in advanced technologies...where wireless communications meets artificial intelligence.

Our cutting-edge solutions help keep people connected and safe – and we're always looking for the next generation of innovators.

Local. Innovative. Growing

We take pride in our commitment to workforce development, critical thinking, and the integration of STEM with the Arts.

We offer hands-on opportunities for motivated high school students who want advanced careers in STEM.

Our Technologies Support Multiple Industries:

- ✓ Military Communications
- ✓ AI/Machine Learning
- ✓ Cyber/Electronic Warfare
- ✓ Sensor Fusion & Sensor Resource Management
- ✓ Civilian Emergency Management



ESTEAMED SPEAKERS SERIES



DR. ERIN MACDONALD

AWARD-WINNING WRITER, SCIENCE COMMUNICATOR, PRODUCER & SCIENCE ADVISOR

@drerinmac

Erin Macdonald (PhD, Astrophysics) is an award-winning writer, science communicator, producer, and science advisor. She is most well-known for her work on the Star Trek franchise where she has been their official science advisor since 2019 and was a member of the Peabody Institutional Award for Star Trek in 2023. Continuing to work the Star Trek realm, she has played her own character across multiple iterations, including Star Trek: Prodigy and Star Trek Online and contributes as a writer to the Star Trek Adventures tabletop roleplaying game.

Originally from Colorado, Erin studied physics and mathematics at the University of Colorado at Boulder where her research into cold hydrogen in the local universe was recognized by the American Astronomical Society. She then moved to Scotland for her PhD at University of Glasgow where she did research in gravitational waves from neutron stars with the LIGO Scientific Collaboration. After leaving academia, Erin jumped careers from public science outreach, to education, to aerospace engineering, and finally to the entertainment industry. Instead of wanting to become Dana Scully, Erin realized she wanted to create those characters that will inspire future generations of scientists.

Erin runs the company Spacetime Productions which champions LGBTQIA+ stories in the sci-fi genre and has successfully produced three short films and featurettes since 2021.

She continues to work with the Star Trek franchise, most recently on Starfleet Academy, and is putting her energy towards her screenwriting career. Her latest feature script, TO SKYE, has been recognized at film festivals around the world. She now splits her time between Los Angeles, Glasgow, and a nice quiet garden in Michigan. When not writing or gardening, she can be found playing video games, brewing mead, or crafting her latest art project.



ESTEAMED SPEAKERS SERIES



SARA NOZKOVA

CEO & CO-FOUNDER
FLOX INTELLIGENCE

USING AI AND WILDLIFE SCIENCE TO DECODE WILD ANIMAL COMMUNICATION - AND CREATE A WORLD WHERE WE COEXIST

Sara Nozkova is the CEO & Co-founder of Flox Intelligence, a wildlife intelligence company spun out of the AI research lab at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. Flox Intelligence builds AI that decodes animal communication and speaks back to wildlife in their own language, deterring them safely from airports, railways, highways, farms, and other critical areas. To date, Flox Intelligence has safely deterred 60,000+ animals, and works with partners across various segments - from some of the largest international airports in the world, to global leaders in transportation, governments and leading NGOs.

Sara studied at Columbia University and holds a Master of Political Science in European Governance from Stockholm University. She previously worked at Kista Science City, Drive Sweden, and ITS Sweden in mobility innovation and international relations.

Founder Insights

Sara received H.M. The King's Young Pioneer Award 2025 at the Royal Palace in Sweden, one of the country's most prestigious recognitions for entrepreneurs. She was named Female Founder of the Year at Di Digital's Female Founders event and has raised millions in venture funding.

Experience

Founded in 2020 at KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Flox has raised over \$4 million total, including a \$3 million Seed+ round in 2026 led by Tilia Impact Ventures. The company now serves around 50 customers and has expanded commercial operations to Syracuse, New York.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

SPACE TIME

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29
UTICA UNIVERSITY STREBEL AUDITORIUM

A performance forging art and science; imagery and sound; inquiry and imagination

Spacetime sparks a deep, visceral experience of wonder and a sense of urgency. Our aim is for audiences to leave feeling profoundly connected: to the universe, our home planet, and to one another.

This music and science show places our planetary emergency at the heart of our cosmic origins story, reminding us that our fragile biosphere is not separate from the stars but born from them. The cosmic performance experience draws a line from astrophysics through poetry to collective engagement, from stardust to soil, insisting that science and art are both vital tools in preserving and caring for life.

You will see how our human instinct to understand ourselves and reality is empowered by the scientific process, while art holds space for the expression of both awe and outrage.

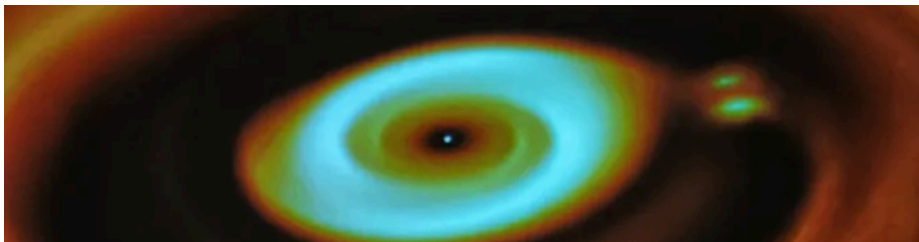
FEATURING:



DAVID GONZALEZ
POET, STORYTELLER,
MUSICIAN



LUKE KELLER
ASTROPHYSICIST,
EDUCATOR



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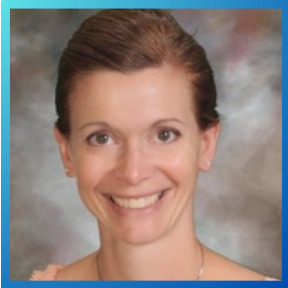
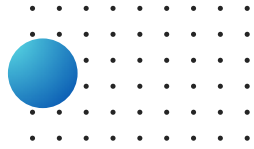
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2026 WORKSHOP EXAMPLES



INTRODUCTION TO QUANTUM REALITY

Teresa 'Penny' Mann, Oriskany Central School District

Here's the puzzle—now let's test what we think reality is. Is light a particle or a wave? Surprisingly, it behaves as both—and which one we observe depends on how we measure it. In experiments like the double-slit, light can act like a wave of possibilities, but when measured, we detect a single outcome. At the quantum level, systems exist in multiple possible states at once (a "superposition") until an interaction—such as a measurement—forces a specific result. This doesn't mean human thought creates reality, but rather that how we interact with a system determines what we can know about it.

QUANTUM RHYTHM: UNLOCKING HIDDEN CONNECTIONS OF RHYTHM AND ENERGY

John Bertrand, Lead with Rhythm

In this interactive workshop, scholars will step into a live drum circle where rhythm becomes a tool for observation. Without being told the "rules," participants must listen, watch, and adapt—identifying patterns, changes, and cues in real time. Like in quantum experiments, they will experience the difference between what is directly observable (sound, timing, behavior) and what must be inferred (structure, leadership, hidden patterns). The goal is not musical perfection, but heightened awareness: learning how careful observation leads to better inference, and how assumptions can mislead when the underlying rules are not fully visible.



HIDDEN RULES GAME

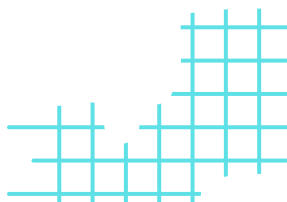
Kevin Morrisroe, Ret. Math & Ethics Teacher: Notre Dame High School

In this interactive workshop, scholars are presented with patterns of "valid" and "invalid" examples and challenged to uncover the hidden rules that generate them. By testing hypotheses, asking targeted questions, and refining their thinking based on feedback, participants experience firsthand the difference between what is observable (the examples) and what must be inferred (the underlying rule). The workshop emphasizes that not all evidence is equally useful, that misleading data can distort conclusions, and that confidence in a belief should depend on how rigorously it has been tested—mirroring the way scientists and critical thinkers make sense of an uncertain world.

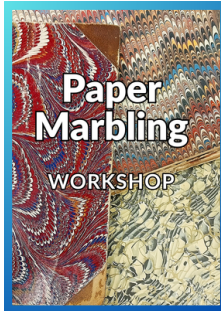
BECOMING A PRECISION MEDICINE INVESTIGATOR (PMI)

Eden Gee, Research Analyst, University of Alabama of Birmingham

What is Precision Medicine? Research is the hidden half of healthcare – healthcare doesn't start at the bedside; research is the backbone of healthcare. Precision Medicine is treating patients based on DNA and an individual's unique biology. In this workshop, you will become a PMI analyst evaluating individual patients, consider patient provided information, identify potential causes and recommend treatment based on your analysis.



2026 WORKSHOP EXAMPLES



PAPER MARBLING

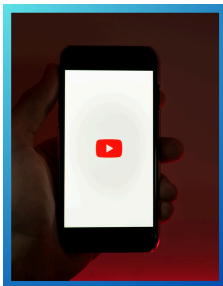
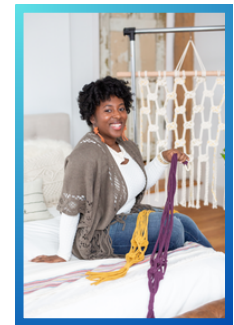
Patrick Reynolds, Oneida County History Center with Rebecca McLain & Caroline Lamb

Forget about paintbrushes—this workshop is all about harnessing the invisible forces of nature to create art. You'll dive into a hands-on exploration of surface tension and molecular polarity to manipulate pigment into mesmerizing, fractal-like patterns that seem to dance across the water. Papermarbling isn't new! It was a "secret" craft passed down through families and started in Japan over 1,000 years ago. By the end of the session, you won't just have a collection of custom-designed papers for notecards and gift wrapping; you'll have mastered a liquid alchemy that turns physics into fine art.

FELT LETTER BAG CHARMS

Tatianna George

In this hands-on workshop, students will create a personalized felt letter charm using their own initials and favorite felt colors. Participants will trace, cut, hand-sew, and lightly stuff their letters to make a fun, one-of-a-kind charm that can be added to a backpack, bag, or keychain. Students will learn basic embroidery and hand-sewing techniques, including how to start a stitch, sew neatly around the edges, stuff their design, and tie off their thread securely for a clean finished piece.



YOUTUBE CONTENT CREATORS

Kyle Lince

Find your voice, build your brand, and learn what it takes to create content for YouTube. In this workshop, students will explore different types of YouTube content and creator styles while learning how to identify their own niche and audience. Participants will discuss the dos and don'ts of the platform, including online safety and good digital citizenship, and will practice skills like on-camera presence, channel branding, basic video planning, and editing. By the end of the workshop, students will leave with a starter plan for their own channel and content ideas developed during class.

UTICA ZOO MOBILE - HERPETOLOGY

Utica Zoo

Get ready for a wild, hands-on learning experience with the Utica ZooMobile! In this interactive workshop, Utica Zoo educators will introduce students to the fascinating world of herpetology—the study of reptiles and amphibians—through live ambassador animals and engaging bio-facts. Students will learn about the unique characteristics, habitats, adaptations, and important roles that reptiles and amphibians play in our ecosystems. This conservation-focused presentation will give participants an up-close look at these incredible animals while inspiring curiosity, respect, and appreciation for wildlife and the natural world.



QUANTUM CANVAS: PAINTING THE UNSEEN

Erin Hordender, Painting Wild

In this hands-on painting workshop, students will explore the conference theme through art by creating their own quantum-inspired painting. Through step-by-step instruction, participants will learn basic painting techniques while using color, shape, and imagination to represent ideas like energy, movement, particles, and the unseen forces of the quantum world. No prior painting experience is needed—just creativity and a willingness to experiment. Each student will leave with a completed piece of artwork inspired by "The Quantum Realm."

MORE WORKSHOPS ANNOUNCED SOON!

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**AIS is proud to support the
Project Fibonacci STEAM
Women Rising Symposium!**

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FEATURED TOPICS

THE INVISIBLE CONNECTIONS THAT SHAPE SCIENCE, MUSIC, LEADERSHIP & SUCCESS

John Bertrand
MONDAY, JULY 27

In this interactive lecture and thought-provoking discussion, students will explore how the connections they build today—intellectually, creatively, and socially—can create opportunities that ripple decades into the future. By examining the fascinating phenomenon of quantum entanglement, participants will discover how seemingly separate ideas, people, and disciplines can become deeply connected in ways that drive innovation, leadership, and personal growth. Bridging hard science with human potential, this session challenges students to think beyond traditional boundaries and recognize that the future is often shaped at the intersections of knowledge, collaboration, and curiosity.

Students will:

- Understand the basic principles of quantum entanglement and interconnected systems.
- Explore how science, technology, art, and human behavior intersect to create innovation.
- Experience synchronization and collaboration through interactive activities.
- Examine how networks, relationships, and diverse perspectives influence discovery and success.
- Recognize how the choices, connections, and collaborations they make today may shape future careers, leadership opportunities, and lifelong relationships.



THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE – CAREERS 2030 AND BEYOND



Chuck Storman & Olivia Goldstein

Chuck Storman, serial entrepreneur and managing partner at StartFast, an early-stage venture fund, and Olivia Goldstein, CEO of Upstate Venture Connect (UVC), will participate in a round table discussion regarding future career opportunities.

Chuck has been involved in artificial intelligence (AI) since the late 80s and currently is a managing partner in an early-stage fund dedicated to AI based start-ups. His long history with AI provides him with a valuable perspective on the impact of AI on jobs.

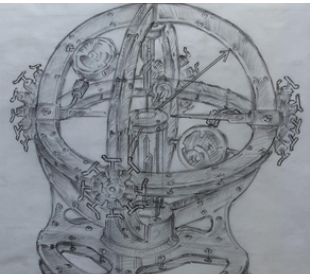
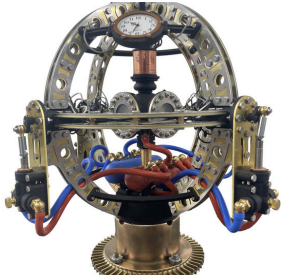


As CEO of UVC Olivia has had an opportunity to discuss our Upstate ecosystem with founders, investors and other owners of small and medium size businesses. Olivia will share with us insights gained from UVC's recent survey of privately owned businesses in Western NY.

Together Chuck and Olivia will answer questions regarding our changing career landscape.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP

BUILDING YOUR OWN STEAMPUNK QUANTUM ENGINE



Bruce Rosenbaum's ModVic special three-day STEAMPunkinetics: Building Your Own Steampunk Quantum Engine workshop invites STEAM Scholars to transform abstract quantum concepts into imaginative works of kinetic art. Over three days, 30 scholars (10 per day) will contribute to the creation of a collaborative Steampunk Quantum Engine through a unique progression of teams: The Founders establish the vision and framework, The Builders bring the design to life through hands-on construction, and The Finishers refine, enhance, and prepare the final exhibit for display.

While not a literal quantum device, the engine serves as a creative interpretation of concepts such as energy flow, probability, uncertainty, feedback, entropy, and measurement through movement, mechanics, and storytelling. Blending science, engineering, art, history, and creative design, scholars will work with salvaged materials and steampunk-inspired aesthetics to create a one-of-a-kind installation that embodies the conference theme, The Quantum Realm: Time, Teleportation & Entanglement. The completed Quantum Engine will be unveiled and showcased during the Closing Ceremonies as a lasting symbol of collaboration, innovation, and imagination.

ABOUT BRUCE ROSENBAUM

Bruce Rosenbaum is an American artist and designer based out of Palmer, MA. He is known for his work in Steampunk design, both in his home, The Steampunk House, and for what has produced by his company, ModVic. Bruce has been called the 'Steampunk Guru' by the Wall Street Journal and the 'Steampunk Evangelist' by Wired Magazine.

Rosenbaum and his wife started ModVic (from Modern Victorian), a Victorian-home restoration company, in 2007. ModVic is a steampunk art and design company that repurposes antiques and salvaged objects by transforming them into useful residential and commercial items.

Projects include his personal computer workstation housed in a Victorian pump organ, a 6-foot mechanical whale for a hotel in [Nantucket, Massachusetts](#), and a late 1800s bandsaw repurposed as a conference table and workstation.

Bruce Rosenbaum and his work have been featured in the Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, The Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, CNN, Huffington Post, NPR and featured on MTV, A&E, Discovery and HGTV.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, POOL & GYM

The hotel pool and gym offer a great opportunity for STEAM Scholars to relax and stay active during designated social times of the conference. It's important to note that the safety of our students is paramount, which is why a Project Fibonacci® chaperone must always be present when using any gym equipment or swimming in the pool. This ensures that students can enjoy these amenities in a safe and supervised environment.

SPECIAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCED SOON!

OFF-SITE TOURS



MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Utica, NY

Explore the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI), a not-for-profit institute dedicated to improving the health and quality of life for all. STEAM Scholars will tour the lab and institute, learning about their ongoing research and opportunities. MMRI is an internationally recognized biomedical research institute founded by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York in 1958.



4 ELEMENTS STUDIO TOUR & CERAMICS WORKSHOP

Utica, NY

STEAM Scholars will travel to 4 Elements Studio in Utica for a hands-on experience exploring the intersection of art, creativity, and innovation. During their visit, students will tour the studio, learn how artists transform ideas into reality through design and experimentation, and participate in a ceramics workshop where they will create their own clay piece. This interactive session highlights the important role of creativity, problem-solving, and artistic expression within STEAM.



INNOVARE

Rome, NY

Scholars will tour several cutting-edge innovation facilities at Griffiss Business and Technology Park, including SKYDOME, the New York UAS Test Site, and Quantum Research Environments. Along the way, they will learn how emerging technologies such as drones, quantum communications, advanced manufacturing, and cybersecurity are shaping the future while exploring how researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders collaborate to turn ideas into real-world solutions.

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Program Information:

Banzai Junior: (Ages 8-12) Introduces kids to basic money management by letting them run a lemonade stand, cover expenses, borrow funds when needed, and work toward a savings goal.

Digital Citizenship: (Ages 9-15) Focuses on device safety, online responsibility, and digital wellness to help kids navigate the internet confidently and securely.

Entrepreneurship: (Ages 12-18) Teaches the fundamentals of starting and running a business. Developed with QuickBooks, this course gives learners practical, realworld skills.

Banzai Teen: (Ages 13-18) Guides teens through the realities of earning income, living independently, and managing everyday costs such as rent, transportation, utilities, and more.

College and Careers: (Ages 15-18) Helps teens explore the financial side of higher education and compare different pathways toward a successful career.

Banzai Plus: (Ages 18+) Walks young adults through the homebuying journey, including budgeting across multiple paychecks, handling surprise expenses, saving for a down payment, and understanding credit scores.

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- ▶ Access to tools, articles, and activities to build confidence.
- ▶ Printable and digital activities for hands-on learning.
- ▶ Self-paced courses that fit any schedule or life stage.
- ▶ A personalized learning journey focused on building lifelong money skills.

WHAT TO PACK

CLOTHING:

- Jeans
- T-Shirts
- Shorts
- Shirts
- Athletic Clothes
- Business Professional Outfit
- School Pride Shirt/Hoodie: For Group Pics!

DON'T FORGET!

- Pajamas
- Undergarments
- Socks
- Comfortable Walking Shoes
- Bathing Suit
- Jacket/Sweater/Hoodie
- Cell Phone/Charger
- Medications - All medications (including over the counter medications) must be listed on your medical release form and will be administered by the on-site medics

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Bug spray
- Musical Instruments
- Art Supplies
- Snacks - *We provide meals & snacks daily but feel free to bring your own favorites! Just no nuts!*
- Cash / Card: Food delivery services are acceptable before curfew!

FORMS TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR

- Code of Conduct - to signed by STEAM Scholar and parent/guardian
- Medical Release Form - to be completed by parent/guardian
- Workshop Pre-selection

TOILETRIES:

The hotel will provide shampoo, conditioner, and soap but feel free to bring your own!

- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Deodarant
- Brush/Comb
- Sunscreen

NEW FOR 2026: CLASS OF 2066 REUNION!

On Closing Day, we'll take a quantum leap 40 years into the future. Pack an outfit, accessories, and props that represent the future version of yourself in 2066. Will you be an engineer, artist, entrepreneur, astronaut, scientist, inventor, or something that doesn't even exist yet?

IMPORTANT

- We are not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items.
- For the safety of all participants, luggage inspections will be conducted upon arrival. Please review the Code of Conduct before packing.
- Submit your mandatory forms prior to the conference.
- In the case of disciplinary actions for STEAM Scholars that violate the Code of Conduct, parents will be contacted.

ATTENTION PARENTS

To ensure the safety and security of all participants, specific details regarding the times and locations of these events will be shared with parents and legal guardians as the dates approach. This action helps us maintain a secure environment for everyone involved.

Additionally, we kindly ask all parents and legal guardians to carefully read and acknowledge the Parents Code of Conduct. This document is crucial for ensuring a positive and productive atmosphere for all attendees. By understanding and agreeing to this code, you help us create a supportive and respectful community that benefits all our STEAM Scholars. Thank you for your cooperation and enthusiasm.

OPENING DAY

SUNDAY, JULY 26
ROME, NY

Join your STEAM Scholar during the check-in process. Check-in will include a review of the medical release form, and an overview of the code of conduct. Our team will be available to answer any questions and provide local recommendations if you are not from the area!

CLOSING DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1
ROME, NY

Parents and families are encouraged to join us for the closing ceremonies.

9:00-10:00

Scholar Meet & Greet

- Meet your students team to learn more about their week!

10:00-11:00

Final Project Presentation

11:00-12:00

Closing Ceremonies

12:30-1:00

Lunch & Reflections

- Pizza Party & STEAM Scholars can introduce their families to their new Fibonacci Friends!

1:00-2:30

STEAM Scholar Departure - All students must be picked up by their parent or guardian by 2:30.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOLARS

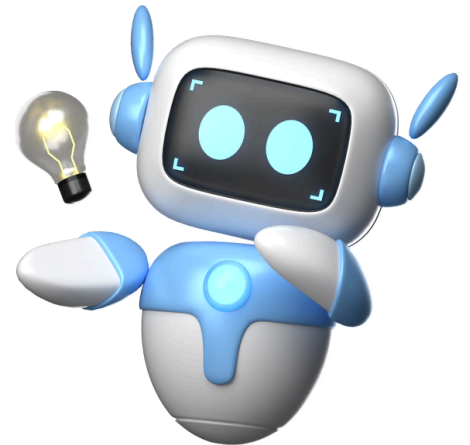
FUTURE STEAM INTERNSHIPS

Selected STEAM Scholars may have the opportunity to participate in future internships through Project Fibonacci's Innovation Continuum, a community-driven initiative designed to help students explore, create, and launch real-world projects. Working alongside mentors, educators, entrepreneurs, and industry professionals, interns will gain hands-on experience in areas such as technology, engineering, digital media, entrepreneurship, research, marketing, community engagement, and program development.

Rather than traditional job-shadowing, these internships emphasize creativity, problem-solving, teamwork, and innovation. Students will contribute to meaningful projects, develop professional skills, build their portfolios, and explore career pathways while helping shape the future of the Innovation Continuum. For motivated scholars, this experience may serve as a bridge between classroom learning, higher education, and the workforce.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

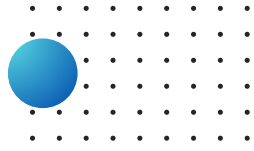
Students who complete the Project Fibonacci Conference may be invited to participate in the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) a youth leadership initiative that provides students with opportunities to share their perspectives on education, workforce development, technology, and future career pathways.



SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR MEDIA SPONSOR



FAQS



I'm a past STEAM Scholar who has aged out of the program, can I still attend?

Yes! Aged-out STEAM Scholars can still join in on the fun as volunteers or team facilitators.

If I live locally, am I allowed to commute to and from the conference rather than staying overnight?

The Project Fibonacci® Foundation highly encourages STEAM Scholars to stay on-site for the duration of the conference. This is to ensure the safety and security of our STEAM Scholars and to provide the best overall experience. If it is absolutely necessary to commute, please contact us for more information on the proper protocols.

What if I'm traveling by plane/train/bus?

Please send us your travel itinerary so we can arrange ground transportation.

What kind of security/supervision is provided?

We take the well-being of all participants very seriously. Evening security officers ensure the safety of our STEAM Scholars and the grounds. During the day, STEAM Facilitators and our vetted network of volunteers are on hand to ensure a safe and secure experience for STEAM Scholars. We also have medics on-site 24/7.

How can I choose the workshops I want to participate in?

Workshop Pre-Selection: STEAM Scholars are advised to carefully read through workshop descriptions and choose their preferred options in advance. Keep in mind that certain workshops are mandatory for all scholars. By selecting workshops early, students can secure their spots and enable us to create a personalized schedule for each STEAM Scholar before the conference begins. Stay tuned for further updates.

Can I choose my roommate for the conference?

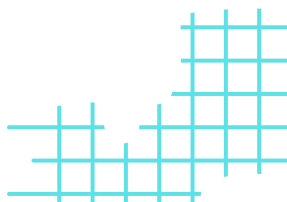
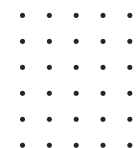
Absolutely! If you have a friend or classmate who is also attending the conference, you can select the "Choose my own roommate" option during registration. If not, we do our best to match STEAM Scholars with a roommate. If you'd prefer to room alone, we will do our best to accommodate you on a case-by-case basis.

What if I have a pre-existing event that conflicts with the schedule?

No problem! We just ask that you provide written permission from your parent/guardian and an estimated time of your departure/return.

Are my parents allowed to attend any of the activities during the week?

Parents are encouraged to join their STEAM Scholars during the check-in process on opening day and join us on the final day for Project Presentations and the Closing Ceremony! They are also invited to special events and keynote presentations.



GET INVOLVED

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

Donating is the greatest way you can impact the Project Fibonacci® Foundation and ensure its continued success and growth.

All donations are fully tax-deductible.



FUEL YOUR FUTURE FAIR

Companies, organizations, and academic institutions are encouraged to join us and exhibit for free!



VOLUNTEER

We rely on our extensive volunteer network to help provide a safe and creative learning environment for our STEAM Scholars.

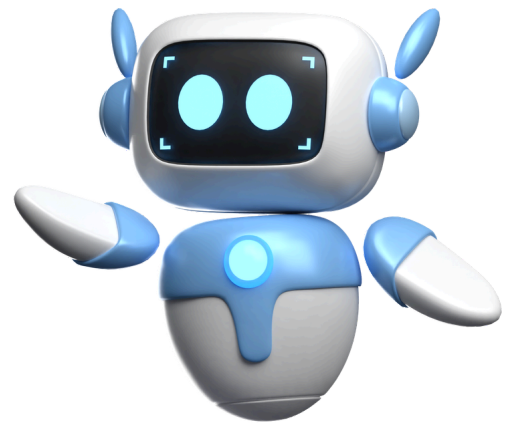


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The Project Fibonacci® STEAM Leadership Conference is more than a week-long event—it's an investment in the next generation of innovators, leaders, entrepreneurs, creators, and problem-solvers.

The success of our conference is made possible by the generosity of our sponsors, donors, and community partners. Your tax-deductible contribution helps students from New York State and beyond participate in a transformational experience focused on leadership, innovation, career exploration, and STEAM education.

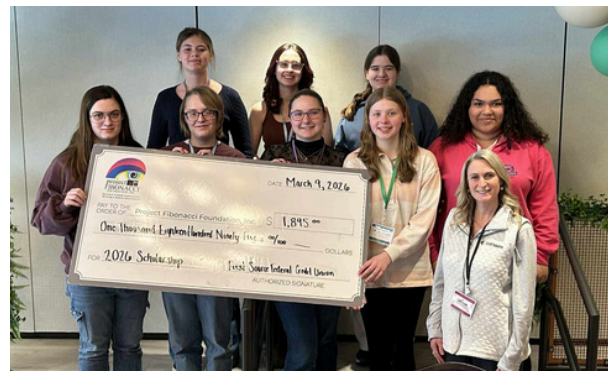
Whether you choose to sponsor a scholar, support conference programming, make an in-kind donation, or become a general sponsor, every contribution helps remove barriers and create opportunities for young people to discover their potential and explore future career pathways.

By supporting Project Fibonacci®, you are investing in the future workforce and helping students develop the curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, and leadership skills needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Thank you for helping us inspire young minds, strengthen our community, and create opportunities that will have a lasting impact for years to come.

Full STEAM Ahead!

For more information, contact us at:
info@projectfibonacci.org



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