CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF STEMISPHERE

NEW WEBSITE WILL CONNECT STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND PARENTS
WITH CUTTING-EDGE STEM RESOURCES

PITTSBURGH, APRIL 14, 2014 – Parents: Now is the perfect time to hunt educational summer activities across western Pennsylvania for your children. A new, user-friendly tool launched by Carnegie Science Center will keep young minds sharp outside of the classroom.

Carnegie Science Center launched STEMisphere (www.STEMisphere.org), a free central hub listing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) resources.

The database contains hundreds of listings of programs, classes, events, and more in STEM-related fields for students ranging in age from preschoolers to high school seniors. Students, teachers, and parents can use keywords to search for programs with specific focuses, such as “robotics” or “astronomy.” They can further filter those programs by age and region.

Given its role as a “trusted voice in the region,” the Science Center works to be a leader in fostering STEM education, said Alana Kulesa, the Science Center’s director of strategic education initiatives.

The Science Center, as a “community collaboration catalyst,” hopes the website will spawn partnerships across the region, she said. Some of the listings are Science Center programming, while others are external opportunities from groups such as the Girl Scouts and YWCA. The website employs a portal concept, directing users to a universe of opportunities.

Anyone with a STEM resource may share a listing for free. Businesses with scientific internships, institutions with specialty camps, or industries sponsoring STEM-related competitions are invited to submit information to the website.

“We want to make it as simple as possible for people to submit their resource,” Kulesa said. “All you have to do is go to STEMisphere.org, click on the “Submit a Resource” button and fill out the form.” Forms will be reviewed to ensure their educational value and their fit with STEMisphere’s mission.

Once approved, submitted listings will appear online.

STEMisphere is currently adding resources for Summer 2014 and beyond and is encouraging providers to submit their programs as soon as possible to make sure they’re included, Kulesa said.

In the future, the site will expand its opportunities for parents, students, educators, and community partners. In addition, plans are in the works to grow STEMisphere’s footprint to include educational opportunities in West Virginia.

To take advantage of the directory or to submit a listing, visit STEMisphere.org. Join us at STEMisphere by liking us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/STEMisphere and following us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/STEMisphere.
Carnegie Science Center Launches STEMisphere.org

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About Carnegie Science Center
Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center’s goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh’s premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh
Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums dedicated to exploration through art and science: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. Annually, the museums reach more than 1.2 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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