



MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release

June 5, 2017

Contact: Connie George

Mobile: 412.638.7029

GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Contact: Rossilyne Culgan

Office: 412.237.3442 / Mobile: 412.738.0475

RibleJ@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER HOSTING STEM PATHWAY INSTITUTE

STEM LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE NATION JOIN TOGETHER TO EXPLORE CARNEGIE STEM EXCELLENCE PATHWAY

PITTSBURGH, June 5, 2017 — Educators from around the country are convening at Carnegie Science Center this week to learn how to implement the Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway in their regions. This is the second Pathway Provider Training Institute. Running June 5-7, the institute shows professionals how they can support schools in their communities using the Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway tool.

The result of a grassroots effort convened by Carnegie Science Center, the Pathway is a process of continuous improvement that provides guidance to diverse schools – both well-resourced and under-resourced – on how best to address the challenge of strengthening their STEM programming. Each school district (or individual school) first evaluates itself on 20 criteria pertinent to quality STEM education and then develops a tailored strategy to identify and address specific self-defined goals, which are reinforced throughout the students' experiences in the classroom and during out-of-school time. These strategies may include teacher professional development, curriculum planning, modification of existing operational practices, incorporation of career awareness, and an overall culture shift as it pertains to STEM education.

To date, the Pathway has attracted more than 8,400 participating schools – or "Pathway Partners" – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, serving 4 million students. In Pennsylvania, there are 130 Pathway Partners. The Pathway is open to any school district in the nation with a drive to improve STEM education.

Participants include the Arkansas Discovery Network; Discovery Place (Charlotte, NC); Fort Worth Museum of Science and history; Museum of Discovery (Little Rock, Arkansas); Oregon Museum of Science & Industry; the St. Louis Science Center; and the Intermediate Units of four regions in

Pennsylvania. Attendees can network and engage in best practices from their counterparts across the nation.

“The Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway has spread rapidly across the United States, and as cultivators of STEM innovation, we want to support those who are interested in the Pathway and what it has to offer educators all throughout the country. This Pathway Provider Training Institute is made possible with generous support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to bring together other science centers, and from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to leverage the work of regional Intermediate Units throughout the commonwealth,” said Alana Kulesa, Director of Strategic Education Initiatives at Carnegie Science Center.

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

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

###