

Philly school district partners with scientist for STEM event

February 27, 2024 | Philadelphia Tribune, The (PA)

Author: Chanel Hill Tribune Staff Writer | Section: The Learning Key | 816 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Nyshawana Francis-Thompson first met scientist and educator Tyraine Ragsdale, also known as Grand Hank, 17 years ago as a classroom teacher at John P. Turner Middle School in Southwest Philadelphia.

She remembered the impact Ragsdale's visit had on her students so when the opportunity came for the School District of Philadelphia to partner with Ragsdale again, she couldn't pass it up. Francis Thompson is currently the school district's chief of curriculum and instruction.

"I was an emotional support teacher at the time and we had a school assembly that featured Grand Hank," Francis-Thompson said. "I had a classroom of 15 boys and one girl. I just remember their faces lighting up from that experience of seeing Grand Hank.

"A lot of the boys loved science and cooking," she said. "They were really inspired by what Grand Hank was doing. When the opportunity came for us to partner with Grand Hank again almost 17 years later, we didn't need convincing.

"We knew what that partnership would mean to our young people," she added. "For them to see his work and to see a representation of a Black scientist. He also provides a level of rigor that he brings to the experiences. Everything that he is doing aligns with the work the district is doing with STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics)."

The school district is partnering with Ragsdale for the 16th annual Black History Month MEGA STEM event. The event will be held Feb. 28-29 at The Met and consist of live science demonstrations.

Each lesson will feature a biographical look at an African American scientist and inventor who influenced the science behind the experiment.

"We will take a scientist like Charles Drew and we will explain his bio to the students," Ragsdale said. "We talk about the science and the medicine that he helped bring forth.

"That will then be followed by an experiment that is tied to him," he said. "Not only will students know his name, but they will also know the theory of what he did because they were able to see an experiment about him.

"This is all about getting students excited about STEM," he added. "We want them to be engaged and excited about getting up on stage. We want them to be excited about learning about science, physics, chemistry and engineering. We want them to see themselves in this field."

In 2015, Ragsdale introduced the mega event to Philadelphia at the Dell East Music Center. The goal for the event was to provide students with a foundation of how STEM has evolved over the years and to introduce more students to scientists and inventors of color.

Ragsdale is a former research scientist of Johnson and Johnson. He founded the multimedia-education company Grand Hank Productions Inc. in 1989.

"I was a research chemist for the R.W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute Division of Johnson and Johnson for a number of years," Ragsdale said.

"While I was there, I realized that there was a shortage of African Americans in the area of STEM," he said. "I wanted to figure out a way that I could do something about that. I also wanted to draw more students into the field.

"One of my goals has always been that if I had the opportunity to impact the lives of people centered around learning that I would," he added. "I'm now able to do that through how I'm teaching STEM."

In addition to the partnership with Ragsdale, the school district has also been doing their own efforts around STEM. Two years ago the district hired its first STEM curriculum specialist.

"He's been tasked with building our internal infrastructure for what STEAM looks like in our district," Francis-Thompson said. "He offers Tune Up Tuesdays where teachers across the district can join sessions and learn a wide range of information around STEAM activities.

"We received a grant from GSK and the grant focuses on ensuring Black and brown children and female students have access to STEM opportunities," she said. "Through this funding, we provided professional development to teachers at select schools where we know there's a low representation of STEAM support.

"We're also providing materials to those schools to ensure that we open up opportunities and neighborhood schools that would not otherwise have these opportunities," she added. "Another thing that we've been doing is building STEAM lessons into our ELA and math curriculum."

Francis-Thompson said she hopes more district students go into the field of STEM in the future.

"The idea is for them to get an opportunity for careers in these particular fields," Francis-Thompson said. "Even if they're not getting access to the careers, they're getting exposure and they're opening up pathways in their brains to think in ways that they otherwise would not be thinking.

"We want to open up those pipelines," she said. "Our students are more than capable of going into these pathways. We're really trying to be very intentional about creating that pipeline for our young people to economic gains as well."

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

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2024 in photos: A battleground year for the Philly region

December 16, 2024 | [WHYY.org](https://www.whyy.org) (Philadelphia, PA)

Author: Emma Lee | Section: News | 1370 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

2024 in photos: A battleground year for the Philly region

Here's a view from WHYY News photographers of how the last 12 months unfolded in real time.

By* Emma Lee

December 16, 2024

From Philly and the Pa. suburbs to South Jersey and Delaware, what would you like WHYY News to cover? Let us know!

2024 was a battleground year across the Delaware Valley.

Two of the most prominent storylines? Trump vs. Harris and Chinatown vs. the Sixers arena.

Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle Parker, in her inaugural year, also took on Kensington's open-air drug market and Philly's "Filtadelphia" moniker.

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And the S.S. United States lost its long battle to become a permanent attraction in Philadelphia. Instead it will become an artificial reef off the coast of Okaloosa County in Florida.

Photos from WHYY News photographers reflect these struggles, but they also show the vibrant daily life of the Philadelphia area and the triumphs of its artists, its athletes, its students and its activists.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Emma Lee, '2024 in photos: A battleground year for the Philly region', *WHYY.org* (online), 16 Dec 2024

⟨<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/19D8055F5FD830F0>⟩

Scientist 'Grand Hank' inspires Philly students to delve deeper into the world of STEM careers

February 8, 2024 | Philadelphia Tribune, The (PA)

Author: Amanda Fitzpatrick, WHY? | Section: Local News | 975 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Tyraine Ragsdale, affectionately known as the "Master Scientist Grand Hank," is once again sharing his love of science and math with local students.

"I had a vision for this, that if we could just get to the masses and demonstrate to them up close and personal, so they can see, you can do this too. I've done it and I'm here to show you, you can do it," said Ragsdale.

A former research chemist for Johnson & Johnson, Ragsdale founded Grand Hank Productions, Incorporated, a multimedia education company, in 1989.

Ragsdale, who said he grew up poor in Philly's public housing, was motivated by a teacher in the district to pursue college and become a scientist. He now shares his story and his love of STEM through fun, hands-on learning workshops.

Ragsdale's story stands as a living reminder that anything is possible; the scientist has had a profound impact on STEM education, reaching more than 10 million students, parents and teachers globally.

On Tuesday at Allen M. Stearne School in Philly, eighth grade students were in awe as Ragsdale demonstrated different cool and innovative explanations of science.

Eighth-grade student Khasir Phillips volunteered for one science experiment where Ragsdale said he would pull blood from the anxious student's hand.

But it's not what you think. There wasn't any real blood, but Ragsdale asked Phillips to place his hand in a bowl, and while he counted down students began murmuring as Ragsdale warned students that Phillips' hand would come out of the bowl, bloody.

"How does your hand feel," Hank asked Phillips.

Phillips nervously replied, "It feels weird but a good kind of weird," before telling the crowd he felt something happening to his hand.

A few moments later Ragsdale pulled Phillips' hand out of the bowl and wiped it on a piece of paper, where red markings appeared.

The room of more than two dozen 8th-grade students erupted in "ooohs and ahhhhs" while Ragsdale wiped off Phillips' hand and simply shared, "That's how science works."

This is just one example of how Ragsdale engages young people in the School District of Philadelphia using cool real-life demonstrations to teach them about subjects that otherwise would be considered boring for some.

"It's different from normal types of science. We don't just sit down and learn something but instead you go participate and do something fun that interests you that's why people start to like science more and more," said Phillips.

According to the district, nationally women constitute 50% of the college-educated workforce but comprise only 28% of the science and engineering workforce. Black/African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans make up

11% of workers in science and engineering occupations.

To improve these outcomes workshops like this matter.

School District of Philadelphia Chief of Curriculum and Instruction Nyshawana Francis-Thompson, aka Dr. Ny, says the district wants to change the trajectory and increase the number of students entering the field of STEM.

"We know that there is a particular underrepresentation of Black and brown students as well as women represented in the STEM field," said Francis-Thompson.

Francis-Thompson said that underrepresentation is hurting the industry.

"We know that it's less than 20% represented in those careers so we want to open up those pathways for our young people. We know they deserve it and we can do it," she said.

And it's working — Phillips first saw "Grand Hank" in action when he was in seventh grade, in a similar classroom setting. Phillips said that's when he knew he wanted to pursue a career in engineering.

"I had an affinity for robots, but this really did push me to be more of an engineer," said Phillips.

Black professionals only make up 9% of STEM workers in the United States according to Science News. Phillips said those numbers don't discourage him.

"As a Black man, I feel like we should learn more. And not be discouraged by our color," said Phillips.

Thanks to funding from the district, the classroom where "Grand Hank" did his demonstration at Allen M. Stearne School has been remodeled to provide a maker's room for their students.

"I think it's important that the neighborhood school gets a win," said Principal Alphonso Evans, who shared that his students will now be able to have a space at the school for more full-time STEM-related learning and projects.

Evans says it's a way to introduce students in North Philly to subjects they may have never considered in the past.

"I don't think that parents need to send their children miles and miles away for them to get a phenomenal education and be exposed to what they deserve," said Evans.

The goal is also to open a new pathway for students to pursue STEM-related professions.

The School District plans to continue these types of lessons for more students by utilizing "The Philadelphia STEM Equity Collective" for a \$10 million program to increase diversity in students pursuing STEM Careers.

Ragsdale said he will soon put his show on the road. The Grand Hank's 16th Annual Mega Black History STEM Field Trip will invite students in K-8th grade to celebrate African American scientists and inventors through live STEM demonstrations set to music. There will also be a night session for families and students. The event will be February 27-28 at The Met in Philadelphia.

In the future, Ragsdale hopes to be able to also provide his lessons full-time with a center made just for students and STEM-related activities.

Ragsdale has begun renovations and construction of the new Grand Hank STEM Center for Inner City Youth. The venue, located adjacent to LaSalle University in Philadelphia, will be a place any student can go to work on their math and science exploration and skills. Ragsdale said he has raised more than \$1 million and hopes to be able to raise an additional \$200,000 to complete the project and open the center for area youth.

"The ultimate goal is to build a pipeline of a thousand scientists, in the next three to five years; that's the ultimate goal," said Ragsdale.

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Scientist 'Grand Hank' inspires Philly students to delve deeper into the world of STEM careers

February 7, 2024 | WHYY.org (Philadelphia, PA)

Author: Amanda Fitzpatrick | Section: News | 1382 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

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Obituaries

August 2, 2020 | Columbus Dispatch, The (OH)

Section: News | 144 Words

Page: 5B

[OpenURL Link](#)

Bunner, Judy 1938 - 2020 Judy Lynn Stelz Bunner, born 9/24/1938, Cols. Oh West High grad proud Cowboy cheerleader. She earned her Rad Tech degree from Mt Carmel and worked there for many years then managed her husband's dental practice and volunteered at Dublin Methodist. She was a dedicated mother and devoted to the love of her life Danny since the age of 14. Beautiful inside and out caring, selfless, happy, a bright and shining light that drew others to her. Preceded in death by parents Ray and Peggy Stelz, in-laws Dr Dan "Doc" and Gertie Bunner. Survived by husband, Danny; brother, Dick (Judy); children, Steve, Lisa (Todd), Erin (Rick), Michael; grand, Laine (Brad), Colt, Damon, Emma, Olivia, Daniel, Will, Joe, Lili; great grand, Hank Gunner. Pvt celebration of life 8/9/2020. Arrangements completed at Jerry Spears Funeral Home. Condolences for the family can be left at www.jerryspearsfuneralhome.com.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

'Obituaries', *Columbus Dispatch, The* (online), 2 Aug 2020 5B <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/17CA64C8C019AE38>>

Columbus Dispatch, The (OH): Page 35

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Columbus, Ohio

Page: 35

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Columbus Dispatch, The (online), 2 Aug 2020 35 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=image/v2%3A16656C71B76336E8%40AWNB-17C99570F8E95A72%402459064-17C995BE790BD077%4034-17C995BE790BD077%40>>

Give it up for the magic and wonders of STEM

February 11, 2020 | Hawk Eye, The (Burlington, IA)

Author: The Hawk Eye | Section: News | 218 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Grand Hank & The Magic and Wonders of STEM, a high-energy, interactive, hands-on science centered event designed to excite students about all things STEM, did just that for area students during the performance Tuesday at Memorial Auditorium in Burlington.

The Greater Burlington Partnership and Burlington Community Schools hosted Grand Hank for his first appearance in Iowa. Burlington School District students in grades 7 through 10 attended the show Tuesday and other students will attend at 9 a.m. today at the auditorium.

Grand Hank is the stage name for Tyraine Ragsdale. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh earning a bachelor of science degree in chemistry, with minors in physics and mathematics. Ragsdale went on to become a research scientist for the Johnson & Johnson family of companies.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

Another upcoming event for STEM is the annual Southeast Iowa Regional STEMfest. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at SCC's West Burlington campus. The family-friendly event is a joint effort among SCC, the Southeast Iowa STEM Region, the Lee County Economic Development Group, Greater Burlington Partnership, local businesses, manufacturers and area educators.

"Bring the little ones and bring your teenagers," said Leanne Krogmeier, SCC Work-Based Learning Specialist.

"STEMfest showcases activities for students in every grade from elementary through high school."

Copyright, 2020, The Hawk Eye, Burlington IA

- **Citation (aglc Style)**

The Hawk Eye, 'Give it up for the magic and wonders of STEM', *Hawk Eye, The* (online), 11 Feb 2020

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Calendar: Aug. 22-29

August 23, 2019 | Philly Weekly (Philadelphia, PA)
Author: Alex Nagy | @AlexBNagy | Section: Arts | 2921 Words
[OpenURL Link](#)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Interests | Keystone Comic Con

Immerse yourself in nerd — um, we mean pop — culture at this three-day event hosted by ReedPOP. Sylvester Stallone is one of the major personalities in attendance this year. Geek out at Philly's exclusive convention for all fandoms. | 12 pm. Prices vary. Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1100 Arch St. keystonecomiccon.com

Performance | Cosplay Cabaret

We can only imagine this is a show full of characters and blissful chaos. Go full geek mode at this performance featuring Michael Henbury from Star Wars: Return of the Jedi. | 8 pm. \$20. Franky Bradley's, 1320 Chancellor St. eventbrite.com

Dance | Frisky Friday: Twerk'd

This class is worth it to learn how to twerk it. Put that thing down, flip it and reverse it in this dance class. Learn to work it like Missy Misdemeanor. | 8:30 pm. Free. Philly Dance Fitness, 1301 Locust St. facebook.com

Outdoors | Twilight in the Gardens

An outdoor event with just the right amount of art and music to soothe your soul. Show up as the sun begins to go down for a performance by progressive rock/folk artist John Gilbride, and a polymer clay demonstration with teaching artist Erica Hemler. | 7 pm. \$20. Philadelphia's Magic Gardens, 1020 South St. phillymagicgardens.org

Outdoors | Magic Garden Party

It's bound to be a beautiful night under the stars here. There's plenty of art and different types of performances going on all night. You can even get in on the fun through some participatory engagements. | 9 pm. \$25-\$30. One Art Community Center, 1431 N. 52nd St. seetickets.us

Interests | America's Next Top Pet

We know your pet is already beautiful. Come get them professionally photographed and that beauty will pop even more. You can even use your pet's photos to have them be entered in Goose Island's calendar contest. | 4 pm. \$20. Goose Island Brewhouse, 1002 Canal St. eventbrite.com

Fundraiser | Respect: Women's Podcast Festival

This festival underscores the importance of having women's voices in emergent media. Come honor some strong minds and listen in on some great live shows. Show your proper respect for these ladies. | 9 pm. Free. Amalgam Comics and Coffeehouse, 2578 Frankford Ave. facebook.com

Music | It's Still Raining Narcan

Overdose Awareness Day falls on Aug. 31 this year, but we're kicking up the celebration a week early. This benefit

show with performances by Joe Jack Talcum, Erin Incoherent, The Spirit World and Lust for Nothing will raise money for Operation in My Backyard. Come out for music, raffles and free Narcan. | 7 pm. \$15. Boot and Saddle, 1131 S. Broad St. facebook.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

Family Friendly | The Sky's the Limit

This community day is all about the little ones. Bring them for a day full of games, activities and a school supply giveaway. Give your kids one last hurrah before they head back to school. | 1 pm. Free. Penrose Recreation Center, 1101 W. Susquehanna Ave. eventbrite.com

LGBTQ | The Golden Gurlz Live

Philly's most fabulous drag performers will perform two episodes of the show all about the iconic grannies. Brittany Lynn is "Dorothy," Alexis Michelle - of Rupaul's Drag Race fame - is "Rose," Crystal Electra is "Blanche," and Karl Seigert is "Jean the Lesbian" and "Aunt Angela." Have a laugh with some of your favorite girls this Saturday night. | 10:30 am. \$35. Mifflin Tavern, 1843 S. 2nd St. eventbrite.com

Food & Drink | Her-Story Brunch: A Sisterhood of Crowns

All females are welcome to share their stories of what womanhood means to them. This is a great opportunity to surround yourself with women who support other women. Lift each other up and remind each other to never keep your head down - your crown will slip. | 12 pm. \$35. Green Soul, 1410 Mount Vernon St. eventbrite.com

Performance | South Asian American Digital Archive

This performance will apparently change the way you think about the history of Philadelphia. Five South Asian musicians will be presenting their narratives through each of their unique sounds. | 6:30 pm. \$25. Neighborhood House, 20 N. American St. eventbrite.com

Comedy | Tiny Arson

This sketch team produces some pretty hilarious comedy that never fails to burn the house down. Come see why their members have been recognized by Funny or Die, McSweeney's and more. Only your tears from laughing so hard could put this burning fire out. | 9 pm. \$12. Philly Improv Theater, 2030 Sansom St. eventbrite.com

Food & Drink | Tacos and Margs Crawl

Get turned on all the tacos and tequila you could ever desire. Take the party with you to several of the best bars in the area. You'll definitely be crawling on the ground after this. | 2 pm. \$25. Locations vary. showclix.com

Music | Waves: CVGEBIRD EP Release Party

Much like the ocean, Waves embodies the feeling of summer. Their new EP, "CVGEBIRD," will be the sand between your toes. Hold onto that feeling of summer independence at this party. If you keep listening, the season will never end. | 6 pm. Free. The BREED Studios, 413 N. 7th St. eventbrite.com

Fundraiser | Celebrate and Sustain

This fundraiser is in support of Womanly Magazine, a visual art and health magazine for women and non-binary people. Show some support for their publication by coming out, donating, mingling and reading their material. | 6 pm. Free. 2336 N. Front St. eventbrite.com

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Interests | Artists and Artisans Market

Markets like these are an amazing opportunity to admire the creativity of all the Philadelphians around you. Take in all the beautiful scenery, weather and creations from the dozens of artists there. | 11 am. Free. Cherry Street Pier, 121 N. Columbus Blvd. [facebook.com](#)

Music | Give the Drummer Some

Add some power into your Sunday with live drums. Satchel Sanchez will be pounding away to music of all genres, and even some of his own. Chill Moody and DJ Hank McCoy will be your ambassadors for the day. | 2 pm. Free. City Tap University City, 3925 Walnut St. [eventbrite.com](#)

Outdoors | Bula in the Backyard

"Bula" is the island way of saying "cheers." Wind down your last Sunday of August with positive vibes and relaxing times. Sip on some euphoric and soothing kava kava tea to let go of the last of those nerves. | 5:30 pm. Prices vary. Jaya Kava, 1322 Morris St. [facebook.com](#)

Fundraiser | Philly Roller Derby All Stars Fundraising

Celebrate these roller derby badasses and help fund their travel. They'll be heading to Seattle and Washington D.C. to compete in tournaments. Raise some funds and raise a little hell while you're at it. | 4 pm. Prices vary. Love City Brewing Co., 1023 Hamilton St. [phillyrollerderby.ticketleap.com](#)

Interests | Pints Fur Pets

Philadelphia Union players will be serving up pints of bubbly brews in support of fur babies. Drink or eat up and give your money to ACCT Philly and the Providence Animal Center. It's ok to indulge a bit - it's for the pets. | 1:30 pm. \$15. Field House, 1150 Filbert St. [sonsofben.ticketleap.com](#)

LGBTQ | Morning of Fellowship, Brunch and Drag

Lift yourself up and feel the spirit while surrounded by drag queens. Joni Magdalene - Philly's Miss Sobriety - will be leading the service. Save your soul with some prayer, a little bit of food and a lot of fabulousness. | 10:30 am. \$25. Mifflin Tavern, 1843 S. 2nd St. [facebook.com](#)

Interests | Johnny Cupcakes Pop-Up Shop

The world's first t-shirt bakery is coming to Fishtown. This clothing line's logo is a cupcake and crossbones, and they slap cupcakes over pretty much every other major brand they parody in their clothing. Everyone there will get a free gift, and the first 20 to buy something will get a cupcake. | 2 pm. Free. 100 E. Girard Ave. [eventbrite.com](#)

Interests | Welcome Home: An African Diaspora Celebration

This event celebrates the overall influence and greatness of African art. Connect with others at this party full of dancing, original art and live performances. | 6 pm. \$10. Sunflower Philly, 1725 N. 5th St. [eventbrite.com](#)

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

Fitness | The Liberty Walk

A walking route straight from Philadelphia to Washington D.C. This day is just a trip around Philly, though. You can

register for half or all day. See how long you can stick it out on this epic journey. | 7 am. \$75-\$100. Independence Seaport Museum, 211 S. Columbus Blvd. everwalk.com

Dance | Femme Fatale: Heels and Pole Workshop

The cost is worth it to learn how to work it. Pole dancing - especially in heels - requires an admirable amount of strength. Become one with the pole at this workshop that'll have you feeling like a master afterwards. | 7 pm. \$20. Awakenings Pole Dance Fitness, 4151 Main St. [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Interests | Water Ice with a Cop

Philly cops need our love right now. Come cool off and have a valuable conversation with one. It's all about fostering positive interactions in the community with those hired to protect us. | 6 pm. Free. Powers Park Conservancy, 2965 Almond St. [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Art | Fringe Festival Preview Night

Snippets of performances and art that will be featured in the festival are previewed here. In case you don't know what to expect, come check this out and be intrigued to come back for the festival. You never really know what you'll see here. | 7 pm. Free. FringeArts, 140 N. Columbus Blvd. fringearts.com

Performance | The Female Takeover Showcase

It's always right when women are in charge. Come watch some beautiful black women show off their greatest talents. You'll be feeling all the female positive vibes in the air. | 7 pm. \$10. Green Soul, 1410 Mount Vernon St. [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Wellness | Women's Soul Circle

All female-identifying folks are welcome to the circle. Talk about anything that's on your mind, and don't forget to lift each other up. Let it all out. | 7 pm. Free. Fishtown Wellness Center, 430 Belgrade St. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Interests | Dog Days of Summer

Celebrate National Dog Day in style. Bring your pooch to be pampered here with treats and a photo booth, while the humans enjoy a happy hour. Lulu's Rescue will be on-site with adoptable pups, and all donations made throughout the night will go towards them. | 5 pm. Free. Hotel Monaco, 433 Chestnut St. [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Performance | Queen of the Night

This mock pageant crams everything you love about pageants into a digestible show. Watch gifted queens show off their best talents and be put to the test through several challenges. Last month's winner - A-Dick-Shun - will be a co-host. | 8:30 pm. \$5. Bob and Barbara's Lounge, 1509 South St. [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

Fitness | Queer Yoga

All identities and expressions are encouraged to join in on this evening of wellness. Wind down outdoors surrounded by a positive group of people. Just bring yourself, a mat and some other good vibes to spread around. | 7 pm. Free. The Yard, 19 E. Oregon Ave. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Interests | Super Smash Bros Ultimate Tournament

This could get intense. Witness a vicious showdown between four fighters each stage. The game will be played on Nintendo Switch, and no items - or sore losers - are allowed. Think you have what it takes? | 6 pm. \$25. Banh Mi and Bottles, 714 South St. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Trivia | Billy Penn Philly Quizzo

Sure, you may live here, but what do you really know about Philly? Put all that useless - and not so much - knowledge to the test here. You'll be quizzed on the city's past, present, future and music. | 6 pm. Free. Pistola's Del Sur, 1934 E. Passyunk Ave. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Interests | Sci-Chella

All the cool kids are going to this. Join in on this blissful mix of science, art and music. It's educational and trippy, without all the psychedelic drugs necessary. Just come with an open mind and an imagination. | 7 pm. \$25. The Franklin Institute, 222 N. 20th St. [fi.edu](https://www.fi.edu)

Discussion | Artists & the City: Yolanda Wisher and Akeem Dixon

A conversation about art with the two artists in residence here. They'll be discussing how to celebrate and unveil stories of black Philadelphians that have been unacknowledged for years. | 6 pm. Free. Cherry Street Pier, 121 N. Columbus Blvd. [urbanconsulate.ticketleap.com](https://www.urbanconsulate.ticketleap.com)

Art | First Person Arts StorySlam: Windfall

Ever had a rush of good luck come into your life? Share your stories with a group of people willing to listen. As we go into a new season, let's manifest all that positivity and maybe speak it back into our lives once again. | 7:30 pm. \$10. CsZ Philadelphia, 2030 Sansom St. [my.firstpersonarts.org](https://www.my.firstpersonarts.org)

Music | Big Business

This band has had their music described as a "bombastic and frantic low end attack." Ooh, we're interested. Show your support to an actually not corrupt business as they make their way through Philly. | 8:30 pm. \$13. Boot and Saddle, 1131 S. Broad St. [bootandsaddlephilly.com](https://www.bootandsaddlephilly.com)

Discussion | Not Your Average Girl Boss

Converse with local successful career women Linda Schellenger, Nioka Wyatt & Kelly Stillwell. They'll be speaking the truth on what it takes to be a girl boss. Network with other badass ladies and grow from all the positivity and good advice around you. | 6:30 pm. \$25. Front Street Cafe, 1253 N. Front St. [socialsolstice.com](https://www.socialsolstice.com)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Art | Honey Wants a Cocktail

Do your part in helping to fund an independent art project. Eat some food, drink some drinks and show your support to the cast of "Honey," a show that will be performed at the FringeFestival. | 7 pm. \$20. Sunflower Philly, 1725 N. 5th St. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Music | Radiator Hospital

Check in to be treated with some rowdy pop-punk. Radiator Hospital was born from songwriter Sam Cook-Parrott's mind and the music comes alive with a little help from his friends. | 8 pm. \$12. Johnny Brenda's, 1201 N. Frankford Ave. [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Music | Eat

Fill up with everything you need at this show. Eat serves up some heavy, noisy and, at times, confusing music. It's fuel to get your head banging back and forth all night. | 7:30 pm. \$7. Century, 1350 S. 29th St. facebook.com

Interests | West Philly Clothing Exchange

Swap stylish clothing with others at this completely free exchange. No money or purchasing is required -just bring something and get something in return. All shapes, sizes and styles are welcome to attend. | 6:30 pm. Free. Clark Park, 4300 Baltimore Ave. facebook.com

LGBTQ | Miss Gay America Benefit

Come witness a night of dazzling talent to benefit Kali Contour. Contour is the current reigning Miss Gay Philadelphia, and is on her way to compete in nationals. All funds raised from this night will go to her. | 8 pm. Free. Tabu, 254 S. 12th St. facebook.com

Art | Happy Little Accidents: Bob Ross Paint Night

No matter your skill level, come honor one of the world's most peaceful artists at this paint night. Ross would've wanted you to channel your inner artist. Always remember - there are no mistakes. | 7 pm. \$25. Germantown Garden, 1029 Germantown Ave. facebook.com

Family Friendly | Master Scientist Grand Hank

Hank's here to school all your little ones just in time for them to go back. Witness some awesome scientific demonstrations and groove to some fun music. Your kids will leave with free school supplies and backpacks to start the year off right. | 7 pm. \$10. Dell Music Center, 2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr. grandhank.com

Interests | Cards and Coffee

Do your part in making sure those that have the right to vote are aware of it. Come out and write cards to disenfranchised voters in Pennsylvania, Florida and beyond. Bring a sense of humor, some creativity and a passion for civic rights. | 11 am. Free. OCF Coffee House, 2100 Fairmount Ave. eventbrite.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Music | YallaPunk Fest

This festival celebrates Southwest Asian and North African people involved in the arts. It's a CultureTrust of Greater Philadelphia project, which is an organization focused on collaborating and sharing great creations within communities. You can expect this to be an observance of SWANA artists' work in film, comedy, music and more. | 3 pm. Prices vary. YallaPunk, 1315 Walnut St. facebook.com

Party | Back to School Toga Party

Don't get that school sadness going - party hard enough to forget you even have to go back. Come dressed in your best toga and bring that cash to spend on some serious drink specials. | 5 pm. Free. Howl at the Moon, 258 S. 15th St. facebook.com

Event | A Toast to Our Ten

Tonight, we salute the 10 officers who made it home safe after the 15th St. standoff two weeks ago. Let's honor their bravery and their safety. Shootings like this should never happen in our city, but unfortunately they do, and

we're thankful we have a police force to protect us. | 6 pm. Free. Philadelphia FOP Lodge 5, 11630 Caroline Rd. facebook.com

Music | 100DEEK and G19: Back to School Concert

G19 and 100DEEK are local rappers breaking out into the industry. Don't head back to school without catching them on stage. Be sure to talk them up to your classmates and lunch buddies. | 7 pm. \$20. The Foundry, 29 E. Allen St. thefillmorephilly.com

Music | Flying Lotus

This stunning visual and musical artist is back in 3D. Get ready for a completely immersive experience as color from the screen dances over the audience. Bop to some tunes from his newest album "Flamagra" and feel the energy around you. | 8:30 pm. \$29.50. Franklin Music Hall, 421 N. 7th St. facebook.com

Food & Drink | End of Summer Beer Garden

Labor Day Weekend is right around the corner - go all out before it consumes you. Beach vibes will be all around at this late-night beer garden. Drink specials, sangrias and good times will be abound. | 6 pm. \$12. Mutter Museum, 19 S. 22nd St. eventbrite.com

Film | Nicolas Cage Movie Marathon

He's a meme god and a movie legend. Come watch a few of his kookiest movies wrapped up into one epic marathon for the price of one. The theater will be screening "A Vampire's Kiss," "Mandy," and "Mom & Dad." | 6 pm. \$10. Mayfair Theater, 2990 St. Vincent St. eventbrite.com

Interests | Witch Market: Summer's End

Shop around at this pop-up of all things weird and witchy. Local vendors - including Black Cat Clothiers and Ludlow Luna - will be showing off their odd goods. Get roped in to this wonderful world with some tasty food and drinks, and all the wares will make you stay. | 9 pm. Free. Lucky's Last Chance, 848 S. 2nd St. facebook.com

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Alex Nagy | @AlexBNagy, 'Calendar: Aug. 22-29', *Philly Weekly* (online), 23 Aug 2019

⟨<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/1758A5EFEBF15038>⟩

'Anyone can be a scientist'; Chemistry fun sparks imagination for IJ Holton students

October 24, 2018 | Austin Daily Herald (MN)
Author: Hannah Yang | Section: News | 720 Words
[OpenURL Link](#)

Giant bubbles, voice changing experiments and smoke rings; chemistry came alive for IJ Holton students Tuesday afternoon.

Around 850 students sat inside the gymnasium while Tyraine "Grand Hank" Ragsdale conducted creative science experiments to engage fifth and sixth graders about STEM education and how even a "boring subject" can be cool. Even if a student isn't necessarily great at science from the start, the point was to show that with hard work, "anyone can be a scientist," according to Ragsdale.

"When I got to the University of Pittsburgh, I was scared of science," he shared. "One or two chemistry tests I didn't do well in. I share those stories with kids because you're not gonna be great at it from the start, but you can become good at it."

Grand Hanks Productions, Inc. is a multimedia educational, production company that was established to provide educational training and instruction to students, educators and administrators of grades K-12 through live and recorded production technologies, communications and marketing methods.

Ragsdale is internationally known as a STEM educator and worked as a research scientist for the Johnson & Johnson family of companies. The teaching methodology that he developed over the past 23 years, helped Ragsdale reach more than 10 million students, parents and administrators across the country and internationally.

"This was always a dream of mine," he said. "There's a vast problem in rural communities and urban communities where there's not enough access to resources for STEM. It's a long haul, but I wanted to show kids that you don't quit and that you give yourselves an opportunity for success."

Administrators praised Ragsdale's performance by engaging students using different approaches such as live demonstrations as well as music that enriched their educational experiences.

"We were very fortunate to have (Ragsdale) come to IJ Holton," said Principal Dewey Schara. "It fits in perfectly with our STEM education curriculum, and having our students think about post-secondary education. He did a phenomenal job, and keeping 850 students occupied for an hour and a half is a miracle."

The overall experience was sponsored by The Hormel Foundation and with the American Petroleum Institute, which helped bring Grand Hank out to IJ Holton for the demonstrations. American Petroleum Institute Consulting Director Dan Gunderson shared that the assembly was also trying to foster an interest for STEM-centric professions so that students can consider entering a career field in the future earlier in their educational careers.

"We're really wanting to engage students by the age of 12," Gunderson stated. "They are more likely to succeed in post-secondary learning."

Having Ragsdale as a role model in the field for IJ Holton students was intentional. According to Schara, now that the majority of Austin Public School students are of color, having role models in the STEM field like Ragsdale was imperative for minority students to envision themselves as being successful as well.

From studies done by the Pew Research Center, minorities continue to be underrepresented in the STEM workforce, as well as women. Black STEM workers make up about 11 percent of the U.S. workforce overall, but represent 9 percent of STEM workers, while Hispanic workers comprise 16 percent of the U.S. workforce, but only 7 percent of

all STEM workers.

"Our students need more role models who look like them," Schara said. "This opportunity was absolutely perfect in targeting kids and families to consider a career in this field."

Ragsdale also projected that in the future there will be a shortage of workers in the STEM industry and wanted to foster and create a love for the sciences so that younger students may enter the field through a "pipeline" to respond to shortages that may come.

He is also anticipating the opening of his science center in Philadelphia in early 2019 that would continue to educate the public about the wonders of STEM and how the world continues to benefit and advance through the work that scientists does.

"Science by nature is a catalyst that I use to energize kids," he said. "It's beautiful."

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Hannah Yang, "Anyone can be a scientist"; Chemistry fun sparks imagination for IJ Holton students', *Austin Daily Herald* (online), 24 Oct 2018 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16F460CD490D0C10>>

Grand Hank to talk STEM October 24

October 24, 2018 | Winona Post (MN)

Section: Schools | 222 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Grand Hank, internationally renowned STEM educator and scientist, will provide his high-energy STEM performance for 600 middle school students from the Winona and Lewiston area on Wednesday, October 24, from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Winona Middle School Auditorium, 1570 Homer Road, Winona.

Tyraine Ragsdale, known most commonly by his stage name Grand Hank, has developed a high-energy science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) presentation utilizing unique teaching methods. Grand Hank deeply believes that all children can learn. He has worked to reverse thousands of students' aversion to STEM subjects resulting in previously unforeseen educational opportunities and broader career paths. Grand Hank has reached more than 10-million students, parents and administrators across the United States and internationally. Ragsdale is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry, with minors in physics and mathematics, he went on to become a research scientist for the Johnson & Johnson family of companies. Ragsdale developed and further synthesized, over 23 years, a unique teaching methodology.

America is already suffering a shortage of skilled workers in science, technology, business and building trades professions. These professions require proficiency in STEM. Grand Hank's performance is sponsored by the Winona School District, Winona Chamber of Commerce and the Minnesota Petroleum Council to encourage interest by students in STEM.

Ragsdale will be available for comment after the show.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

'Grand Hank to talk STEM October 24', *Winona Post* (online), 24 Oct 2018 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16F554CE8E3E02E8>>

Middle-schoolers learn about STEM

June 11, 2018 | Citizen Telegram, The (Rifle, CO)

Author: Alex Zorn | Section: News | 338 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

For the first time on the Western Slope, 126 students from Parachute-to-Carbondale-area schools were given a day Tuesday to explore STEM-based careers.

Members of the Colorado Petroleum Council and Rocky Mountain Energy Forum came to the Colorado Mountain College Rifle Campus to encourage young men and women to pursue oil and gas careers, in particular.

"We wanted to partner with industry to offer this opportunity for students to be exposed to STEM in a different way," said Carole Boughton, CMC Rifle president.

According to an API study by RAND Corp., jobs that require STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) skills and training currently compose 20 percent of U.S. jobs. The natural gas and oil industry projects more than 1.9 million new job opportunities by 2035.

Boughton said that students from Eagle, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, De Beque, Parachute, Rifle, Silt and New Castle were all in attendance.

The STEM and Empowerment Conference was an all-day event for students and included presentations from national master scientist and TV personality Grand Hank, and workshop sessions introducing students to careers in the industry in new and interactive ways.

"Introducing kids to our industry is critical, and the fact that these kids are here on summer break is telling," Colorado Petroleum Council Executive Director Tracee Bentley said.

Bentley also spoke to the importance and need for more women and minorities in the industry.

"The reason we started is because there is huge opportunity in the industry and great workforce change coming up," she explained, adding, "60 percent of scientists, engineers and technology specialists will retire within the next 10 years."

One of our goals is to diversify the industry, she added.

According to Bentley, research shows that the biggest obstacle to women pursuing careers in natural gas and oil is simply a lack of knowledge about the opportunities available and the career paths open to them.

"Like other industries, we need to make a real effort to diversify," she added. "There are people of all parties and backgrounds working in the oil and gas industry."

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Alex Zorn, 'Middle-schoolers learn about STEM', *Citizen Telegram, The* (online), 11 Jun 2018

⟨<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C7F4B7F4455900>⟩

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June 11, 2018 | Post Independent (Glenwood Springs, CO)

Author: Alex Zorn | Section: News | 338 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Alex Zorn, 'Middle-schoolers learn about STEM', *Post Independent* (online), 11 Jun 2018

⟨<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C7D6B8ABA5F340>⟩

United States : Colorado Petroleum Council Holds Student STEM Event

June 6, 2018 | TendersInfo - News (Mumbai, India)

Section: NEWS | 480 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

The Colorado Petroleum Council, Colorado Mountain College, and the Rocky Mountain Energy Forum hosted nearly 130 students, grades six through ten, from Rifle, Colorado and beyond to talk about opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This is the fourth annual STEM event hosted by the Colorado Petroleum Council to encourage young men and women to learn more about STEM careers, especially in the natural gas and oil industry, one of Colorados most innovative and technologically advanced industries.

This event provides students in rural Colorado with better knowledge about the many opportunities in STEM careers, said Tracee Bentley, executive director of the Colorado Petroleum Council. We are helping students learn more about how they can help contribute to providing breakthroughs in energy for powering our future, and how they can thrive in an evolving industry like ours.

National Master Scientist and TV Personality Grand Hank joined the hosts in immersing students in STEM education. Grand Hank Productions, Inc. was established to provide educational training and instruction to students and educators through the application of state-of-the-art production technologies. This conference supports students through a hands-on learning environment to develop and spark interest in STEM careers.

The best way to impact students in the direction of careers in STEM is to have them experience first-hand how it impacts their everyday lives in ways that are exciting, entertaining and fun, said Hank.

According to an API study by RAND Corporation, jobs that require STEM skills and training currently compose 20 percent of all U.S. jobs. Current projections anticipate that the STEM economy will grow by nine percent by 2024, faster than the growth rate projected for all other occupations. STEM education is critical to meeting Americas future energy needs and should be encouraged from an early age, according to a 2015 Stanford University study. The natural gas and oil industry projects more than 1.9 million new job opportunities by 2035 and students who are STEM educated will have significant advantages to secure opportunities in the industry.

We hope by introducing these exciting opportunities to young men and women, we will encourage not only a love of STEM, but a lifetime of learning for these students, said Bentley. We want them to leave better prepared to meet the needs Americas economy of the future.

In addition to this event, the Women in Power initiative will sponsor an evening event on June 5 to bring women together to discuss the opportunities and challenges of female leaders.

The Colorado Petroleum Council is a division of API, which represents all segments of Americas oil and natural gas

industry. Its more than 625 members produce, process, and distribute most of the nations energy. The industry supports 10.3 million U.S. jobs and is backed by a growing grassroots movement of more than 45 million Americans.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

'United States : Colorado Petroleum Council Holds Student STEM Event', *TendersInfo - News*(online), 6 Jun 2018
<<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C62A80472A9458>>

100 Black Men of America, Inc. and Florida chapters to deliver community empowerment during 32nd Annual Conference

May 31, 2018 | Mississippi Link, The (Jackson, MS)

Author: The Mississippi Link Newswire | Section: News | 590 Words

Page: 9

[OpenURL Link](#)

100 Black Men of America, Inc. will be joined by both the Greater Fort Lauderdale chapter and the South Florida chapter to educate and empower an entire community. Since 2004, the 100's Annual Conference has delivered a Community Empowerment Project (CEP) to ensure that citizens from the community at large receive immediate and long-term impact. This year's event, in conjunction with the Juneteenth celebration, includes the 100's trademark community health fair with free screenings totaling over \$800 per adult, a Robotics/STEM presentation, free food giveaways, organizations delivering free health information, cooking and juicing demonstrations, financial workshops, reading circles, entertainment, games and giveaways throughout the day.

"The community is encouraged to come early and bring all members of their family to this multigenerational event. Our goal is to bring free health services to underserved individuals while educating and empowering youth, teens, young adults, parents and grandparents with information that promotes healthy lifestyle choices," stated Thomas W. Dortch Jr., chairman, 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

Celebrity Chef G. Garvin will be leading the healthy meals message with a live cooking demonstration and the premier science and hip-hop educator Grand Hank will host the S.T.E.M. component of the event.

Free health screenings will include HIV/STI, blood pressure, diabetes, prenatal, postnatal, cholesterol, mammogram, colon rectal and glucose. The 2018 Community Empowerment Project will also include a blood drive and civic engagement activities including voter registration.

Members from the 100's global network of chapters, Collegiate 100® students and members from the 100 Board of Directors, along with sponsors AARP, Aetna, American Red Cross, Shell, Sodexo Magic and the U.S. Army invite the public to come get empowered.

"The CEP is #the100blueprint for collaborating with corporate and community partners to bring much needed services and education to cities where the 100 conference convenes," stated Chairman Dortch.

The 100 Black Men will host their annual Teen Summit as part of the CEP. Students and school board representatives from Broward County and Miami Dade County will engage in a youth-led discussion on teen violence, See Something, Say Something. Broward County Schools Board member, Rosalind Osgood, will serve as moderator.

A range of serious topics facing our youth today will be tackled including mental wellness, gun violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and gang violence.

Recommendations about school and community violence will be translated to legislative initiatives for the 100 nationally, which will require chapters throughout the state of Florida to galvanize, advocate and get legislation passed within local school districts and across county and state levels.

Community partners delivering services, screenings and education include Broward Department of Health, Broward EMT, Broward Family Services, Broward General, Broward Health and Human Services, Broward Regional Health Council, Broward Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Health, Fort Lauderdale Behavioral Health, Holy Cross Hospital, Dr. Diane John, Dr. Jamal Lawson, Memorial Hospital, National Black Nurses Association, New York Life, One Blood, Planned Parenthood, VITAS Healthcare and the Urban League of Broward County.

The media is invited to cover this and all conference events. Media credentials are reserved for working print, broadcast and online journalists with a local, regional, national or international commercial news outlet. All media must submit conference credential requests online by June 1, 2018.

Who: 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

What: Community Empowerment Project (CEP)

When: Saturday, June 16, 2018, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park, 2520 N.W. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

To learn more about the 100 Black Men of America, Inc.'s cause and programs and to view all events taking place during the 32nd Annual Conference visit www.100blackmen.org

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

The Mississippi Link Newswire, '100 Black Men of America, Inc. and Florida chapters to deliver community empowerment during 32nd Annual Conference', *Mississippi Link, The* (online), 31 May 2018 9 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C4581A9E56E050>>

BUSINESS OBSERVER

May 24, 2018 | Ormond Beach Observer (FL)

Section: News | 718 Words

Page: A15

[OpenURL Link](#)

DAYTONA LAGOON TO EXPAND WITH TWO NEW WATER RIDES THIS SUMMER

Daytona Lagoon recently announced expansion plans for its water park including new slides: a 54-foot-high mat racer slide and a pendulum tube water slide.

The new mat racer water slide will replace the “Kraken’s Conquest,” which was severely damaged by Hurricane Irma last fall. The new four-lane attraction, featuring 100% light resin transfer molding and partial tunnels with translucent rings, is a first for mat racer water slides in Central Florida. The new pendulum tube ride is launching from the same tower as the mat racer. Similar in shape to a half-pipe, the pendulum tube is suitable for riders who are 42 inches or taller.

Plans are for the slides to be ready for use early this summer. The announcement comes on the heels of several other Daytona Lagoon enhancement projects such as the newly renovated miniature golf course, go-karts racing track and a video game arcade with a large inventory of games. Visit <https://daytonalagoon.com>.

DAYTONA AREA CONDO MARKET CONTINUED TO TURN THE CORNER IN APRIL

An analysis of Daytona Beach Multiple Listing Service data by Wyse Home Team Realty showed the number of available units for sale during the month of April higher than the number of listings offered in April 2017.

Reports show there were 1,036 units that were made active on the MLS at some point in April compared to 1,029 condo units in April 2017. Inventory levels were also up compared to March, when there were 1,002 units available. However, the inventory levels in April remained 9% below the number of listings available two years ago in April 2016.

Sales and median prices were also up in April, compared to the same month a year earlier. According to the MLS, 143 condo units sold at a median sales price of \$207,000. This is a 3% increase in sales and a nearly 20% increase in median prices. In monthly comparisons, April condo sales around Daytona Beach were up by more than eight percent over sales closed in March, though median prices were down slightly.

HARD ROCK

HOTEL PRESENTS 20 GUITARS AND AMPS TO VOLUSIA SCHOOLS

Hard Rock Hotel Daytona Beach team members presented 20 brand new guitars to Seabreeze High on Monday, May 14. As part of the brand’s Hard Rock Heals philanthropy program, Hard Rock Hotels accept damaged/used guitars from a local music departments/ programs to be used during the hotel’s official grand opening Guitar Smash and replaces them with brand new Fender Stratocaster guitars. On May 1, Hard Rock Hotel Daytona Beach smashed 20 guitars from Volusia County Schools.

NATIONAL INNOVATION PROGRAM TO DEBUT AT NEWLY RENOVATED

DAYTONA BEACH MUNICIPAL STADIUM

STEMFest Volusia 2018 is emanating from the Daytona Beach Municipal Stadium September 23-25. A first for

Volusia County, it is a chance for tens of thousands of elementary through college students to get hands-on experience in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. Organizers have set a goal of bringing more than 14,000 students to the event.

Festivities will include interactive exhibits and displays for attendees of all ages, with cash prizes for STEM competitions and live performances from Grand Hank the Master Scientist. Students will be able to peek into future career opportunities through activities and demonstrations from museums, science centers, the U.S. military, area universities and high schools, and national and local corporations.

STEMFest Volusia is being produced by DME Stadium with the support of Volusia County Schools. DME Stadium is also spearheading new plans and renovations for Daytona Beach Municipal Stadium. Visit stemfestvolusia.org.

AROUND TOWN

* Halifax Health|Brooks Rehabilitation-Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation has been awarded accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. The three-year accreditation applies to Halifax Health's inpatient rehabilitation program for adults and stroke specialty program.

* Naomi Joseph, a financial planning assistant for Holland Financial, earned the Retirement Income Certified Professional designation from the American College.

* Absolute Car Service welcomes master technician John Nebelski back to its shop. He worked there for years prior to moving to South Carolina. The business has been at the same location in Holly Hill, Florida since 1992.

Deanna Russo

* Deanna Russo has been hired as a legal assistant for the Real Estate and Business Law group with the Rice Law Firm in Daytona Beach

Jim Kotwica

* Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center has selected Jim Kotwica to serve as the director of environmental services.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

'BUSINESS OBSERVER', *Ormond Beach Observer* (online), 24 May 2018 A15 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C40E69FAAB2E28>>

BUSINESS OBSERVER - DAYTONA LAGOON TO EXPAND WITH TWO NEW WATER RIDES THIS SUMMER

May 24, 2018 | Port Orange Observer (FL)

Section: News | 708 Words

Page: 14

[OpenURL Link](#)

Daytona Lagoon recently announced expansion plans for its water park including new slides: a 54-foot-high mat racer slide and a pendulum tube water slide.

The new mat racer water slide will replace the “Kraken’s Conquest,” which was severely damaged by Hurricane Irma last fall. The new four-lane attraction, featuring 100% light resin transfer molding and partial tunnels with translucent rings, is a first for mat racer water slides in Central Florida. The new pendulum tube ride is launching from the same tower as the mat racer. Similar in shape to a half-pipe, the pendulum tube is suitable for riders who are 42 inches or taller.

Plans are for the slides to be ready for use early this summer. The announcement comes on the heels of several other Daytona Lagoon enhancement projects such as the newly renovated miniature golf course, go-karts racing track and a video game arcade with a large inventory of games. Visit <https://daytonalagoon.com>.

DAYTONA AREA CONDO MARKET CONTINUED TO TURN THE CORNER IN APRIL

An analysis of Daytona Beach Multiple Listing Service data by Wyse Home Team Realty showed the number of available units for sale during the month of April higher than the number of listings offered in April 2017.

Reports show there were 1,036 units that were made active on the MLS at some point in April compared to 1,029 condo units in April 2017. Inventory levels were also up compared to March, when there were 1,002 units available. However, the inventory levels in April remained 9% below the number of listings available two years ago in April 2016.

Sales and median prices were also up in April, compared to the same month a year earlier. According to the MLS, 143 condo units sold at a median sales price of \$207,000. This is a 3% increase in sales and a nearly 20% increase in median prices. In monthly comparisons, April condo sales around Daytona Beach were up by more than eight percent over sales closed in March, though median prices were down slightly.

HARD ROCK HOTEL PRESENTS 20 GUITARS AND AMPS TO VOLUSIA SCHOOLS

Hard Rock Hotel Daytona Beach team members presented 20 brand new guitars to Seabreeze High on Monday, May 14. As part of the brand’s Hard Rock Heals philanthropy program, Hard Rock Hotels accept damaged/used guitars from a local music departments/ programs to be used during the hotel’s official grand opening Guitar Smash and replaces them with brand new Fender Stratocaster guitars. On May 1, Hard Rock Hotel Daytona Beach smashed 20 guitars from Volusia County Schools.

NATIONAL INNOVATION PROGRAM TO DEBUT AT NEWLY RENOVATED DAYTONA BEACH MUNICIPAL STADIUM

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'BUSINESS OBSERVER - DAYTONA LAGOON TO EXPAND WITH TWO NEW WATER RIDES THIS SUMMER', *Port Orange Observer* (online), 24 May 2018 14 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16C40A70394312A8>>

APR 7-8: Science Celebrities and Stage Shows Headline the USA Science & Engineering Festival, Nation's Largest Science Expo

March 22, 2018 | Business Wire

Author: USA Science & Engineering Festival/Shawn Flaherty, 703-554-3609 | 451 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Xploration Station TV Host and Ocean Explorer Danni Washington will be emceeding and performing at the 5th USA Science & Engineering Festival Expo, presented by Lockheed Martin. Designed to inspire the next generation of inventors, creators and innovators, the Festival is a free, family-friendly expo taking place April 7 and 8 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. that allows kids and adults to participate in thousands of exhibits, experiments, and stage shows.

“Our nation’s future relies on encouraging more kids to go into STEM careers. By hosting the nation’s largest science festival, we are hoping to capture their imaginations by introducing them to STEM innovators and superstars and by engaging them in hands-on projects to illustrate that STEM can really take them anywhere they want to go,” said Marc Schulman, Festival Executive Director.

The Festival features science celebrities, explorers, astronauts, physicists, inventors, and experts in fields like oceanography, climatology, robotics, medical research, neuroscience, space exploration, artificial intelligence, and more. Stage shows and other participating celebrities include:

- Explosive Science with Dr. Kate Biberdorf
- World Champion of Magic and Science Curator Jason Latimer
- America’s Science Teacher Steve Spangler
- NASA Astronaut Jessica Meir
- Tyraine Ragsdale (a.k.a. Grand Hank)—Presents the Superpowers of Hip Hop
- Science Cheerleaders
- Mathemagician Art Benjamin—Performs rapid mental calculations faster than a calculator
- Mr. Freeze of Fermilab—Demonstrates cryogenics fun properties
- Stunt Scientist Steve Wolf—Talks about Hollywood stunts in Spider-Man and other movies
- 3M Visiting Wizards—Performs mind-boggling demonstrations
- The Franklin Institute’s Science Showdown
- Prismatic’s Science Laser Spectacular show
- Educator Darryl Lee Baynes—Performs his high energy STEM “Edu-Tainment” Show
- USDA Takes Flight: Woodsy Owl, Drones and More!
- Abbott’s Girls in Stem: Changing the Belle Curve

- ASIMO—Honda’s humanoid robot that interacts with people on the Honda booth stage

The Festival Expo, which takes place at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in DC on April 7 from 10am-6pm and 8(th) from 10am-4pm, is the grand finale of the Festival’s year-long science celebration. Taking over the entire convention center, the Festival Expo features over 3,000 hands-on activities showcasing how STEM Can Take You into the deep blue, into cyberspace, inside the human body, into nature, into outer space and beyond! In all, the Festival expects to draw more than 350,000 people.

Founded by serial entrepreneur Larry Bock and Lockheed Martin executives to address the severe shortage in science and tech talent, the USA Science & Engineering Festival is the nation’s largest science festival and was developed to ignite the next generation’s interest in pursuing careers in science and engineering.

The Festival is free but pre-registration is required. To learn more, visit usasciencefestival.org.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

USA Science & Engineering Festival Shawn Flaherty, 703-554-3609, 'APR 7-8: Science Celebrities and Stage Shows Headline the USA Science & Engineering Festival, Nation's Largest Science Expo', *Business Wire* (online), 22 Mar 2018
<<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/16AD19B6157842F8>>

BOOM! EDUCATION MAJORS LEARN TO TEACH SCIENCE WITH IMPACT

March 31, 2017 | US Fed News (USA)

367 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa., March 29 -- Pennsylvania State University issued the following news release:

It was a science lesson the fourth-graders won't soon forget. There was a DJ who dropped music while Grand Hank the chemistry guru ran some colorful and explosive experiments. The result? Hands down one of the most engaging science lessons of their young lives.

This Grand science experiment was managed by Penn State Abington education faculty and students. It brought children from economically disadvantaged elementary schools in the region to the college for a lesson by a nationally known figure in science education, Grand Hank.

Grand Hank talked to the fourth-graders about more than beakers and gases, though. He talked about his rocky start in college but perseverance and caring faculty helped him earn his degree and later a research scientist position at Johnson & Johnson.

Finally, he delivered powerful hands-on science lessons with help from the fourth-graders. The experiments included a controlled combustion reaction, drawing "blood" from a student's palm, vacuum packing a child, and capturing gas from dry ice to form a bubble.

His work with the fourth-graders taught the Abington education majors and fourth-grade teachers how to teach science with impact. He engaged the students using common, inexpensive supplies and peaked the interest of even the hard-to-interest students with his enthusiasm.

At the end of the day, the fourth-graders benefited from the STEM lesson and early exposure to a college campus, and the Abington education majors learned techniques to engage students in science content.

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For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at htsyndication@hindustantimes.com

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Kisthardt Elementary hosts 'heavyweight champion of science' Grand Hank

December 1, 2016 | Hamilton Post (NJ)

Author: Community News | Section: News | 122 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Students and families at Kisthardt Elementary School welcomed Grand Hank, the "Heavyweight Champion of Science" to their school on Thursday, Nov. 17.

The evening event began with dinner for all attendees followed by an energetic program of science, music and entertainment.

Hank, award-winning Master Scientist Tyraine Ragsdale, sought to inspire the students with his personal story of overcoming obstacles to achieve a higher education, along with interactive activities for students and their parents.

The program was provided for by Title 1 funds, which are available to Kisthardt Elementary School and five other schools in the Hamilton district that serve a population with demonstrated socioeconomic need.

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Community News, 'Kisthardt Elementary hosts 'heavyweight champion of science' Grand Hank', *Hamilton Post* (online), 1 Dec 2016 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/18279160118A6AE0>>

In your community: Why Not Prosper Inc. to hold anniversary gala

August 19, 2016 | Philadelphia Tribune, The (PA)

Author: Chanel Hill Tribune Staff Writer | Section: News | 453 Words

[OpenURL Link](#)

Why Not Prosper Inc. will hold an anniversary gala and all-white fundraiser 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. today at Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, 201 S. Christopher Columbus Blvd. The event will feature a special recognition to Dr. Kathleen Brown from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. The event will end with a graduation ceremony. Tickets are needed for the event. For more information, call www.whynotprosper.org.

11th annual Chester community fair

The 11th annual Chester Community Fair will take place Sunday, 2 to 6 p.m., at the Better Living Center, 501 Yarnell St., Chester. The event will include food, entertainment, dance, spoken word, a book bag giveaway, cooking classes, health screenings, a soccer clinic, and free spiritual and mental health counseling. For more information, call (610) 497-1082 or visit www.betterlivingcdc.org.

2nd annual Back-to-school extravaganza

Award-winning master scientist Grand Hank will hold his second annual mega back-to-school extravaganza, "An Evening of Science, Education, and Hip-Hop," Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Dell Music Center, 2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr. The event will include science experiments, music and games. Registration is required for the event. For more information, call (215) 685-9564 or visit mydelleast.com.

Back Home reunion block party

The neighbors of the 6900 Block of Cedar Park Avenue presents a Back Home Reunion block party on Saturday, Aug. 27, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will include food, entertainment, and activities for children. For more information, call Bessie Farris at (215) 224-5975.

Charitable organization to host kids scavenger hunt

United Ummah of Philly will host its inaugural scavenger hunt 4 to 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 4 at the Smith Playground, 3500 Reservoir Dr. Purple and orange ribbons along with treasure boxes will be hidden throughout the playground. The event will also include a barbecue, retail vendors and face painting. Registration is necessary for the scavenger hunt. For more information, call (267) 777-9702 or visit www.uuop.org.

Willow Grove NAACP to host unity day

The Willow Grove Branch of the NAACP will host its unity day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 10, at Crestmont Park. The day will include food, entertainment and games. For more information, call (215) 659-0509.

Second annual Germantown run

The second annual 5k Germantown run will be held Sept. 10, 8 a.m., at Maplewood Mall. Prizes will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place runners. The event will also include vendors, relays, face painting and activities for youth. Registration is necessary. For more information, call (215) 278-4400 or visit www.rungermantown.com.

South Philadelphia High 1976 class reunion

South Philadelphia High Class of 1976 presents its 40th class reunion gala Sept. 24, 7 to 9 p.m., at the lastse

Ballroom, 2401 S. Swanson St. Tickets are required. For more information, call Mabel Johnson at (215) 906-2255 or Malcolm Washington at (215) 200-0628.

— Compiled by Chanel Hill

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- **Citation (aglc Style)**

Chanel Hill Tribune Staff Writer, 'In your community: Why Not Prosper Inc. to hold anniversary gala', *Philadelphia Tribune, The* (online), 19 Aug 2016 <<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&docref=news/15EE1E1DA177EAB8>>