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# FREE ROADMAP TO STEM CONFERENCE AUGUST 6TH-8TH, 2014 IN LARAMIE, WY

*Conference featuring practical information about STEM program implementation.*

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) is hosting the first Roadmap to Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference in Laramie, WY at the Hilton Garden Inn Aug. 6, 7, and 8.

“There has been a considerable amount of effort made to underscore the importance of STEM education in Wyoming, as STEM is a vital component of the local, national, and global economies,” Tonya Gerharter, Education Consultant at the WDE said. “The conference will be a wonderful opportunity for collaboration and communication around STEM education in Wyoming.”

The Roadmap to STEM Conference will provide educators with the practical tools needed to implement STEM programs in their schools and inspire students to engage in STEM learning opportunities.

Keynote speakers include NASA Engineer Kobie Boykins, designer of the solar arrays that power the Mars exploration rovers, Spirit and Opportunity; Hans Meeder, author of the book, “The STEM Leader Guide”; and guest speaker Celeste Bain, director of the Engineering Education Service Center who will speak about engaging girls and young women in STEM careers. Additional speakers will be determined and announced at a later time.

The conference will include a number of hands-on workshops, interactive sessions, and a half-day STEM experience during which attendees will participate in STEM-related activities, proj-

ects, research, curriculum, or industry. Workshops, sessions, and keynotes will emphasize the delivery of content knowledge in forms that are accessible to students and ways that STEM programming can be implemented and taught effectively and engagingly.

Presentation proposals are currently being accepted, as well as nominations for STEM Educator of the Year, which will be presented at the STEM Gala on the evening of August 6th. To nominate a STEM Educator of the Year for K-6, 7-12 or post-secondary, please complete the respective nomination forms found at the links below.

K-6 Nomination Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/k-6STEMAWARD>

7-12 Nomination Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7-12STEMAWARD>

Post-secondary Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Post-SecondarySTEMAWARD>

Hotel accommodations for attendees will be provided on a first come, first serve basis and are limited. There are no fees associated with conference registration or the accommodations provided. Registration is currently open and can be completed on the following site: <http://roadmap-tostem.eventzilla.net>.

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*For more information about presentation proposals, the STEM Educator of the Year, or the conference in general, please contact Tonya Gerharter, Education Consultant, at (307) 777-6808 or [tonya.gerharter@wyo.gov](mailto:tonya.gerharter@wyo.gov).*