

the Sillerman Center

FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILANTHROPY

STEM PROGRAMS FOR GIRLS: A Guide to High Impact Investments



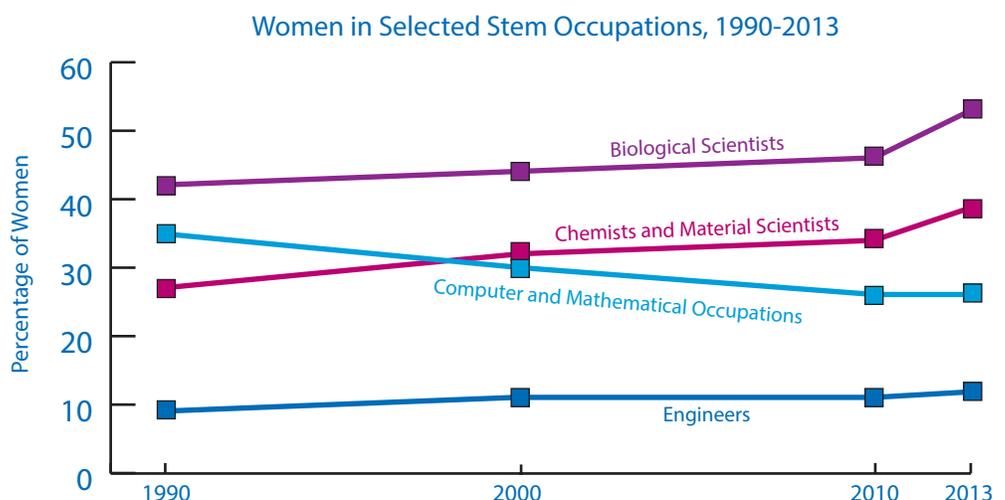
Only 16% of American high school seniors are proficient in mathematics and express interest in a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) career. Yet there will be 1.2 million job openings in STEM by 2018. Even among those who do go on to pursue a college major in the STEM fields, only about half choose to work in a related career. The United States is falling behind internationally, ranking 25th in mathematics and 17th in science among industrialized nations. Women are underrepresented in STEM fields, and women of color are even more so.

“One of the things that I really strongly believe in is that we need to have more girls interested in math, science, and engineering. We’ve got half the population that is way underrepresented in those fields and that means that we’ve got a whole bunch of talent...not being encouraged the way they need to.”

—President Barack Obama,
February, 2013

The Underrepresentation of Women in STEM

Women hold less than half of all STEM jobs. Women are especially underrepresented in Engineering, Computer, Science, and Math occupations.

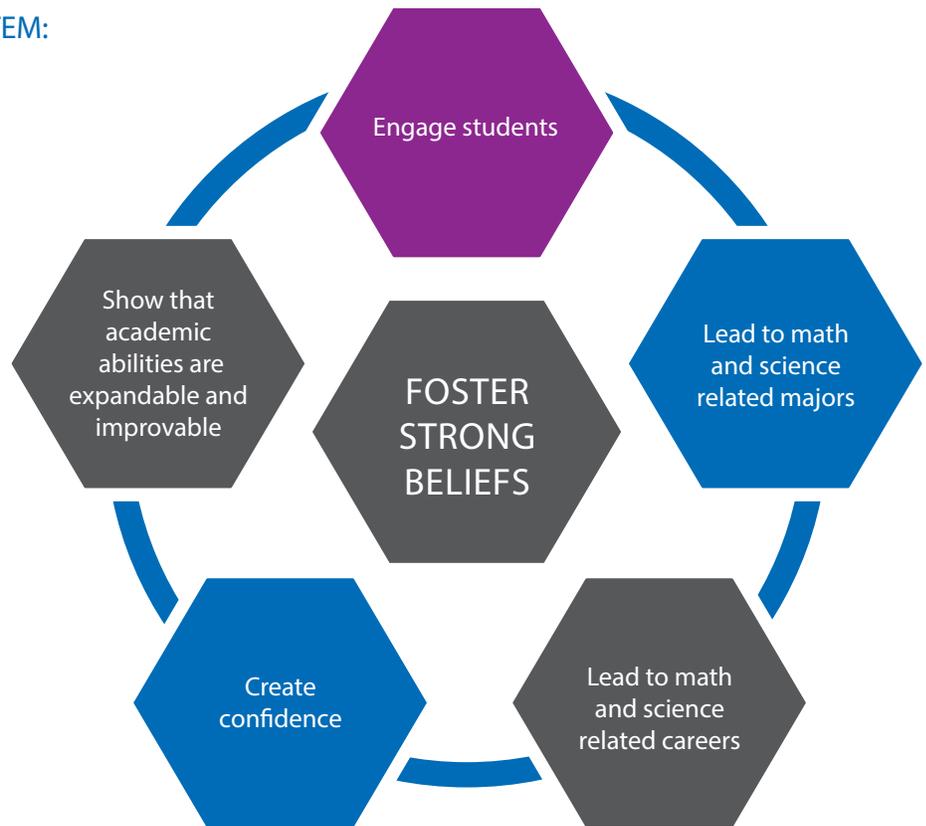


A Strong STEM Program for Girls...

- FOSTERS strong beliefs about girls abilities in STEM subjects
- EXPOSES girls to women who are STEM role models through biographies, guest speakers, and tutoring by older female students.
- CONNECTS math and science activities to careers
- BREAKS gender stereotypes in the STEM field
- SPARKS girls' curiosity about STEM content and careers



Programs that keep girls interested in STEM:



Out-of-school programs should utilize the best practices of positive youth development to encourage girls' interest in STEM, while simultaneously promoting leadership, self-esteem, and college attendance.

For more information please visit:

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Prepared in partnership with the [Center for Youth and Communities](#)

+ The Sillerman Center draws upon scholarship and practitioner experience to engage and inform members of the philanthropic community committed to moving social justice work forward.