

## First Finalist for Excellence in STEM Teaching Award

Congratulations to Cary Burke, the first finalist of the 2009 Excellence in STEM Teaching Award! Mrs. Burke is a High School Living Environment and Forensics teacher from Canandaigua Academy who uses creativity, humor, and singing to bring subject matter alive to students.

The STEM Award honors an activity Cary developed, called the Proteinia Game, which puts students in the role of a DNA cell during the process of a genetic mutation.

One of Cary's students said: "Mrs. Burke is so cool. She makes bio so much fun. Mrs. Burke [is] so caring to everyone and she is so funny. She teaches really good so that we can understand what she is teaching us. Good Job Mrs. Burke!"

If you know a great teacher, please take the time to [nominate them for the Excellence in STEM Teaching Award](#).

Below is a printable version of the passport students use to travel around the classroom



### No-Cost STEM Teaching Institutes

This summer, the Center is sponsoring seven summer institutes for K-12 teachers. Click on the pictures below to learn more.



**Developing Mathematical Ideas: Building a System of Tens**



**Inquiry in Earth Sciences**



**Using Zebra Mussels for Good, Not Evil**



**Finger Lakes Watershed Ecology Workshop**



**Inquiry-based Interdisciplinary Mathematics, Science, Technology and Literacy**



**Mathematics, Science & Technology Institute**



**Hands-on Environmental Science Activities using GLOBE**

## 2009 Educators Collaboration Event

We are very excited about our 2009 regional conference, scheduled for October 6, 2009. Unlike previous years, the Rochester Collaboration Event will focus on a single topic and we will sponsor up to three additional regional Collaboration Events at locations outside of the Monroe County.

The Rochester Event, sponsored by the Center's U.S. Department of Education FIPSE grant, will be a one-day conference at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, registration will be \$30.

The theme will be **Collaborating for Continuous Improvement in STEM Education** and the Keynote speaker will be **James Stigler**. Dr. Stigler is Professor of Psychology at UCLA, Director of the TIMSS video studies, and founder and CEO of LessonLab.

In the past, the Center has hosted

an Annual Educators Collaboration Event in the City of Rochester. This year, the Center will host 3 additional in outlying counties of the Center's service area.

Graduate Assistant, Jaschira Melendez, recently compiled data from the Center's first Collaboration Event Preference Survey. The Preference Survey was sent out to over 500 educators, and of the respondents, biology, mathematics, and interdisciplinary studies were the top requests.

We are now working on planning these three additional Events, and look forward to sharing information as it develops.

For more information or to register for the October 6th Educators collaboration Event, please visit our website [www.RACCEMS.org](http://www.RACCEMS.org), or [email us](mailto:info@raccems.org) with any questions.

### Xerox and RAC-CEMS Team Up to bring High-Quality Experiences to Students

On Wednesday, March 11th, Xerox and the Center announced a partnership that brings together individual efforts to assist elementary students and their teachers in sharing the excitement of math, science and technology.

The Center will help administer the Xerox Science Consultant and Visiting Scientist Programs, while bringing RAC resources to participating teachers. The Center will also provide a means by which to evaluate the programs' effectiveness, and explore areas for future development and growth.

### RAC-CEMS is Sending Kids to STEM Summer Camp

This summer, the Center is sponsoring 20 economically disadvantaged children entering grades 6-9 to attend one of the many science and math-oriented summer camps in our 11-county service area. Camperships are administered directly by each camp. You can see a list of STEM summer camps on our website at [www.RACCEMS.org](http://www.RACCEMS.org).

### Upcoming Events

5/2	Imagine RIT & Creativity Festival
5/2	Bluebirds at Cummings Nature Center
5/3-5	Rochester's 175th Celebration: Then & Now
5/8-10	International Migratory Bird Day at Braddock Bay Park
5/13 & 14	38th Annual Science Exploration Days
5/21	ESP Science for All Students
5/27-29	State Level Canon Envirothon

### May 2009

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STEM BLOG:

[RACCEMS.WORDPRESS.COM](http://RACCEMS.WORDPRESS.COM)

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