



CAPITAL AREA STEM

LA STEM • REGION 2 NETWORK CENTER

December 2024 NEWSLETTER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Regional and State VEX Robotics Competition



CASN and the Gordon A. Cain Center are excited to host the **2025 VEX Robotics Regional and State Competitions!**

Competitions will be held in Patrick F. Taylor Hall on the Louisiana State University campus.

Regional: January 24 & 25, 2025
State: February 21 - 23, 2025

We are looking for volunteers to assist with different roles at each competition. If you are interested, please fill out the forms below.

[Volunteer Regional](#)

[Volunteer State](#)

Sponsorships are available for regional and state competitions.

Fields: \$1500
Company as field name and called out for each match.

Pit Area: \$750
Company as the pit area name.

Banner: \$200
Company banner in the arena.

Contact Summer Dann at summerdann@lsu.edu or Natalie Ray at nray12@lsu.edu for more information.

FOR EDUCATORS



The Ignite Initiative for Elementary Computer Science

A Louisiana Department of Education initiative

Ignite Initiative features:

24 hours of professional development in computational thinking, block programming, and cybersafety at no cost

Multiple ways to participate in trainings:

2 fully in-person options

3 fully virtual options

1 hybrid option

[Learn More on our Website](#)

OR

[Register Today!](#)



Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge Nominations Open

The Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge Competition recognizes exceptional and innovative

science educators, to recognize outstanding K-12 school programs for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources, and raise awareness and exposure of the outstanding work being done in the science education field. Apply or nominate a colleague today! **Deadline: April 11, 2025**

[LEARN MORE](#)

FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

LSU

**Gordon A. Cain
Center for STEM Literacy**

Empowering Elementary CS: Leader Kick Off

Regional District Kick-Offs will be held on January 10 in Baton Rouge and February 7 in Alexandria from 10:00-12:00.

Sessions will include workshops on effective leadership strategies, networking opportunities, best practices for supporting teachers, and computer science resources.

District leaders and administrators interested in attending should complete the form below.

[Register Today!](#)

ADULT LEARNING



The Way to Work
Powered by **HOPE**

Way to Work

Way to Work gives learners more opportunities to build hands-on skills with online, on-demand certification programs. Job-Ready certification programs in HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, Construction, Multi-Family Maintenance, Building Maintenance, and Appliance Repair.

[LEARN MORE](#)



SKILLED BR

Powered by **HOPE**



Skilled BR

Skilled BR powered by Hope Ministries is a city-wide collaborative effort aiming to enhance workforce development and resources for individuals seeking training opportunities and employment.

[LEARN MORE](#)

FOR STUDENTS

Ochsner Health Internship Opportunity

Looking to gain real-world experience in the healthcare industry? Ochsner's Catalyst Summer Internship Program is the perfect opportunity for students to get a head start in their careers. This program offers hands-on learning, direct mentorship, and the chance to work on projects that impact our communities. ☐ ☐

Students from all majors are welcome. With Ochsner Health's support, many interns have transitioned into full-time roles, opening the door to long-term career growth.

[LEARN MORE](#)

OUTREACH

Ocean Commotion



Louisiana State University with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and LA Sea Grant hosted Ocean Commotion 2024. CASN provided an engaging session on water sources, showing students real samples from local water sources right here in the capital city.

SAVE THE DATE

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring
Jan 25, 2025

[LEARN MORE](#)

13th Annual Louisiana Elementary Math & Coding Olympiad
Feb 22, 2025

[LEARN MORE](#)

You Be the Chemist
March 1, 2025

[LEARN MORE](#)

DID WE MISS SOMETHING?

If you have an item you'd like to see included in a future edition of our newsletter, please read our [newsletter submission guidelines](#) on our website.

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**Gordon A. Cain
Center for STEM Literacy**



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