

AUTHORS, CONTRIBUTORS, AND SUPPORTERS

AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Yeni Violeta García, PhD, is the STEM consultant for The Women's Foundation of Colorado. For more than 12 years, she has provided educational services experience specializing in STEM program development and educator professional development in formal and informal settings, linking her passion for science and education to prepare our next generation of leaders to solve 21st-century challenges. At The Women's Foundation of Colorado, she provides expertise to advance more girls and women on the path to educational and career success in STEM fields.

Dr. García earned her doctorate in Biological Education from the University of Northern Colorado with a minor in applied statistics and research methods. She earned her Masters in Education from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her Bachelor of Science in Biological Science from the California State University at Fullerton. Her expertise in linking science and education is essential in creating opportunities for women and girls and groups under-represented in STEM fields that increase their lifetime earning potential.

Before her consultancy at WFCO, Dr. García was a principal consultant at the Colorado Department of Education, where she initiated the development of Colorado's Vision for STEM education. She continues her work in advancing STEM opportunities through her business, STEM Learning by Design. Nationally and locally, Dr. García is a sought-after expert, as well as an influential connector who facilitates collaboration and partnerships among industry, education, and community stakeholders. She is a systems thinker; she loves disrupting outdated ways of thinking and believes that all students should have access to high-quality, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive learning experiences.

Born in Santa Ana, El Salvador, and raised in Los Angeles, CA, Dr. García moved to Colorado to join her husband Juan Coronado in 2006 and they currently live in Denver with their two daughters.

Ruth Catchen received her Bachelor of Music degree from American University and her Master of Music degree from The Catholic University of America in Vocal Performance and performed with many distinguished opera companies, conductors, and orchestras in the United States. She received her second master's degree in 2007 from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in Curriculum and Instruction/Leadership. Currently, she focuses her attention on public education hoping to better its quality and depth. Catchen develops arts-integrated STEM/STEAM curriculum programs for both in-school and enrichment that bring educational opportunities to disadvantaged youth and other non-profit organizations. Her passion is to promote excellent instruction that supports teachers by connecting the arts to other core academics. Along with being the Artist-In-Residence at Jack Swigert Aerospace Academy in Colorado Springs, Catchen has been published multiple times in the peer-reviewed *The STEAM Journal* and is currently working on best practices for P-20 STEAM education. Catchen serves as a resource for many prominent STEM curriculum writers and publications, including in the recent release *STEM by Design* by Anne Jolly. Catchen is actively sought as a program and curriculum developer writing curricula for a wide range, from Pre-K-12 to modules for teacher preparation programs.

Akaxia Cruz is passionate about bringing STEM concepts to life and pushing boundaries while acting as a social justice leader. She is at the beginning of her career in theoretical physics and is actively involved with a local initiative to expose historically under-represented girls to the STEM fields. Ms. Cruz is passionate about the intersection of art and science and loves to explore it while creating curriculum and facilitating hands-on workshops. She hopes to act as a role model, a source of inspiration, and a mentor to girls struggling with identity and confidence in STEM spaces. Cruz graduated with her BA in Physics and Mathematics from the University of Colorado Boulder and is currently a PhD student at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Patricia Kincaid (BS – Illinois State University, MA Ed - University of Northern Colorado (Math, Science and Technology), Principal Licensure – University of Denver) most recently served as Science Coordinator for Denver Public Schools (DPS), focused primarily on grant implementation. To support the work of DPS science teachers, she networked and partnered with informal institutions, community groups, and higher education institutions. Previously, she served DPS as Secondary Science Coordinator. Prior to joining Denver Public Schools she served as District Science Coordinator and teacher for the Cherry Creek School District in Greenwood Village, Colorado, and as adjunct professor of Secondary Science Methods at the University of Denver in the Teacher Education Program. Professional credo: Providing experiences and opportunities to learn can help to fill the “gap.”

Becky Peters graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Pre-Medicine before traveling abroad to teach English in Seoul, South Korea and Santiago, Chile to preschool-aged children through adult learners. If Becky's profession could be "lifelong student," that's what she'd have on her business card. Having many interests across all disciplines can be a difficult way to focus one's career, but it also lends itself well to the study of STEM fields and the advancement of STEM instruction in K-12 education. Peters has studied medicine, marketing, education, psychology, and business, while trying to discover more about the space where education intersects cognitive and social science. She has experience in marketing and public relations, non-profit development, business administration, finance, human resources, education, and management. In 2014, Peters started at the Innovation Center in St. Vrain Valley School District as its Program Manager, responsible for K-12 STEM integration and alignment as well as data tracking and analysis for the grant. She is originally from the suburbs of Chicago, but has been a happy resident of Colorado since 2006.

PARTNERS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS GUIDE

WFCO developed this guide through the collaboration of more than 30 partners. Collaborators were selected based on their experience working with particular age groups in conjunction with organizational expertise in integrated STEM programming. Each collaborator received a survey with a draft outline of the chapter they would contribute to depending on their expertise. The survey asked collaborators to contribute ideas for additional outcomes, resources, and recommendations of additional information they would like to see in this guide. Collaborators also reviewed the chapter(s) relevant to their age group expertise. Additional collaborators were called upon for specific areas of expertise, to contribute special features within the chapters, and to review chapters as needed.

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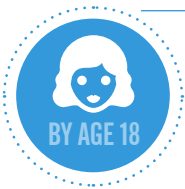
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This Is What STEM Looks Like! How To Get And Keep Girls Engaged In Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math contains links and references to many resources, including websites, articles, books, etc. The list of resources included in this guide is not intended to be exhaustive, and opinions expressed in the various resources referenced should not be interpreted as an endorsement, opinion, or the position of The Women's Foundation of Colorado or any of the contributors to the guide. The Women's Foundation and contributors to the guide make no representation or warranty as to the accuracy of the references or the opinions expressed therein.

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