



## Umpqua Valley STEM Hub



### Organization

Backbone Organization: Umpqua Valley  
Community College  
Counties in Region: Douglas  
Sq. Miles in Region: 5,134  
STEM Hub Director: Teresa Middleton  
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### By the Numbers

# School Districts: 13  
# Students: 12,760  
# Educators participated in Professional  
Development: 510  
# of educator hours in Hub PD: 3,908  
# Students participated in STEM Hub Programs:  
7,000  
# Student hours in STEM Hub Supported  
Programs: 7,640

### Unique to UVSH

As one of only two STEAM Hubs within our network, we are working to embrace, educate, and expand the Art in STEAM. We held a professional development (PD) at our STEAM Institute titled *A is for Art in STEAM*. It was the highest attended workshop of the year with 26 educators. The aim was to bridge the gap between STEM and the vibrant realm of Art to create a truly holistic learning experience. There has been a growing recognition of art's crucial role in enhancing creative problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovation within the STEM fields. Educators were encouraged to enrich their student's learning process by combining the structured approach of STEM with the boundless imagination of art. We followed up in the Fall with a *Paint and STEAM* night. It was such a hit we are planning future nights.

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## Computer Science

The UVSH has a robust Lending Library that provides much needed equipment and lesson plans to educators in Douglas County. This year we were able to build up our Computer Science inventory adding equipment that focuses on coding, programming, VR, and robotics and covers all age groups pre-K to 23. By providing a variety of CS Professional Development to county educators in the format of a 'play and learn' events, our annual STEM Institute, and workshops we provided over 110 hours of Professional Development with a Computer Science focus.

## Career Connected Learning

The Umpqua Valley STEAM Hub partners with local industries and businesses to expose youth to a wide variety of trades at the Southern Oregon Trade Careers Expo (SOTCE). This biennial event offers high school students the opportunity to explore career opportunities and engage with employers in a variety of industries including Industrial, Commercial, Construction, Agriculture, Manufacturing, Professional, and Transportation. This year 142 exhibitors were represented, and Douglas County had 489 students from 18 different schools attend.

Partnering with Douglas ESD, the STEAM Hub supported the *Construction Combine*, one of the CTE Programs that supports employment in Douglas County. This was a pilot program to explore the trades available in Douglas County. Shed kits were donated by a local business and seven industry partners ran different stations. The completed sheds were given to veterans.

Students learned safety practices while on site and obtained OSHA-10 Certification.

