



Dear Friend,

The 115th Congress has been an exciting time for the Congressional STEAM Caucus. We currently have 88 Members of Congress in the Caucus, and dozens of stakeholders from the fields of education, arts, science, industry, and entertainment who are excited about STEAM. We have introduced and passed new legislation integrating STEAM initiatives, convened briefings on Capitol Hill, and visited STEAM programs and schools back in our home states.

In June, the House of Representatives passed the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act to provide federal support to programs that prepare students for in-demand careers and success in higher education. Representatives Elise Stefanik and Suzanne Bonamici successfully added an amendment that integrates arts and design skills training into career and technical education (CTE) programs. You can watch video of Representative Bonamici speaking about the legislation [here](#).

Following the passage of the CTE bill, the STEAM and CTE Caucus held a joint briefing entitled *STEAM and CTE: Adding "Art and Design" to STEM Career and Technical Education*. We were joined by panelists from Rhode Island School of Design, GE Global Research, and representatives from local public schools. This briefing highlighted how incorporating STEAM into CTE programs will help us develop a strong education to career pipeline.

Representatives Langevin, Bonamici, and Stefanik also [introduced the STEM to STEAM Act of 2017](#), which would integrate art and design into STEM by leveraging resources at the National Science Foundation to research and develop effective STEAM education programs that promote creativity and innovation.

You can view updates from STEAM Caucus members and read more about STEAM initiatives around the country below.

Sincerely,

Lakeisha Steele
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici

Patrick Hester
Rep. Elise Stefanik



Touring Portland Community College's Innovative STEAM LAB

Representative Bonamici visited [Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus](#) to tour the new STEAM Lab and MakerSpace. MakersSpaces, including Rock Creek's STEAM Lab, give students the opportunity to incorporate the arts into STEM using innovative tools and technologies like 3D printers and computer hardware. You can view a tweet from Representative Bonamici's visit [here](#).



Olin College's New STEAM Initiative

Olin College received significant grant funding to integrate the arts into STEM education. The grant comes from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. You can read about the initiative [here](#).



Visiting SUNY Potsdam Theatre Students

Representative Stefanik visited with SUNY Potsdam students in the green room before their performance.