



STEM IT UP SPORTS

2025

IMPACT REPORT

STEM IT UP SPORTS



Dr. Tonjia Grimbale is the CEO and founder of STEM It Up Sports, dedicated to promoting STEM awareness for youth aged 4 to 101. Throughout her career, she has managed STEM engagement for under-served youth across the U.S., preparing them for college and career opportunities through collaborations with community partners and corporations. As a professor, she has taught various disciplines in early childhood education (ECE), K-12, and higher education. Specializing in ECE consultations and curriculum design, she integrates STEM instruction into her work.

Dr. Grimbale is a published author with works including Teacher Professional Development Challenges for STEM Education: A Case Study, STEM & Cross-Collaboration Instruction, and Why Start STEM Experiences in the Early Years. With over 30 years of experience, she has worked with educators and managed childcare facilities and emergency shelters in California, Texas, and Florida. Through STEM It Up Sports, her goal is to expose youth to computational thinking and coding, and continuing to expand the STEAM Center to foster curiosity in STEM careers and degrees.



STEM It Up Sports is an innovative organization that combines science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with sports to create engaging and educational experiences. Based in Mansfield, Texas, STEM It Up Sports aims to inspire and motivate individuals of all ages to explore the world of computer science and STEM through hands-on activities and programs.

At STEM It Up Sports, participants can engage in a variety of programs, including robotics, esports, and tech programming. Courses are offered for all skill levels, from introductory classes to advanced programming challenges. Using tools like Sphero robots, students learn block coding, JavaScript, and micro-bits, while also developing leadership and teamwork skills.

STEM It Up Sports is dedicated to community engagement and empowerment. Through initiatives like the Sphero Global Challenge and partnerships with local schools, the organization fosters a love for technology and innovation. As a nonprofit organization, STEM It Up Sports' mission is to motivate youth to analyze the collaboration of STEM core components with a primary focus on the incorporation of technology designed to encourage originality, promote the design thinking process, build self-confidence, and strengthen leadership qualities.

2024 RECAP

Vision & Mission

As a nonprofit, our mission is to motivate youth to analyze the collaboration of STEM core components as a sport with a primary focus on the incorporation of technology designed to encourage innovation, improve the design thinking process, build self-confidence, and strengthen leadership qualities.

Highlights

STEM It Up Sports is proud of the year we had. Key program highlights include:

- Expansion of the Sphero Robotics in-person competitions, presented by STEM It Up Sports, had a banner year. Over 400 teams competed in season 5. Additionally, the in-person competitions spread across the globe to Victoria (Australia) and Kuwait.
- Partnered with the Dallas Wings to provide summer coding for girls. The workshop was facilitated over 2 days for 4 hours each day. The girls participated in robotics programming that utilized Sphero Bolts, the premiere robotics device used by educators to teach coding and enhance computer science skills.
- Expanded services to include professional development by partnering with the University of North Texas at Dallas to provide sessions and workshops for educators enrolled in a principal certification. The externship program included STEM based professional development, career shadows and site tours.

90%

90% of youth participants experienced higher or improved confidence in their coding skills.

30%

STEM It Up Sports saw a 30% increase in STEM touchpoints and exposure opportunities in 2024 compared to 2023.

Programs & Experiences

Early Robotics I & II
Robotics I & II
Light Tech Sports Therapy
Esports
Sphero Global Challenge
Bio Crime Lab Challenge
Crime Scene Investigation
Robotic Maze & Obstacle Course



STEM IT UP SPORTS & SGC AROUND THE WORLD



International

Belgium
Canada
Kuwait
Mexico
New South Wales (Australia)
New Zealand
Norway
Singapore
South Korea
United Kingdom
Victoria (Australia)



US States

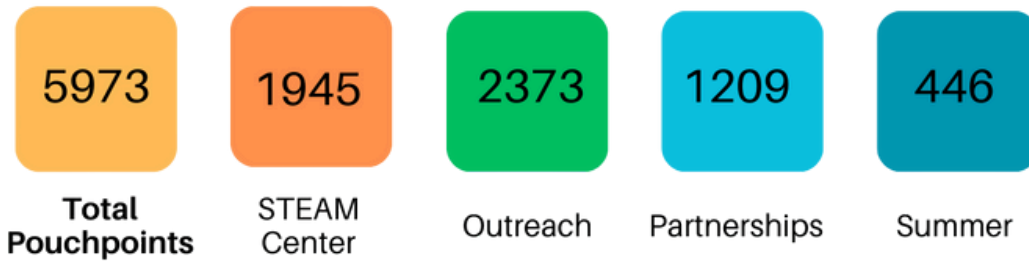
Alabama	Kentucky	Oklahoma
Arizona	Louisiana	Oregon
Arkansas	Maine	Pennsylvania
California	Maryland	South Carolina
Colorado	Michigan	Tennessee
Connecticut	Missouri	Texas
Florida	Nebraska	Washington
Georgia	Nevada	Washington D.C
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Utah
Illinois	New Jersey	Virginia
Iowa	New York	West Virginia
Indiana	North Carolina	Wisconsin
Kansas	Ohio	

2024 IMPACT

(BY THE NUMBERS)

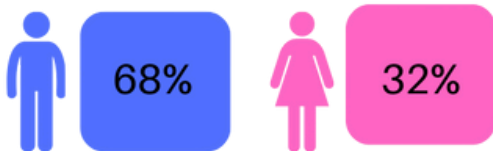
Achieving impactful organizational outcomes is at the heart of our mission. This section provides a detailed analysis of our performance across key objectives. A few highlights of our 2024 impact include an increase in total STEM touchpoints, growth in the percentage of girls served, and an increase in unduplicated participants.

STEM Touchpoints



Participant Demographics

Gender



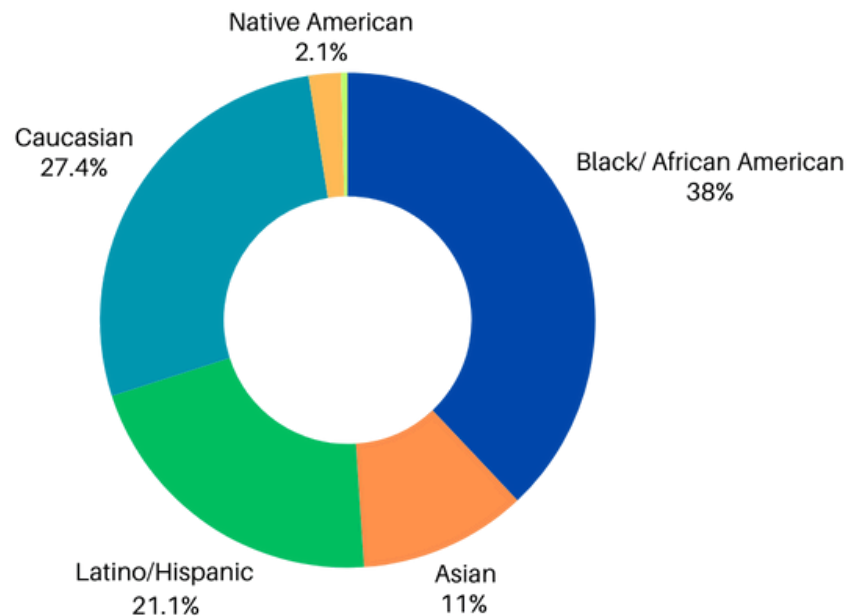
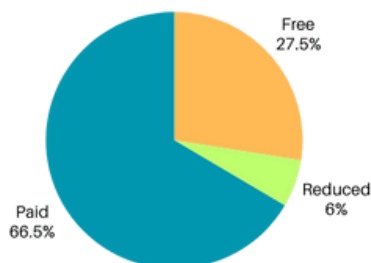
Ethnicity



Unduplicated Participants

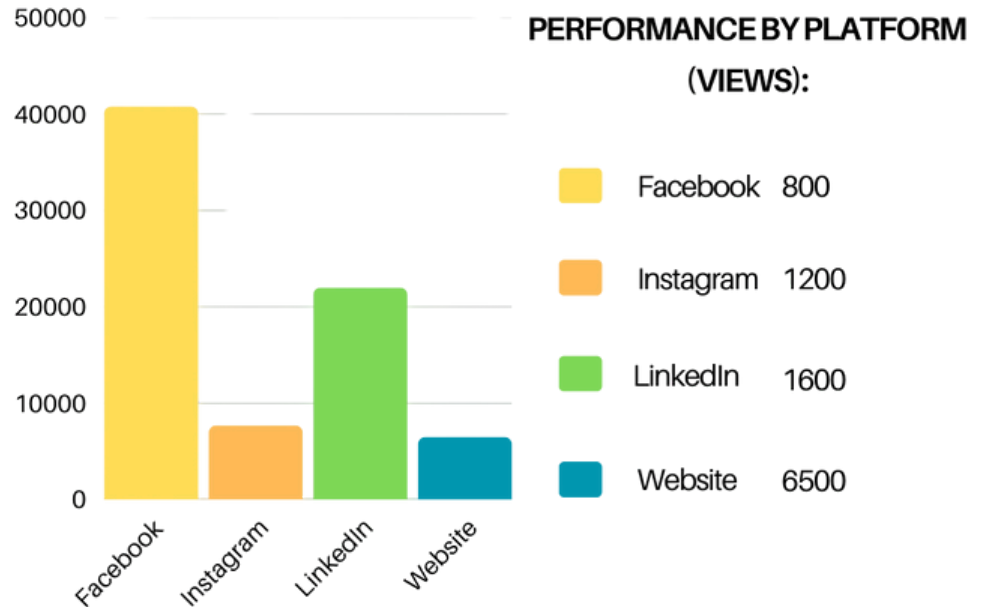


SocioEconomic Status



2024 DIGITAL PERFORMANCE

In today's data-driven world, the ability to measure and analyze digital performance is key to achieving organizational goals. STEM It Up Sports focused on improving the organization's marketing and communications outreach goals. We saw a great improvement in social media interactions, which can translate into improved outcomes.



70,769

Impression &
Views

70,300

Reach

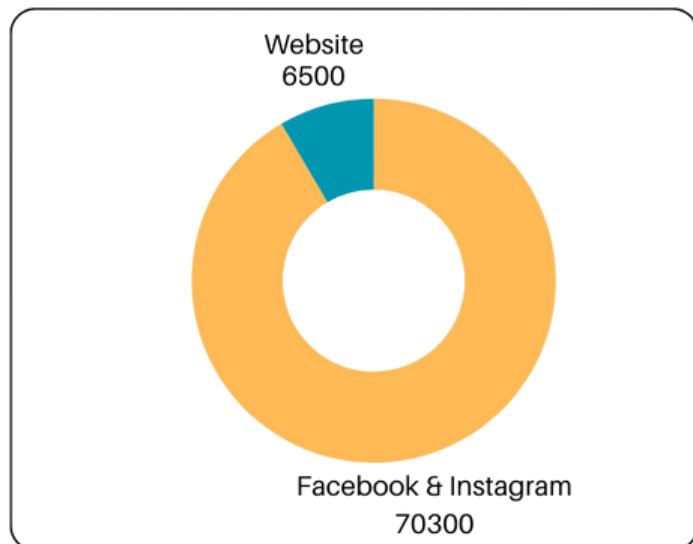
3,037

Content
Interactions

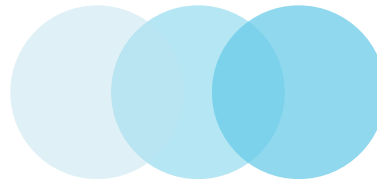
6,500

Website Visits

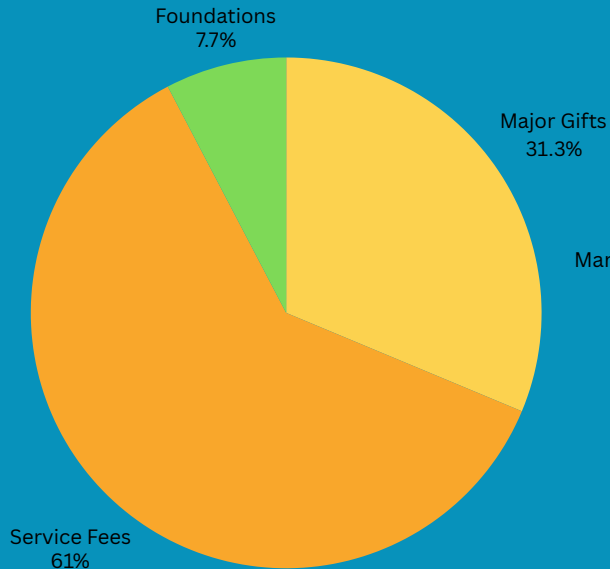
UNIQUE VISITORS BY PLATFORM:



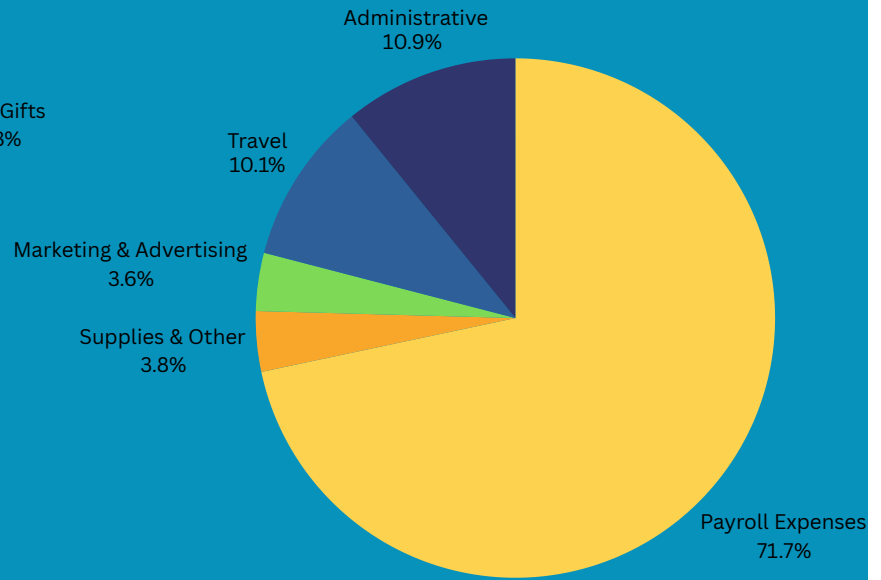
FINANCIALS



REVENUE



EXPENSES



Board of Directors

Melanie Tricey Love, Vogel Alcove
(President)

Loletha Horton, YMCA (Vice President)

Dr. Benita Reed, Tarrant County Community College
(Treasurer)

Marie Grady, Retired (Secretary)

Paul Copioli, CEO Sphero

Kelly Gray, Sphero

Kory Herd, Truss

Laura Oslick, Goldman Sachs

Maglenda Martin, Retired

Hiroshi Sosa-Nakata, Sosa-Nakata Publishing (Student Liaison)

Donors

Credit Union of Texas

Fieldhouse USA in Mansfield (In-Kind)

Google

Melanie Tricey Love

Microsoft

Mouser Electronics

Roda Valero

Sergeant Jared McGinley

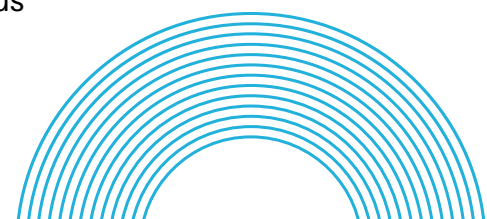
Sphero

Tarrant County Commissioner Alisa Simmons

University of North Texas at Dallas

Anonymous

Anonymous



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



The Credit Union of Texas (CUTX) is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial institution that has been serving Texans since 1931. They are deeply committed to giving back to their community through various philanthropic initiatives.

CUTX's charitable initiatives address key areas such as suburban homelessness, education, food insecurity, support for women and children in crisis, and assistance for individuals with special needs. They partner with local nonprofits to connect people with the resources they need to thrive.

CUTX has partnered with STEM It Up Sports to support initiatives that combine STEM education with engaging activities like robotics and esports. One notable collaboration is their involvement in the Sphero Global Challenge, where CUTX serves as a main sponsor for the Texas region. The Sphero Global Challenge encourages students to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through hands-on learning and creative problem-solving via a mission-based robotics competition.

CUTX's sponsorship of STEM It Up Sports reflects their commitment to fostering innovation and education in the community. By supporting STEM It Up Sports, CUTX is helping provide students with opportunities to develop critical skills and prepare for future careers in STEM fields. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Credit Union of Texas.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Arlington- Mansfield YMCA Association

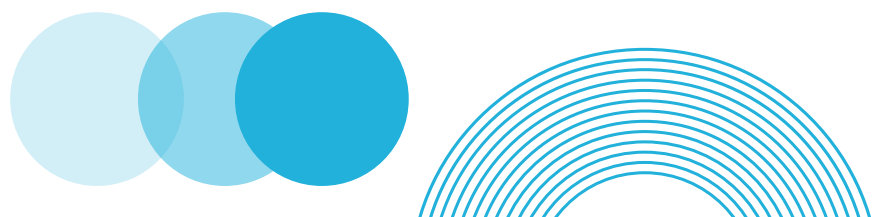


The Arlington-Mansfield Area YMCA has partnered with STEM It Up Sports to create a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Center that serves the community. This collaboration aims to provide enriching educational experiences for the greater Mansfield, TX community, focusing on areas like engineering, information technology, and robotics.

The STEAM Center offers a variety of programs, including:

- Robotics Classes: From beginner to advanced levels, students can learn to design, build, and code robots.
- Esports Leagues: Competitive gaming opportunities that emphasize strategy, teamwork, and problem-solving.
- STEAM Workforce Readiness: Programs designed to expose students to professional careers in STEAM fields, fostering interest and engagement.
- Social Engagement: Activities that promote self-awareness, decision-making, and relationship-building skills.

This partnership reflects a shared commitment to empowering youth through education and innovation.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Rising Blazers at University of North Texas at Dallas

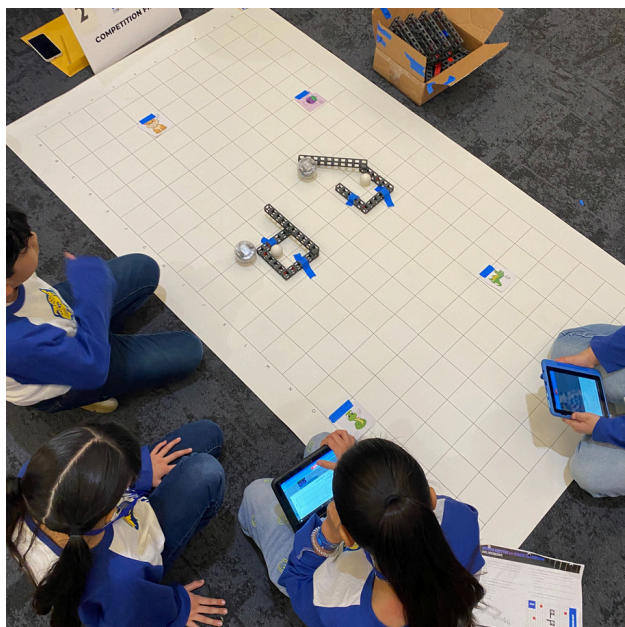
The UNT Dallas Rising Blazers program is designed to provide mentorship, youth leadership, and after-school programs to children and youth in South Dallas and Oak Cliff. The program aims to help students develop academically, socially, and emotionally, equipping them to become change-makers in their communities.

The program offers a variety of services, including:

- **Mentoring:** Pairing Early College High School (ECHS) students with UNT Dallas college students to support their transition from high school to college.
- **College & Career Readiness:** Focusing on post-high school readiness and individual well-being.
- **Teen Mental Health First Aid:** Teaching teens how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among their peers.
- **Youth Advisory Committee:** A group of youth participating in leadership development programming to nurture their confidence and promote positive youth development.

The Rising Blazers program embraces the UNT Dallas mission to empower students, transform lives, and strengthen communities.

STEM It Up Sports collaborates with the Rising Blazers program to provide youth with opportunities to explore the integration of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) concepts through sports. This partnership aims to encourage originality, promote the design thinking process, build self-confidence, and strengthen leadership qualities among the youth.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

David Burr

David Burr brings a wealth of experience and dedication to his role as a volunteer with STEM It Up Sports. Having retired from a diverse career spanning sales, marketing, human resources, and consulting, David also proudly served 27 years in the U.S. Navy, with 9 years on active duty and 18 in the reserves as a Surface Warfare Officer.

For David, the most rewarding aspect of volunteering is witnessing students' growth and achievements in robotics. While he hasn't yet explored the gaming and sports side of the program, he's excited to see how those elements enrich the experience for participants.

David's journey with STEM It Up Sports began when he spotted a poster at the Mansfield YMCA. After learning more about the program and meeting Dr. Grimbale, he was captivated by the vision for engaging students in STEM education.

Together with his wife, David has been an active volunteer for over 30 years, driven by a passion for giving back to the community.



JAN

- Future of Education Technology Conference in Orlando, Florida FL

FEB

- Texas Computer Education Association Conference
- Austin SGC Regional
- Better Living Podcast (Chris Arnold)

MAR

- Texas State SGC Competition- Dallas
- City of Mansfield Court

APR

- STOMP Wars
- SGC World Championships

MAY

- UNTD Rising Blazers Banquet

JUNE

- Father's Day at the EsportsLab with the Dallas Mavericks
- Summer Camps
- Wings of Innovation (Dallas Wings)
- Arlington Juneteenth Festival
- ISTE Conference (Denver, CO)
- UNTD Principal Cohort

JULY

- Mount Olive Baptist Church Event
- Tech Talk on Hello Mansfield
- UNTD STEM Summit
- Summer Camps

AUG

- Prison Ministries STEM Camp (Dallas)

SEPT

- Fall Frenzy- EsportsLab
- Mansfield ISD
- Fall Fundraiser Event (Rep. Chris Turner)

OCT

- UNTD Friday STEM Workshops
- Spooky Showdown (EsportsLab)
- Arlington Commissioner Alisa Simmons Halloween Carnival

NOV

- Prison Ministries STEM Camp (Baltimore)
- Thanks-Gaming (EsportsLab)
- SGC State Tournament (Australia)
- SGC Regional (Portland, OR)
- SGC Regional (Houston, TX)
- Better Living Podcast (Chris Arnold)

DEC

- Rep. Chris Turner Annual Toy Drive
- Winter Wonderland (EsportsLab)
- SGC Regional (Miami, FL)

IN THE NEWS



Forbes Article:

[The 2-Step Method To Raise Happy And Confident Children In A 'STEM-Driven' World—By A Psychologist](#)



AM Mansfield:
[Episode 258](#)



NBC:
[Community Conversations: Call for Change](#)



Better Living:
[Innovation and education come together to inspire next generation of technology leaders](#)



Dallas Wings:
[Wings of Innovation](#)



Hello Mansfield:
[Interview with Dr. Grimbale](#)



NOW Magazine:
[Mansfield Now](#)



All About STEM Radio:
[Interview with Dr. Tonjia Grimbale](#)



Upcoming in 2025

- STEM Con
 - April 5, 2025 in Mansfield, TX
 - For more details, visit <https://www.stemitupsports.com/stemcon>
- Summer coding and drone camps

2024 PARTNERS & SPONSORS



"I personally want to thank all of our partners, sponsors, and donors for a wonderful year. It was because of your passion for STEM engagement, we were able to extend our services to more youth in the community and across the world. Words cannot express how much your generosity has helped us grow as a team, thriving in this community."

"We hope and pray for your continued partnership and collaboration!"

Dr. Tonjia Grimbale, CEO

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT
STEM IT UP SPORTS?
[DONATE HERE](#)**

THANK YOU!

Address :

PO Box 2079 Mansfield, TX 76062

Website :

www.stemitupsports.com

Email address :

www.stemitupsports.com

facebook.com/Stemitupsports

linkedin.com/Stemitupsports

instagram.com/stemitupsports

