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2023 STEM Summit

November 9, 2023 | 10:00 AM -12:30 PM CT

10:00 – 10:10 AM Welcome & Opening Remarks
Emcee – **Claire Dutreix**, Sr. Associate Director K-12 Education,
CHILDREN AT RISK

Session 1: Tech Innovation and the Future Workforce Landscape

Description: This session will delve into the evolving landscape of technology and its impact on the future workforce. Industry leaders will discuss emerging technologies, skills in high demand, and the changing nature of job roles. Participants will explore how schools can adapt curriculum to align with industry needs, ensuring that students are equipped with relevant skills for the ever-evolving STEM job market.

10:11 AM – 10:34 AM Moderated by **Charanya Ravikumar**, Chief Strategy Officer,
CHILDREN AT RISK
Ganesh Padmanabhan, CEO, Autonomize Inc
Sabari Raja, Managing Partner, JFF Ventures

Session 2: Empowering All Voices: Inclusivity in STEM Education and Employment

Description: Addressing the need for diversity and inclusivity in STEM education and the workplace, this session will examine the benefits of creating a more representative environment. Experts will share best practices for fostering an inclusive culture that celebrates diverse perspectives and experiences. Attendees will explore actionable strategies to remove systemic barriers and biases, enabling equal access to opportunities in STEM careers.

10:35 AM – 11:05 AM Moderated by **Cathy Chen-Arriaga**, Executive Director, Fab Lab El Paso
Sherrika Sanders, PhD, Sr Technical Engineer, Manner Polymers
Liliana González, Manager, Research & Impact, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
H. Puentes, Co-Founder, President and CEO, San Diego Squared (SD2)

Session 3: Demystifying STEM Careers: Showcasing Hidden Opportunities

Description: This conversation will shine a light on lesser known yet rewarding STEM careers beyond the conventional paths. Representatives from unique STEM fields will share their experiences, shedding light on the diversity of opportunities available and offering insights into breaking into these specialized areas.

11:06 AM – 11:31 AM Moderated by **Dahlia Chaudhury**, Project Coordinator, CHILDREN AT RISK
Oluwadamilola (Dami) Fasina, Graduate Student Researcher, Applied Mathematics, Yale University
Marisa Plescia, Senior Chemist, Bell International Laboratories
Brian Mandell Ph.D., Division Director of Curriculum, Digital Media and Communications, Smithsonian Science Education Center

Session 4: Strengthening STEM Teacher Pipeline: Public-Private Initiatives in STEM Education

Description: This conversation will spotlight the collaborative efforts between industries and educators to strengthen the STEM teacher workforce. Panelists will discuss successful models of industry partnerships that involve mentorship, training, and funding for aspiring STEM teachers. Attendees will also explore the importance of cultivating a skilled, diverse, and passionate STEM educator community.

11:32 AM – 11:56 AM Moderated by **Nicholas Mendoza**, School Founder, Alchemy Studio and Labs
Arthur Mitchell, Executive Director, STEM Equity Alliance (STEM EA)
Jamie Heilingoetter, Program Director, School Empowerment Network
Michael Odell, Ph.D. Professor of STEM Education and holds the endowed Roosth Chair in Education, University of Texas at Tyler

Session 5: Building Sustainable Futures: STEM Innovations and Global Impact

Description: This conversation will explore the role of STEM innovations in shaping a sustainable future for our planet. Experts from diverse fields will discuss breakthroughs in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, environmental conservation, and resilient infrastructure. Attendees will gain insights into how collaborative efforts across STEM disciplines are driving positive change and creating a pathway towards a more sustainable and resilient world.

11:57 AM – 12:20 PM Keynote Speaker: **Reagan Flowers**, PhD, Chief Education Officer, Sustainable Forestry Initiative

12:20 PM – 12:30 PM Closing Remarks
Frazier Wilson, PhD, VP, Shell USA Company Foundation and Manager, Workforce Development & Diversity Outreach, Shell USA, Inc.