Understanding the Value of Informal STEM Programs for Diverse Youth: A Guide for Institutions of Higher Learning



Panelists

- ► Fan Wu, Tuskegee University: Partnership to Provide Technology
 Experiences through Aerial Drones in High Schools of the Alabama Black
 Belt (Award #DRL-1614845)
- Vikram Kapila, NYU Tandon School of Engineering: Promoting Robotic Design and Entrepreneurship Experiences among Students and Teachers (Award # DRL-1614085)
- James Diamond, Education Development Center, Inc. and Marc Lesser, Mouse: Investigating Digital Badges as Alternative Credentials to Broaden STEM Participation Among Underrepresented Youth (Award # DRL-1614727)

Questions to keep in mind

- ▶ If you are a faculty member, how could you make those at your institution who are involved in recruitment and admissions aware of your program and other programs like this?
- ▶ If you are involved in any part of the admissions or credit granting process, how can you imagine changes what would recognize the value of informal education programs?
- What can your project be doing to reach out to gatekeepers, such as faculty, admissions officers, other higher education administrators, to educate them about what students gain from such programs?



ITEST Drone Summer Academy Award # DRL-1614845



PI: Hira Narang

Co-PIs: Mohammed Qazi, Cassandra Thomas, Jay Bhuyan, and Fan Wu

2018 STELAR ITEST PI & Evaluator Summit Washington DC, May 14 – 15, 2018

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

ANDREW F. BRIMMER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



Tuskegee University

- > Private and state-related HBCU
- > Students
 - ❖ 3,156 from across U.S. and abroad
- Degree Programs
 - ❖ Baccalaureate: 40
 - **❖** Masters: 16
 - ❖ Doctorate: 4
- > Demographic
 - ❖ More than 90% are African-American
 - ❖ 43% male and 57% female

Background Literature

- ➤ Research shows that HBCUs have a unique role to play in producing underrepresented minority STEM graduates.

 According to www.ed.gov
- ➤ "21 of the top 50 institutions for educating African-American graduates who go on to receive their doctorates in science and engineering, are HBCUs."
- ➤ Only 3 percent of country's colleges and universities are HBCU's, but they produce 27 percent of African-American students with bachelor's degrees in STEM fields.

Issues Contributing to STEM Disparities

- > Access to courses & quality rigorous curriculum
 - Rural County: No Calculus/pre-Calculus, Physics,
 Electives, Only 2.7% take SAT
- > Teacher preparation
 - Rural County: 178 certified teachers and administrators.
 The faculty includes one counselor with National Board
 Certification. Only 46% holds a masters.
- > Teacher availability
 - Rural County: In one school, 40% classes not taught by highly qualified teachers
- ➤ Infrastructure capacity
 - Access to wifi, computer labs with up to date software

- > The goals of the Drone Academy project are:
 - Providing Alabama students and teachers from the rural Macon County School District and the urban Montgomery School district (ITEST Scholars) with technology-rich experiences through project-based learning.
 - Developing disciplinary-based knowledge and practices, critical thinking, reasoning skills, and communication skills needed for studies in STEM.
 - ✓ Using strengths of the ITEST partnership between Tuskegee University (TU) and TU's Computer Science Department Advisory Board (CSAB) and TU's Engineering Alumni Associate (TUEAA) to foster awareness among ITEST Scholars of the full spectrum of STEM-related occupations and to chart pathways for Scholars to these professions.
 - ✓ The Academy activities are designed to encourage Scholars to seriously. reflect on the benefits of choosing educational pathways that will lead to STEM-related careers and occupations in an effort to increase the participation of women and minorities in the STEM-related workforce.

Project Impact

- Successful Recruitment: School principals and Superintendents of the two partnering districts also played a critical role in the recruitment process.
- ➤ **Teacher Lesson Plans:** Teachers developed lesson plans for infusion in their classrooms to extend the benefits of the Academy to other students.
- ➤ Follow-Ups during the school year: Classroom visits took place during the 2017-2018 school year to assist teachers in implementing the lesson plans that they developed.
- Successfully Attracted the students who attended Drone Summer Academy to come to TU.
- ➤ University Administrations visited Drone Summer Academy and talked with the Drone Summer Academy Scholars.

- ➤ The 2016 ITEST Drone Summer Academy
 - ✓ July 11- July 29, 2016
 - ✓ 42 high school students from rising 10, 11, and 12 grades.
 - ✓ 4 high school teachers.
 - ✓ One session.
 - ✓ Macon and Montgomery Counties
 - ✓ The majority of participants reported their race as Black or African American (83.3%) and there were more female students (57.1%) than male students (42.9%). Students were from grades 10 (21.9%), 11 (43.8%) and 12 (34.4%) and the majority of students demonstrated that they were from Macon County (77.4%) and Montgomery School District (22.6%).

- ➤ The 2017 ITEST Drone Summer Academy
 - ✓ July 5- July 28, 2017
 - ✓ 68 high school students from rising 10, 11, and 12 grades.
 - ✓ 8 high school teachers.
 - ✓ Two Concurrent session.
 - ✓ Macon and Montgomery Counties
 - ✓ The majority of participants reported their race as Black or African American (92%) and there were more female students (56%) than male students (44%). Students were from grades 10 (30%), 11 (38%) and 12 (32%) and the majority of students demonstrated that they were from Macon County (52%) and Montgomery School District (43%).

July 11 Orientation Problem solving ePortfolio setup Search engine Cloud computing	July 12 Cloud computing Problem solving YouTube Explore photo info Raspberry Pi Phishing	July 13 Collaboration Problem solving Google trends Intellectual property Turtle graphics ePortfolio update	July 14 Password I Turtle graphics Collaboration Turtle graphics Cyber security I Portfolio update	July 15 Scratch STEM career Problem solving with Scratch ePortfolio update
July 18	July 19 Drone regulations Fly drone Acquire data Analyze data STEM career Fly drone ePortfolio update	July 20 Cyber security II Scratch Browser issues Scratch competition ePortfolio update	 July 21 Teamsmanship Scratch extension Fly with Scratch (indoor testing) Fly with Scratch (outdoor testing) ePortfolio update 	July 22 Fly with Scratch (outdoor discovery) STEM career Fly with Scratch (outdoor discovery) Summarize findings ePortfolio update
July 25 Math & Science Fly drone Data analysis Data visualization ePortfolio update	July 26 Social media issues Fly drone STEM career Data analysis Data visualization ePortfolio update	July 27PythonFly with PythonePortfolio update	July 28 • Fly with Python • Python • Fly with Python • ePortfolio update	July 29 Project completion Prepare presentation ePortfolio update Post-assessment



















- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrOcF0trGhc
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRcuO0yBJyo&featur e=youtu.be
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfip89a9DD4
- https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/collegesschools/cbis/computer-science/itest_drone_academy



Thank You!

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Recognizing the Value of K-12 STEM Partnerships

Vikram Kapila Mechatronics, Controls, and Robotics Lab (MCRL)

http://engineering.nyu.edu/mechatronics/

http://engineering.nyu.edu/mechatronics/ITEST/index.html

NSF ITEST DRL: 1614085

ITEST PI Meeting

May 15, 2018, 10:15—11:45 AM





K-12/NYU Tandon STEM Partnership

- Creates opportunities to
 - Engage K-12 participants in engineering education and research
 - Create pipeline of future STEM scholars
 - Make broad societal impact
- Lab researchers mentor and interact with K-12 students
 - Learn to communicate without technical jargon
 - Broaden their own education and training
 - Receive financial support for participation and contribution
- Faculty can develop research proposal with authentic broader impact statements
- Explore new educational and research programming

K-12 STEM Education at NYU Tandon

- RET Site NSF
- GK-12 Fellows NSF
- DR K-12 NSF
- ITEST NSF
- NYS and NYC funded projects
- CBSI Philanthropy
- ARISE Philanthropy
- SoSC Philanthropy
- CSAW Philanthropy
- •

Research Immersion for K-12 Participants











Summer of STEM @ NYU Tandon









Industry Interactions









Industry Interactions

DOE Home Page > Offices & Programs > Media Relations > News and Speeches > 2014-2015

News and Speeches

Chancellor, Microsoft, and NYU Polytechnic Announce NYC Summer STEM 2015

5/7/2015

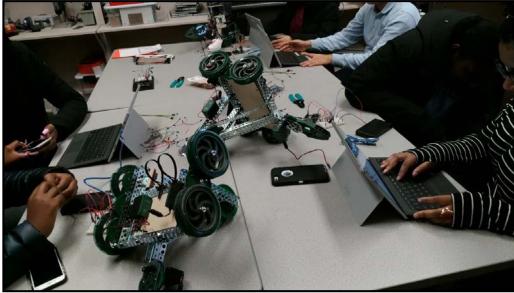
Pilot Program Will Provide Hands-On STEM Opportunities for 1,200 Students

Microsoft Leading Supporter of Design and Implementation of Program



Classroom Integration of Summer Learning



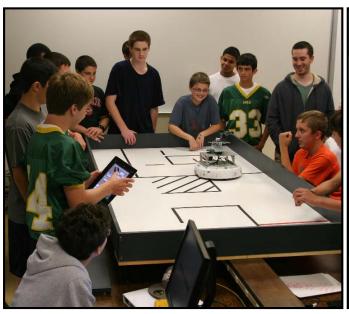








AY Interactions: Schools and NYU Tandon





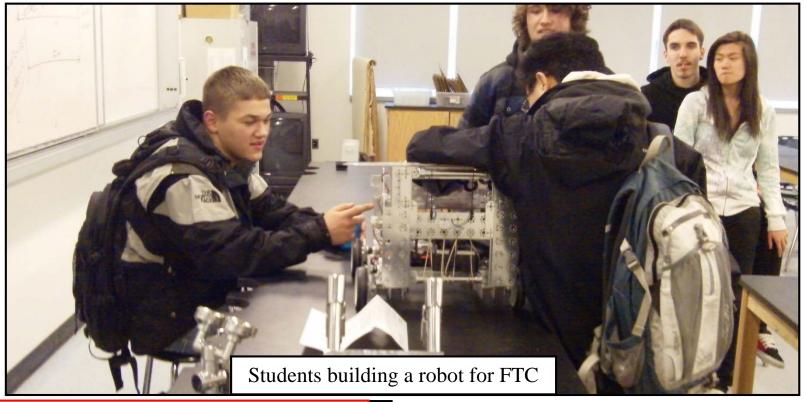


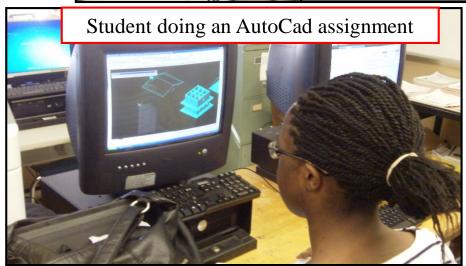






Midwood HS: Pre-Engineering in Action





Midwood High School won the city championship in robotics last year. That was totally due to our engineering program which would not exist without the four teachers who participated in NYU-Poly's SMART program.—Dr. Ernest Pysher, AP, 2011

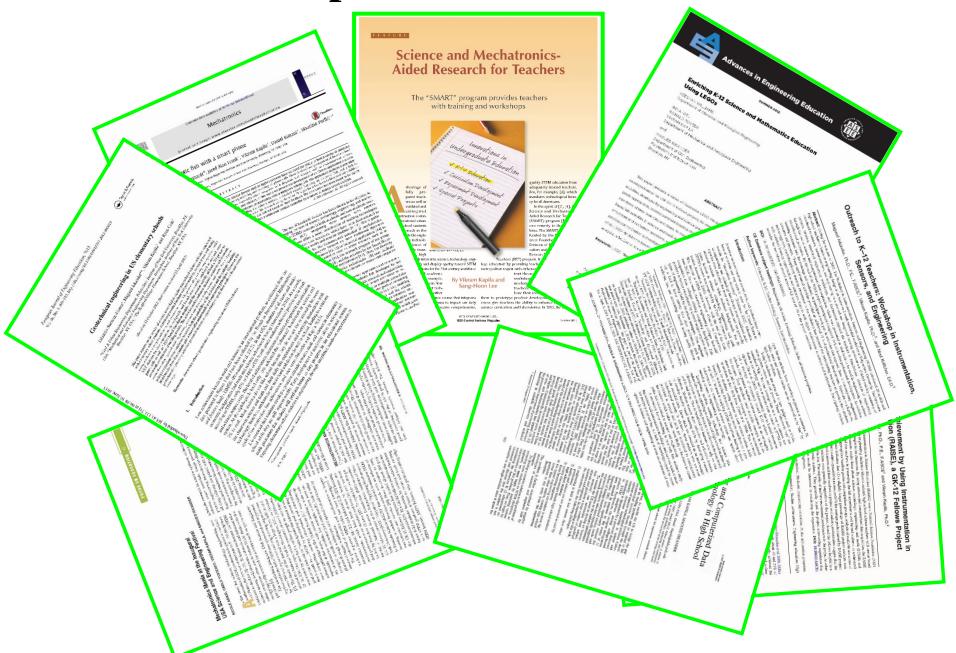
Impact on Engineering Students

- Improved communication skills
 - Presenting to "non-science" audiences
 - Significant gain in Fellows' ability to communicate complex STEM concepts to lay audiences (mean pre-score 2.75/4 v/s post-score 3.23/4)
- Highlight the importance of STEM to society
- Ability to influence students
 - Share knowledge
 - Generate enthusiasm for STEM
 - Academic achievement
 - Dispel stereotypes
 - Correct attitudes
 - Creativity of students





Scholarship on K-12 STEM Activities



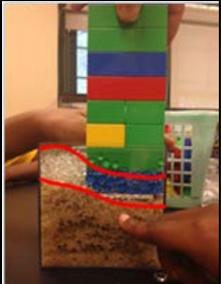
Soil Mechanics and Engineering Design Process

- Soil permeability
- Shallow and deep foundations
- Erosion in rivers
- Use EDP: ask, imagine, plan, create, and improve

Delivering Geotechnical Engineering to Elementary School Children

By Eduardo Suescun-Florez, Magued Iskander, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE Ryan Cain, and Vikram Kapila, Ph.D.







Celebrate K-12 STEM



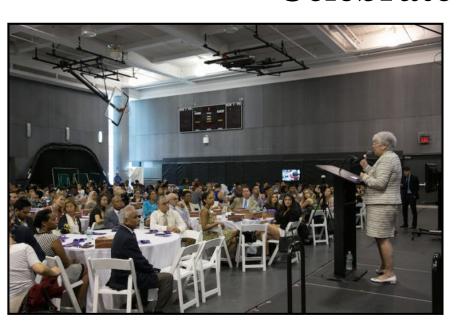








Celebrate K-12 STEM







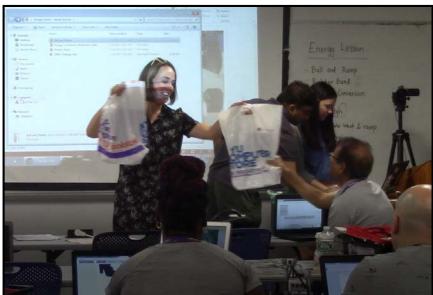


Engage and Partner with Admissions









Engage and Partner with Marketing and Media

NYU-Poly Mentoring Helps Take Brooklyn Robotics Team to World Finals



ITAVA stadests celebrate being part of the alliance of three teams that won the citywide FIRST Tech Challance, Block for Adriana Grossman.



Brooklyn Robots Travel to D.C., Teach Math and Science

By Mary Fros



NYU-Poly's 'Mechatronics Mania' Exhibits at Expo

By Mary Frost Brook by Daily Fac

BROOKLYN — This past weekend the National Mall in Washington, D.C., was packed with handreds of thousands of visitors taking in the latest generation of cyber technology, virtual reality and internetive robots at the first-ever USA

And right up front were a handful of little robots from Brooklyn, in the "Mechatronics Mania" exhibit by Brooklyn's Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly). The university was one of only 15 or anniations of bases by the National Science Foundation to exhibit there.

Led by Vikram Kapila, professor of mechanical engineering and one of the founders of NYU-Poly's robotics and mechatronics outreach program, graduate students demonstrated how they use the robots to raise students' moth and science grades and skills in Brooklyn's economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Using robots to help raise student grades





March 11, 2011, 1:30 pm

P.S. 11 Students, Robots, Compete in Lego League

By MICHAEL RANDAZZO, Community Contributor

NYU P.S. 11 wins big during the FIRST LEGO League robot competition qualifier this January.



The atmosphere at the First Lego League robot competition qualifier in January felt similar to a WrestleMania mixed—except the gladiators in question were Lego robots created by hundred of Brooklyn elementary school students. This year, P.S. 11's Robotics Team, Mission 11, captured the first place award at that contest, which was held at the NYU-Poby's Jacobs Academic Building. On Sunday, Mission 11 will take part in the final round of the New York City regional competition at the Jacob Javis Centre.

NYU-Poly Celebrates Engineers Week on NBC Today Show

On February 20, 2011, more than 3.8 million viewers turned irect bit Stundey NBC Today Show to See Roderfeller Place (filled with robots and signs proclaiming, NUI-Poly Celebrates Engineers Week See to taken included over 50 members (Including the FI). 30 s toudents, two Fellows, 5 teachers from 4 schools; parents, members of NUI-Poly's media and development office, and a staff member of the strooking Community Foundation, the Tournding sponsor of CRRT, The team carried signs weather reports, inferrieved project badder Ms. Tamby Awardaly and a student.





Robots Teach; More Brooklyn Kids Learn

Brooklyn Community Foundation Grant Expands Highly Successful NYU-Poly Robotics Outreach Program

Two Brooklyn institutions today amounced an expanded partnership to help encourage Brooklyn's young people to explore careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Brooklyn Community Foundation's \$500,000 grant to Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly) could triple the number of under-resourced Central Brooklyn elementary, middle and high schools that employ students' fascination with robots to engage their interest in STEM subjects.



Sparking Interest in Math and Science Among At-Risk Students, One Robot at a Time

BLACK MALE DONOR COLLABORATIVE JOINS NYU-POLY TO EXPAND SUCCESSFUL BROOKLYN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Published September 8th, 2010



From Indt, BMDC Program Coordinator Anthony Simmons, NYU-Poly Professor of Mechanical Engineering and CBRI Principal Investigates Visitam Kapile, Bestinat Academy and CBRI graduate Khadir Planch, who has been accepted into a college computer science program, 15 383 (Bushirek) Robotics Teacher Lindrick Outerbridge, a three-year CBRI participant: and BMDC Director Microli Sharee. Tuesday, March 8, 2011 New York \$\infty\$ 69° | 50° THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. NEW YORK SCHOOLS

Brooklyn Schoolkids Do the Robot

By MELANIE GRAYCE WEST

What happens when you mix young engineers, teachers, students and robots in a Brooklyn



"A whole bunch of magie," says Marilyn Gelber, president of the Brooklyn Community Foundation. The foundation is giving a \$50,000 grant to expand a program that invites engineering students into serve as mentors in Brooklyn schools. The program, Central Brooklyn Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative, is operated by the Polytechnic Institute of New York University.

The after-school initiative, launched in 2007, now operates in 18 schools, grades five to nine. With the foundation's grant and with additional flunding from outside donors, the program hopes to be in 36 schools in three years. To date, the Brooklyn Community Foundation has given \$800,000 to the STEM initiative.

MECHATRONICS

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SELECTS NYU-POLY'S GROUNDBREAKING ROBOTICS PROGRAM FOR PRESTIGIOUS WASHINGTON, D.C., EXPO





FIRST Lego League Challenge, News12 Brooklyn



Certificate of Excellence

Presented to

Dr. Vikram Kapila



In recognition of a longstanding partnership and commitment to the students of New York City's Career and Technical Education Programs and Schools

February 29, 2016

Division of Teaching and Learning
Office of Postsecondary Readiness
New York City Department of Education

metre •

News President Trump Entertainment Lifestyle Things to Do Body & Mind Sports Games

Brooklyn's hot new trend: robots

A new grad program on the frontier of innovation is changing how we work and live.

By Alizah Salario Published: February 15, 2016













Matthew Moorhead works on CAESAR (Celluarly Accessible, Expressive, Semi-Autonomou NYU: Sheldon Smith

A forum for emerging systems and control technologies.

OYNAMICSYSTEMS&CONTROL MARCH 2018 VOL.6 NO.1

MECHATRONICS EDUCATION
INNOVATION WORKSHOP:
A SUMMARY REPORT

he Internet of Things, robotics, and smart systems are beginning to make demands on academic programs to deliver a more modern and complete treatment of the necessary skills, methodologies, and technologies to meet the requirements of industry. Mechatronics, with its inherent interdisciplinary character, offers a vehicle to address these challenges and opportunities. Mechatronics education programs can

BY VIKRAM KAPILA

NYU TANDON
PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL
AND AFROSPACE ENGINEERING

TOM LEE

QUANSER
CHIEF BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



Sustainability and Institutionalization

- Broaden project: Serve additional constituencies
- Ensure longevity: new funds, hone sustainable elements (courses)
- Spur institutional change: integrate across academic activities, develop leadership strategies, invite tenure-track faculty participation, engage university administrators
- A multifaceted approach: Involve faculty, students, administrators, K-12 community, civic leaders, media, philanthropies
- Institutional commitment: Center for K-12 STEM Education
 - Cyber security
 - Science of Smart Cities
 - ARISE—Summer research for high school students
 - Local and international projects













Investigating Digital Badges as Alternative Credentials to Broaden STEM Participation Among Underrepresented Youth, Award #1614727 (Project dates: 09/2016–08/2019)

Jim Diamond (EDC), PI: jdiamond@edc.org Marc Lesser (Mouse), Co-PI: marc@mouse.org

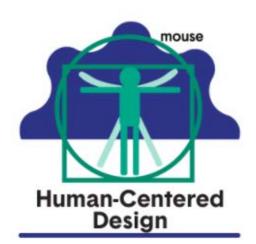
Research Questions

- 1. How does the process of building accredited alternative credential portfolios contribute to the development of STEAM identities among underserved and underrepresented youth?
- 2. In what ways do individual and institutional stakeholders come to agreement to recognize mutual value in and accredit alternative credential portfolios?

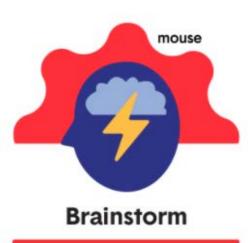


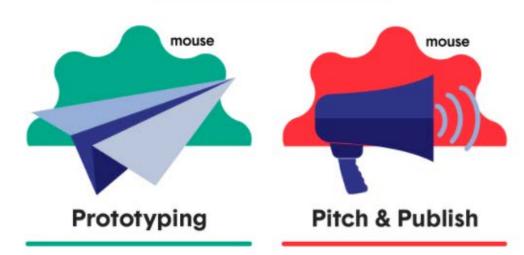














Mouse Competency Badges

Mouse competency badges are awarded to learners who have demonstrated their grasp of skills and knowledge through project evidence reviewed by local educators.



Badge: Brainstorm: Finding great ideas

Awarded for demonstrating understanding of key aspects of design ideation, producing and iterating on ideas derived from design research. Mouse competency badges are awarded to youth who have demonstrated their grasp of skills and knowledge through project evidence reviewed by local educators. Mouse supports the growing capacity of youth to apply technology,

engineering, and design skills toward solutions that effect social change.

Project: Rules of Brainstorming

Practice the professional process of brainstorming once your research and problem identification are complete.

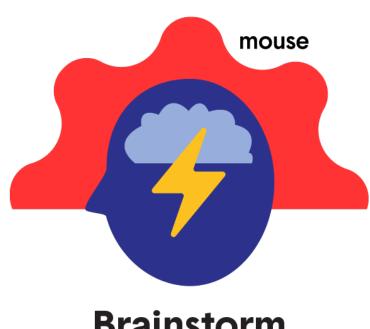
Evidence Date: 09/20/2016

Work Submitted: 09/20/2016 15:57 pm



Project: Framing Questions

Learn how to frame your design challenges with How Might We Questions in order to achieve the most from brainstorms.



Brainstorm



Mouse Design League

Mouse Design League is....

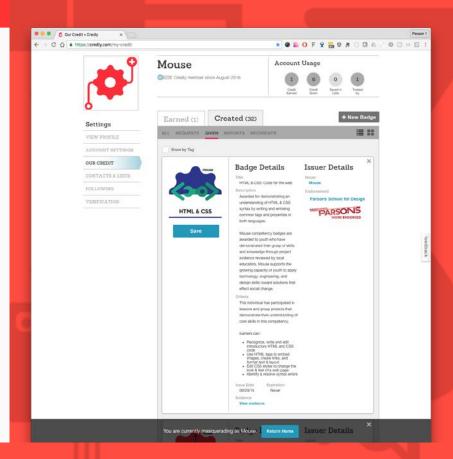
BADGE ENDORSEMENTS LIKES ARCHIV

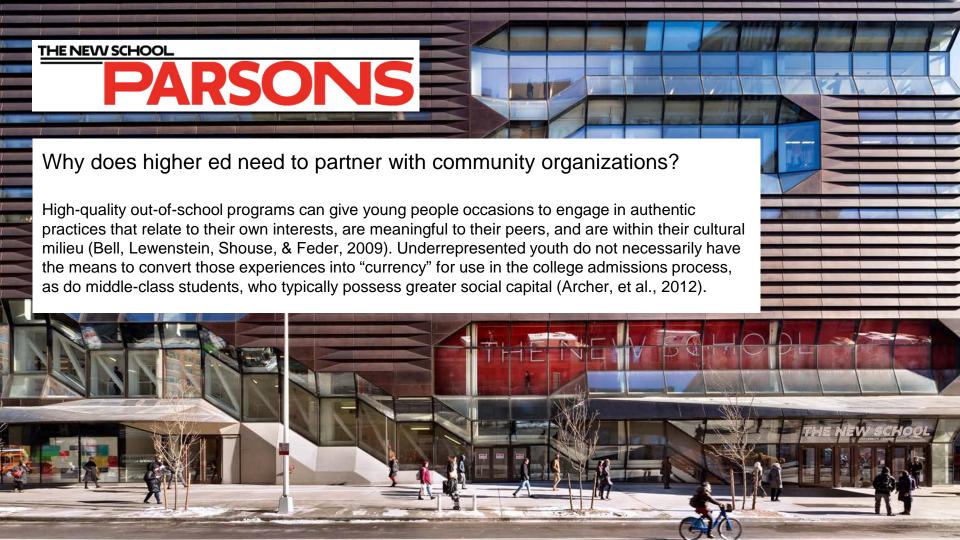
Mouse Design League Parsons Badge Endorsement



This Mouse Design League Badge is formally endorsed by Parsons School for Design. In this context, badge endorsement is the action of having expert individuals or institutions formally recognize or value the achievements of learners participating in learning experiences outside of their own institution. The purpose of this endorsement is to pronounce relationships between organizations with shared goals related to skills-building and to establish more explicit learning pathways for individuals who seek expertise applicable to their personal or professional interests.

A "Badge," in this context, is a graphic representation of a skill or competency that is accessed online, earned through a specific criteria, and that links to "evidence" or portfolio data that can be reviewed by various stakeholders.





We are challenging the general notion of what a portfolio can be.

Linear Narrative
Interactive

Final Work
In progress

Solely Visual Art Multidisciplinary

Static
Easily Sharable

MOU

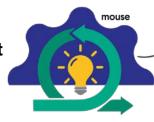
Shared Goals Key Dates People Endorsement Details

Admissions Events



Curriculum Alignment

PARSONS +



Iteration

Demonstrate an understanding of the iterative and incremental making process, including experimenting, taking creative risks, developing concepts and scenarios; drafting, mocking up, and prototyping; testing; and editing, altering, and responding to feedback. Awarded for showing competence in testing versions of a design using prototypes, and documenting feedback from real users.

Pre-College Mentorship



Network of I Higher Education I Partners I With Similar Goals

Annual Youth Conference



Protocol

Admissions



Endorsement



Growing the alternative credentials herd

- 1. Faculty as advocates (the Justice League)
- 2. Faculty and admissions brainstorming together (EAGER)











Thank you! Questions? Get in touch!

Investigating Digital Badges as Alternative Credentials to Broaden STEM Participation Among Underrepresented Youkthyard #1614727

Jim Diamond (EDC), PI: jdiamond@edc.org Marc Lesser (Mouse), Co-PI: marc@mouse.org