



November 4, 2020

STEAM Day Friends,

Hope you and your students can attend the 27th Annual STEAM Day at Saint Francis University virtually through online meetings, on Tuesday, November 24. The day will begin at 8:30 in the morning with a welcome session, and continue through 2:00 in the afternoon with sessions each hour. You and your students can join for any part or all of the day. Because it will be completely virtual, there will be no charge for STEAM Day this year.

We ask each of you as teachers to register through the Teacher Registration link on the STEAM Day website <https://www.francis.edu/steam-day/>. We ask that the main contact teacher complete that registration, along with any other teachers or administrators who will join you. You can select sessions, and attend any you want. You will see you have an option for a gift for registering your students, whichever is best for you.

We also ask that you have each of your students participating go to the same website to find the Student Registration link. They can choose to register for up to five sessions at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, and 1:00. Or they can simply indicate no session during a time period if they have class to attend, lunch, or any other commitment.

The registration form for you has only the letters of the sessions, and for the students has only the names of the sessions. For a complete description of each session, there is a link on that same website for "Session Descriptions" that lists the complete description, the names and titles of speakers, and the session capacity limits. We will try to assign students to their requested sessions, but will have to make alternate assignments if capacities are exceeded. We might also add more times for some sessions if there is more demand. Before STEAM Day, each of you and your students will receive an individual email with links to each of your virtual meetings.

You will see on your registration form that you can enter a student team in either a Team Debate competition, or in an Esports team competition. You can also submit names of individual students who could participate if space allows in either of the competitions. If you have a team, you and/or other students can select those sessions as spectators also.

You will see on the session descriptions that we have three KEYNOTE Presentations. These are larger capacity presentations with prominent speakers and we would encourage everyone to attend at least one of these, hopefully more. The three speakers are all Saint Francis alumni who will speak about their career paths, speak about their specific topic listed, and answer questions through Q&A. They are listed here.

**School of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics**

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9:00 a.m. Dr. Stephen O'Brien is Retired Chief of the NIH Center for Genome Bioinformatics, wrote a very popular book *Tears of the Cheetah*, and will speak about plagues in history including COVID-19.

10:00 a.m. Ms. Margaret Everson is the current director of the National Park Service and an environmental lawyer, and will speak about the national treasures we have in our National Park System.

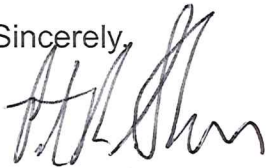
11:00 a.m. Mr. Jim Morhard is the Deputy Administrator of NASA and will speak about the many current initiatives in space exploration.

You will also see many other sessions available for you and your students. Some are popular sessions from the past including Becoming a Doctor, Cryptography, CSI Loretto, Disney Animation, Field Biology, Fireworks, and Music and Wellness. Many are new sessions like Engineering Design competition, Gandhi, Hubble Telescope and Fandom. Hope you and your students find all of them interesting.

If you have any questions before or during STEAM Day, please contact me at (814) 472-3085, (814) 241-7383, or [pskoner@francis.edu](mailto:pskoner@francis.edu); Colleen Krug at (814) 471-1173 or [ckrug@francis.edu](mailto:ckrug@francis.edu); or Beth Warner at (814) 471-1215 or [bwarner@francis.edu](mailto:bwarner@francis.edu).

Thank you for your interest in Saint Francis University, and your support of STEAM learning and education for your students!

Sincerely,



Peter R. Skoner, Ed.D., P.E.  
Dean of the School of STEAM

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