BOUNDLESS OPPORTUNITY

Build a better New Orleans through better STEM education
HOW CAN EDUCATION TRANSFORM A CITY?

Our children are not well served by a one-size-fits-all curriculum that limits exploration or admission criteria that reinforce longstanding inequity.

Every day in New Orleans, young people crisscross our city by car, bus and on foot, making their way to a dizzying array of charter, religious and independent schools. While New Orleans boasts a wealth of choice when it comes to education, it has yet to achieve citywide access to high-quality educational options with a track-record of producing graduates who have the skills, confidence and fortitude to succeed professionally and economically in their adult lives.

In New Orleans, the future of work itself continues to evolve at a rapid pace. Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields in particular show the most growth. New Orleanians in STEM careers can enjoy the benefits of higher-than-average salaries—money that has the potential to double the household income for many of our city’s families.

Historically, access to STEM-focused education has been restricted for students of color and for women. As a result, students and families miss out. And so does New Orleans. Currently, African Americans make up less than a third of our STEM workforce, despite the fact that they are more than half of our total city population. Our city needs open-admission schools specifically designed to expand opportunities for our children by exposing them to meaningful experiences and new careers options—all while supporting them as they make choices about college or the workforce.

Imagine how much greater our city could be if our schools could propel more and more residents into the middle class through fulfilling work—at the same time growing tax revenue and slashing the number of families who live in poverty. Imagine how much more successful our business and healthcare communities could be if they could count on a trained, educated, passionate workforce to drive success.

We’re ready to make this vision a reality, but first we need your support.
$36,964 median *household* income of a New Orleans family

35% growth in tech jobs in Louisiana since 2012

$61,656 median *individual* income of a STEM professional

Only 7% of college STEM majors are African-American students

15,000 new high-paying positions forecast across medical and technology fields in New Orleans
#1 Sci High boasts the highest ACT scores - a leading indicator of college readiness

4 industry-specific certifications offered — the most of any Louisiana high school

25 years of proven success
Sci High founded in 1993

#7 Sci High’s ranking among Louisiana public schools in *U.S. News & World Report*

96% Graduation rate in 2017

65+ Paid student internships in 2017
DESIGN PATHS FOR DIVERSE DESTINATIONS

At Sci High, we encourage students to explore their choices and define a personal path to success. For example, Dominique came to Sci High as a freshman and discovered her love for engineering through unique classroom and internship opportunities. Upon graduation, she earned the prestigious UNCF Koch Scholarship to pursue her interest in civil engineering and entrepreneurship at the University of New Orleans.

Students like Dominique find boundless academic opportunity to explore their futures at the New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School. As an open-enrollment school*, Sci High welcomes all students regardless of their background, current level of academic achievement or disability. We regularly enroll students who were admitted to our city’s most exclusive schools and those who have no experience in rigorous academic environments.

At the core of the Sci High culture is a strong value of students’ uniqueness. A one-size-fits-all approach to education never meets the needs of students. We work tirelessly to ensure that the determined, hardworking students at Sci High explore both college and career dreams—at the same time. We engage purposefully with students to help them define their own visions for success and help them create a plan to reach their destination.

College Preparation
• Project-based coursework connects academic content to real life application through independent research and critical thinking.
• “Dual enrollment” and AP courses open to all students exposes them to the rigors of college-level coursework while also getting a head start on college credits.
• College counseling and mentoring to guide every student through the college application process. Even if they choose not to attend immediately, they gain the skills to apply at any point along their life journey.
• College visits designed to connect students with schools across the region so they can explore program options and sample campus life.

Career Preparation
• Career and technical education in the high-demand, high-paying fields of advanced technology, biomedical, digital media, engineering and healthcare.
• Industry-recognized certifications give our graduates a competitive edge in the workforce.
• Makerspace and industry-standard software for 3D design and printing, video editing and coding.
• Paid internships and mentoring so that students can apply their learning, create professional networks and develop the soft skills for career success.

Supporting Programs
• Special education accommodations ranging across the spectrum—from working with students who are gifted to those who need extensive intervention and support.
• Counseling and guidance that are dialed in to the past challenges some students have faced as well as the fact that many students will be the first in their families to go to college.
• Health care and social support that increase wellness and decrease distraction in the classroom.
• Extracurriculars scheduled during the school day to create ways for students with transportation challenges to enjoy the joys of high school.

These innovations require investment above and beyond the per-pupil funding received through the state. That’s why we need your help.

* Sci High has no testing or minimum requirements and participates in the Orleans Parish School Board’s OneApp consortium.
INVEST IN PROGRESS

Sci High is leading the way thanks to generous supporters and partners like you.

We know that the intense, personalized instruction and a wealth of hands-on opportunities can accelerate learning, and spark inspiration for students.

By preparing these creative young people for professional success, New Orleans residents across the metro area will enjoy the ripple effects of their success. Higher-paying STEM careers equal more widespread prosperity for New Orleans. Our city will be safer, our families will thrive, our industry will flourish and our shared future will be brighter.

It all starts with the purposeful, high-quality education of just a single child. But that education won’t happen through government funding alone.

Our students need your support. We welcome gifts and grants for specific projects. Unrestricted donations help us fill the gaps.

$50 covers the cost of AP study guides and materials for one student

$100 seeds a start-up student club

$250 finances transportation for a career exploration field trip

$500 offsets professional development for a specialty STEM teacher

$1,500 provides an internship stipend for a student who can’t forego paying work

$10,000 underwrites professional-grade equipment for one STEM lab

$50,000 develops a comprehensive college preparation program for Sci High seniors

The Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that raises the additional funds and support necessary to make more opportunities available to every student at Sci High. To support the work of the Foundation with a tax-deductible contribution, contact Julie Bourgeois at jbourgeois@nolascienceandmath.org.
**OUR 2016–17 SUPPORTERS**

$100,000+$
YouthForceNOLA

$50,000–$99,999
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Mary Zervigon
St. Charles Ave. Presbyterian Church
RosaMary Foundation
Pro Bono Publico Foundation
and Educational Trust
Georges Lurcy Charitable

$10,000–$49,999
Anonymous
YouthForceNOLA
$100,000+

**PURPOSE-BUILT, TO BUILD PURPOSE**

In 2017—in acknowledgment of Sci High’s 20+-year track record of success—the Orleans Parish School Board approved the construction of a $35 million building, to be located on Bienville Street just blocks from University Medical Center and the biomedical corridor. This new facility will enable programmatic leaps that are simply not possible at our current location, a 1900s-era elementary school. At our new location, students will enjoy:

- Specialty classrooms designed for engineering, computer science, construction and digital media
- Modular science labs
- Collaboration spaces
- A gymnasium
- Groundbreaking is scheduled for Fall 2018. Our friends and supporters will receive more information as the project unfolds.

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*We have made every effort to ensure completeness and accuracy of this list. Please contact Julie Bourgeois at 504.261.3452 or jbourgeois@nolascienceandmath.org with any errors or omissions so that our records can be corrected.*