

## PRESS RELEASE

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# SIEGEL FAMILY ENDOWMENT AWARDS \$75,000

**to STEMteachersNYC to support professional development for STEM teachers.**

STEMteachersNYC is proud to announce a grant of \$75,000 from the Siegel Family Endowment (SFE) to further develop and expand our network of practice-based learning hubs through partnership between centers of learning and communities of STEM teachers.

STEMteachersNYC's Executive Director Yadana Nath Desmond said, "We are thrilled by this opportunity to develop key infrastructure to strengthen and broaden our community learning network. Several new local "hubs" will emerge from this project – providing place-based partnerships, teacher-team curriculum collaborations, grade- and subject-focused working groups, and new scholarship."

Siegel Family Endowment's Director and Head of Grantmaking Joshua Elder, said "the curriculum we develop is only as successful as the teachers that deliver it - which is why we are so proud to partner with STEMteachersNYC. They are reimagining professional development to cultivate a new standard of excellence for STEM teaching, and we are excited to see what additional resources and support will do for educators as they help build the next generation of learners, leaders, and problem-solvers."

STEMteachersNYC, which offers high-quality professional development to STEM teachers PreK-12 via structured workshops led by teachers, for teachers, and about teaching, was founded in 2011. The organization has developed a network of teachers offering real-world understanding, support, strategies, and the practical solutions that both seasoned and new teachers need to succeed. The national shortage of STEM teachers is a serious growing problem. The funding from Siegel Family Endowment will facilitate further development of our professional learning community, which nurtures teachers throughout their careers and will help keep our talented STEM teachers in the profession.

An existing partnership with Brooklyn College offers a model through which the local degree programs that prepare teachers for the classroom can be woven together with a professional learning community and professional development workshops. Our efforts will also align with the "YOU belong in STEM" initiative recently announced by the US DOE, and the new Beyond100K targets.

STEMteachersNYC Community Learning Network hubs will become conduits for pre-service and new teachers to gain insight into the complex realities of the classroom through the eyes of seasoned teachers, equipping them with diverse perspectives and practical strategies. Thanks to Siegel Family Endowment support, STEMteachersNYC will further develop the community, mechanisms, and partnerships required for relevant, career-spanning professional support.

Please visit our website for more information: <https://STEMteachersNYC.org>

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