

PNSY Hosts STEM Robotics Expo

Article by Periscope Writer Hanna Lanoie

Photos by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland

On May 3, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard STEM Outreach Program hosted the third annual Robotics Expo. Fifteen teams of students, grades 3-12, from across Maine and New Hampshire gathered in the shipyard gymnasium to demonstrate their robots, as well as explore a number of STEM activities meant to demonstrate work in various codes on the shipyard. These activities include a virtual reality crane operating simulator provided by Code 700 Lifting and Handling and an engineering code valve demo provided by Code 260 Mechanical Engineering. "It's really cool to get local youth onto the shipyard and show them the things they're truly passionate about can lead to a full career," said Capt. Daniel Reiss, Commodore, Submarine Squadron Two.



PNSY STEM at Fenway

Article and photos by Periscope Writer Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Charlotte C. Oliver

Each year the Boston Red Sox baseball team hosts STEM Education Days at Fenway Park in Boston. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard STEM Outreach team joined other STEM educators at Fenway on May 2, bringing an array of gadgets geared towards getting children of all ages interested in STEM programs.

Children from surrounding Boston schools entered Fenway Park to booths with presentations ranging from foam ring

serve through the STEM Program. It's exciting for us to bring new activities to this area each year."

Shipyard employees volunteer in the STEM Outreach Program to bring a variety of hands-on activities into our communities throughout Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

"The STEM Program works best when employees are matched with a volunteer opportunity that fits their interests, skillset and personality," said Hite. "I enjoy being the conduit that links people to these opportunities. I have the privilege of seeing them in action and shine as they lead students through various activities."

If you are interested in becoming a member of PNSY's STEM Outreach team, contact Libby Hite at: PNS-STEM-Program@us.navy.mil



shooting robots to demonstrations by a local weather team and coding robots, robotic cranes and a virtual reality crane simulator brought by the PNSY STEM team.

"Being a part of the STEM Education Day at Fenway is an incredible opportunity for the STEM Outreach Program and its volunteers," STEM Outreach Program Manager Libby Hite said. "Not only do we get to participate in a spectacular event at such an iconic venue, but more importantly we have the opportunity to engage with students from schools we don't routinely





Shapleigh School STEM Group Shares SeaPerch Experience at State of The Shipyard

Article by Periscope Writer Hanna Lanoie

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Outreach program kicked off State of the Shipyard on May 5, with a presentation from a group of Shapleigh School STEM students. Seventh graders Abigail, Ayla, Kendall and Lucy took the stage to present a video documenting their five-day SeaPerch build, with each student sharing their biggest takeaway from the experience.

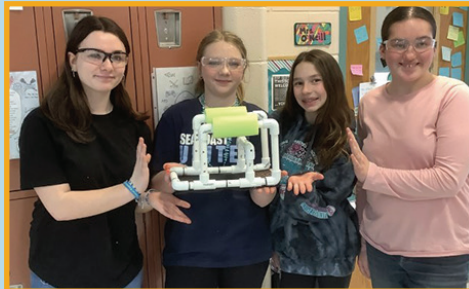
One of the five key STEM Outreach programs, SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that provides students and educators with the resources and materials to build an underwater remotely operated vehicle. Located in Kittery, Shapleigh School is continuing its partnership with PNSY with the implementation of the SeaPerch program into their seventh grade curriculum. PNSY provides the building kits for the program as well as PNSY volunteers to assist with the build.

PNSY STEM Outreach Program Specialist, Kellen Brown was the "champion" for the Shapleigh School SeaPerch build, supporting the school throughout the event. "The seventh grade staff reviewed the videos from all teams and selected the most well-rounded team to present at State of the Shipyard," said Brown. "As employees of the shipyard, we understand the importance and value of our mission to repair and overhaul submarines and get them back to the fleet. What we see in the STEM Outreach program is that it's equally important to coach, mentor, and inspire the next generation to have



(l to r) Lucy, Ayla, Abigail and Kendall pose with Capt. William Sumsion, PNSY Operations Officer.
Photo by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

the same passion and excitement about STEM-related fields. Connecting our current work force with potential future employees really drives the bond between the shipyard and the communities around us. Investing in our future work force is tremendously rewarding and important. Without them, the mission can't continue."



(l to r) Lucy, Kendall, Ayla and Abigail pose with their SeaPerch ROV.
Photo provided by Shapleigh School

BEING HUMAN with Employee Resource Group Leadership

On May 10, Employee Resource Group leadership attended TEDx Portsmouth for professional development. This year's event was entitled Being Human and offered insight into community, conversation and inspiration in topics such as science, the arts, the environment and humanity. Speakers encouraged sparking change, improving organizational culture and making a positive impact on our planet.



Diversity and Inclusion Program Manager Cat Davis said, "This is my second year attending TEDx, and I was amazed by the presenters. They showed so much diversity in their accomplishments, passion, drives and determination. This is the perfect forum to share what they have lived, so Portsmouth Naval Shipyard ERGs can be inspired to continue promoting diversity and inclusion at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and how that helps us meet the mission."



ERG leadership at TEDx 2024

Article and photos by Periscope Editor Selena Brock