

Third annual Massachusetts STEM Week to highlight power of mentoring

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The third annual Massachusetts STEM Week will take place Oct. 19-23, and all of the events will be virtual this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The theme for this year's event is "See Yourself in STEM," with a focus on the power of mentoring.

"Women, people of color, first-generation students, low-income individuals, English language learners, and people with disabilities are underrepresented in STEM industries and make up an increasing portion of the overall workforce, but the demographics of STEM fields have remained largely the same," reads a release published on [massstemweek.org](https://www.massstemweek.org). "We need more young people to see themselves in STEM."

[Pittsfield Community Television](#) has a loaded slate throughout the week for those interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The week begins with the exploration of the solar system with Williams College senior Patrick Postec at 10 a.m. Monday. The day will also include McCann Tech senior Grace Towler in a conversation with Berkshire Sterile Manufacturing.

Oct. 20 features a tour of the laboratories of Berkshire Community College at 10 a.m. and "Understanding the College Admission Process" live with local college reps at 7 p.m.

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts Professor Paul Allen will host "Predictive Motion" at 10 a.m. Oct. 21 and a virtual tour of Hancock Shaker Village is scheduled for noon.



Massachusetts Secretary of Education James Peyser checks out a project at McCann Tech for STEM Week in 2018. All of the STEM week events will be virtual this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
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Dr. Mark Sprague, of Berkshire Orthopaedic Associates, will lead a discussion titled "STEM in the Operating Room" at 9 a.m. Oct. 22, followed by "Be a Chemist!," a live event with the Berkshire Museum at noon.

Friday begins with "Ecology for Educators: Predator/Prey Behavior" with MCLA Professor Dr. Eric Doucette at 10 a.m. MCLA's Dr. Daniel Shustack will then present "Should I stay or should I go? Migration behavior of the Dark-Eyed Junco" at noon.

A detailed list of all events in Berkshire County and beyond can be found on the [Massachusetts Stem Week website](#).

“This year made it abundantly clear how important STEM professions are to all our lives, and we hope that more young people will explore the opportunities that exist in STEM fields and pursue those careers that benefit us all,” Gov. Charlie Baker said in a [recent news release](#).

Pittsfield TV will also have a banner up on its website with both live and recorded content available throughout the week.