

## Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

April 3, 2023



# Who/What is the Maryland STEM Festival (Inc) www.marylandstemfestival.org

- ► Event-An annual celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics that consists of hundreds of individual events across Maryland.
- Organization One person non-profit that runs a statewide collection of events.
- Mission To encourage all students regardless of age, background, and experience to take a greater interest in STEM with the hope they will pursue a STEM related/focused career.
- Emphasis Reaching underserved communities, girls, minorities, rural and those with handicaps.



## History of Festival

- > 2010 First USAS&EF
- > 2010 Event at WLMS
- > 2012 First HoCo STEM Festival
- > 2015 1st Maryland STEM Festival





## What is our mission & why is important

- ► The overall world and particularly, the better paying jobs, are becoming more STEM based.
- Maryland employers are having extreme difficulty filling these jobs.
- Maryland needs these jobs to remain an economically strong state.
- Not all individuals have had equal access to these jobs, nor the training required to earn them.
- STEM jobs are a great path to economic success and stability.



#### Format of Events

- Board Definition of STEM, Agricultural to Zoology
- Theme each year, but not required for events to tie into the theme
- Mostly Free, Family Oriented, Pre-k through HS
- Wide range of format including
  - Parades
  - Competitions
  - Musical Performances
  - Book readings
  - Demonstrations & Training
  - Career Discussions
  - Nature walks





#### Who runs Festival Events?

- Public Libraries
- Schools, public and private
- ► Colleges & Universities
- Museums
- State Parks
- ► STEM Enrichment Organizations
- Professional Associations
- STEM Oriented Clubs





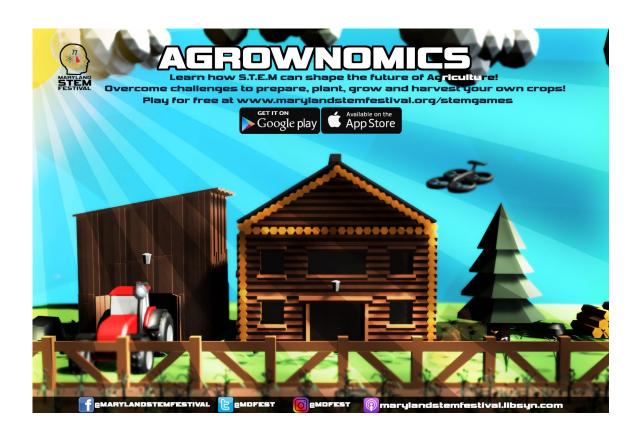
## 2022 Maryland STEM Festival

- ► Theme-Cybersecurity and Information Technology
- ► Over 350 events
  - STEM Parade in Frederick
  - Blue Collar STEM Conference
  - Cybersecurity Family Feud
  - Girl Scout STEM Badge Activity
  - Full STEM Day at RBES
  - Morgan STEM Expo
- ► Estimated 20,000 attendees
- October declared STEM Education Month





## Agrownomics





### Native American (NA) involvement in Festival

- Promote the Festival
- Attend events
- Students become STEM Ambassadors/CSO
- NA host events
- Organizations host NA theme STEM Events
- Serve on Festival Board





## Questions?



## **THANK YOU!**

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