

This project, a collaboration of Pepperdine University and the New York Hall of Science, establishes an international network of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subject related Media Making Clubs comprised of afterschool students aged 12 - 19 and teachers in the U.S. and in three other countries: Kenya, Namibia and Finland.

The content of the media produced by the students will focus on the illustration and teaching of STEM topics, where the shared media is intended to help other students become enthused about and learn the subjects. Students may create a range of media formats:

- Videos
- Short subject films
- Games
- Computer programs
- Specialized applications (ie interactive books)

This project centers around three themes of inquiry:

- Learning → impact of participatory teaching
- Collaboration → how the distributed and virtual nature of the network affects overall group success
- Culture → development of an assessment tool for changes in intercultural and global competence

This project seeks to:

- Foster meaningful and scientifically rigorous collaborations that cross and connect cultures
- Investigate how digital makerspace collaborations help others, between adolescents and teachers in different parts of the world, and how they can make a significant societal impact
- Examine research in multiple areas in order to advance informal STEM subject learning

This project is funded by the Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) program, which seeks to advance new approaches to, and evidence-based understanding of, the design and development of STEM learning in informal environments.

