Inspiring the scientist in every student!



SANTA FE ALLIANCE FOR SCIENCE



Annual Report 2020–2021

An Extraordinary Year

The 2020-2021 was an extraordinary year for all of us. While distance learning prevailed for most of the year, we continued to bring scientists and STEM experts to Santa Fe Public School (SFPS) classrooms, but in new ways. Despite the challenges, nearly **1,400 SFPS students** worked remotely or in-person with a scientist or STEM role model to practice fundamental STEM skills that promote curiosity and critical thinking.

STEM Fairs

The SFPS District hosted its first virtual STEM Fair and Innovation Expo and we partnered with the district to give budding scientists a chance to discuss their projects with a local scientist.

- 495 grade 3-8 students from 17 SFPS schools
 had a chance to meet one-on-one with a
 scientist or STEM expert through virtual meeting
 rooms to discuss their STEM projects.
- SFAFS volunteers developed a series of 8 videos that help students design and execute their own science experiment or STEM project.
- 270 elementary students also participated in El Camino Real Academy's virtual STEAM Day, where Alliance volunteers led unique virtual presentations and activities for students and their families.

1,400 students worked directly with a local STEM expert.





45 SFPS teachers partnered with us, impacting 1,100 students.

85% of SFPS elementary schools are Title 1, a federal program for high poverty schools.

Our volunteers supported students and/or teachers at 22 SFPS schools.





3,100+ volunteer hours

Adopt-a-Scientist

Our newest program gives classroom teachers the rare opportunity to "adopt" a volunteer scientist or STEM expert for a few days, or all year, to support teacher-driven STEM projects. The examples below illustrate the impact of this initiative.

Ed Angel, Founding Director of the UNM ARTS Lab (Art, Research, Technology and Science) and UNM Professor Emeritus, worked with **Mary Beth Brady** at El Camino Real Academy and created a series of videos on **Micro:bits**, which all SFPS teachers can access.

Ken Prokuski
paired up with Nina
Otero Community
School grade 4
teacher Brenda
Dominguez to
increase the
confidence of her
students through
weekly mathtutoring sessions.



"It's critical for our students to meet real scientists in the community who make what they learn real and relevant," said David Kriegshauser, science teacher at Academy for Technology and the Classics. Bill Earl, a retired LANL chemist and Alliance volunteer, taught real-life chemistry lessons with David Kriegshauser.

Adopt-a-School

"Kids want to hear real scientists." – Jeri Lyn Mourning Manzanares, Nina Otero Community School (NOCS) 21st Century Site Coordinator.



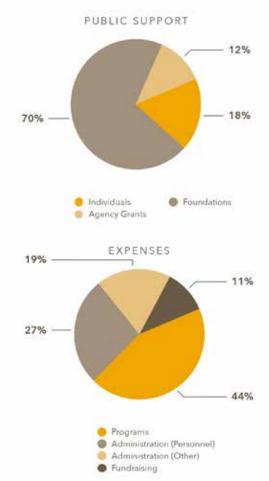
Our Adopt-A-School

(AAS) Program links a team of STEM experts with one school all year to ensure that Santa Fe students, particularly those with increased needs, have access to unique STEM programs and experiences. When the schools abruptly shifted to remote learning, our AAS Team created more than **35 STEM educational videos** in response to teachers' requests. Many of the videos were produced in English and Spanish and are accessible to any student or teacher through the SFPS website.

- Through live and virtual interactive classroom presentations, our AAS Team brought STEM discovery experiences to more than 500 K-8 students at NOCS.
- During a 3-week summer program, students worked with a variety of scientists to design paper rockets, practice math problem-solving, learn about their circulatory system, and participate in three hands-on STEM activities during Science Palooza, a day-long event.

Together, SFAFS volunteers and SFPS educators bring STEM to life for thousands of students each year. This would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers and the cooperation and trust of teachers who invite us into their classrooms.

FINANCIALS





sfafs.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS! Your patience and persistence enabled us to continue to bring scientists to classrooms, but in new ways. In addition to our volunteers, we greatly appreciate all those who collaborate with us to support our work.

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