The Parris Foundation: S.T.E.M.ulating Minds (TPF) is dedicated to promoting educational opportunities and fostering awareness in science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.) via scholarships and community outreach programs among underrepresented students.
We believe that attracting young people to S.T.E.M. is the key to closing the achievement gap between disadvantaged and privileged students in the United States. TPF equips disenfranchised students with the tools they need to pursue S.T.E.M. disciplines, both academically and professionally. Our access programs provide extracurricular learning opportunities to supplement and enhance in-school learning in an encouraging environment, in order to build the S.T.E.M. community leaders of tomorrow.
WHY IT MATTERS

Among high school seniors in NYC, only **43% of boys** and **17% of girls** say they’re interested in STEM careers

This number drops to **25% for African American** students and **27% for Hispanics**

Of the 615,000 students who received STEM bachelor’s degrees in 2013, only **9% were African American** and **11% were Hispanic**

New Yorkers in STEM careers earn an average of **$88,000 – 85% more** than the median income in the city

While the median household income for white New Yorkers is **$76,000**, it is **$42,000 for African Americans** and **$36,000 for Hispanics**

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**KEY STATISTICS**

Sources: New York’s 2016 STEM Report Card, New York State STEM Fact Sheets, NSF 2016 S&E Indicators, Department of Health
WHAT WE DO

S.T.E.M.ulating Minds is the primary vehicle by which TPF advances a goal of bringing quality S.T.E.M. extended learning opportunities to NYC’s underserved youth. To create the next generation of diverse S.T.E.M. professionals, we provide individualized and interactive programs that begin in middle school. We then continue to support participants through high school, college, and into postgraduate young adulthood.

Fall | Spring | Summer
---|---|---
October – December | February – May | July – August
10 Weeks | 15 Weeks | 8 Weeks

MATH

SCIENCE

ENGINEERING

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THE IMPROVEMENT LIFECYCLE

1
EXPOSURE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

OBJECTIVE:
Build a pipeline of volunteers by encouraging past participants to ‘pay it forward’

Weekend enrichment, summer S.T.E.M. camp & tutoring

2
COACHING IN HIGH SCHOOL

OBJECTIVE:
Close the education gap

S.T.E.M. tutoring & coaching

3
SUPPORT IN COLLEGE

OBJECTIVE:
Provide development tools

S.T.E.M. scholarship & digital inclusion grants

4
ENGAGE AS A YOUNG PROFESSIONAL

OBJECTIVE:
Fund the next generation of talent

Become a S.T.E.M. volunteer

THE PARRIS FOUNDATION

THE PARRIS FOUNDATION | stemulatingminds.org
TESTIMONIALS

“My daughter enjoys going to this program every Saturday and is eager to attend her tutoring sessions twice a week. Thank you so much to all the volunteers of the Parris Foundation.” –Rebecca Osorio, TPF parent

“The Parris Foundation is a amazing foundation by amazing adults. This foundation is amazing and is great to the minds of us young children. STEM is awesome!” –Dorian Hollingsworth, TPF student

“I love going to the Parris Foundation on Saturdays. It's so fun and I'm not afraid to ask for help when I need it. I have so many friends there and it's fun to learn new things with them.” –Marizah Colon, TPF student

“The Parris Foundation has had such a positive impact on my son, giving him the motivation he needs to keep him inspired. We are so grateful for this program.” –Fquira Artemis, TPF parent
In 2004, Tonya O. Parris founded a scholarship program for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who were pursuing degrees in S.T.E.M. disciplines at Binghamton University. But she ran into a problem: There weren’t enough students to give scholarships to. So Parris decided to start at the beginning of the pipeline, and get more middle and high school students interested in S.T.E.M. so they could pursue it in college and beyond.

Parris has had a successful career on Wall Street as a software engineer and program manager at companies like JPMorgan Chase, UBS, and Credit Suisse. She previously served as a Vice President at Goldman Sachs for the majority of her 12-year tenure. Parris began her career at Morgan Stanley after receiving a Master of Science in Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. Before that, she completed her undergraduate studies, earning a BS in Computer Science from Binghamton University. Having grown up in public housing in the Bronx, Parris has the background and experience to communicate and relate to the economically distressed communities that TPF serves, and make sure they can succeed, too.
THE TPF TEAM

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