

STEM is the Future

Reference guide for media and speaking engagements

Updated August 2023





About Calculus Roundtable

Innovative solutions

Powered by the people who need them

Creating progress that lasts

Calculus Roundtable is a nonprofit organization that is working to accelerate math and science skills for students of color. Our vision is to give all students an understanding of the world through the lens of math and science and that their future lives are not decided by random but by effort.

We help students gain access to tutoring, STEM afterschool programs to boost their math and science scores.



We believe that STEM is the way

To transform and support ALL young people
To increase representation in STEM fields
To create academic community

Access to STEM education can change the lives of students. Access to STEM education has the power to increase the number of BIPOC individuals employed in STEM industries. Access to STEM education can address the problems of...

Every student deserves the opportunity to maximize their passion and turn that passion into academic excellence. Imagine how much higher we could soar in math and the sciences if we realized and nurtured the ingenuity and imagination of all young people and supported them with an academic community and family framework of trust and consistency.

Lets's come together to make STEM education accessible to all students.

Lack of BIPOC representation in STEM education

Today 75 % of students lack access to proper STEM education.

8th Grade math proficiency rates for BIPOC students are chronically below proficiency and currently declining.

While Hispanic students are the highest enrolled ethnicity in the University of California university system, only 3% are enrolled in a STEM major.

Before the inception of Calculus Roundtable, Mr. Hollis was an educational researcher. For a study, he found that in the 9 counties that make up the Bay Area, less than 100 African-American students were enrolled in an algebra class. Calculus Roundtable was created in part to dismantle that data point.





Innovative solutions in action

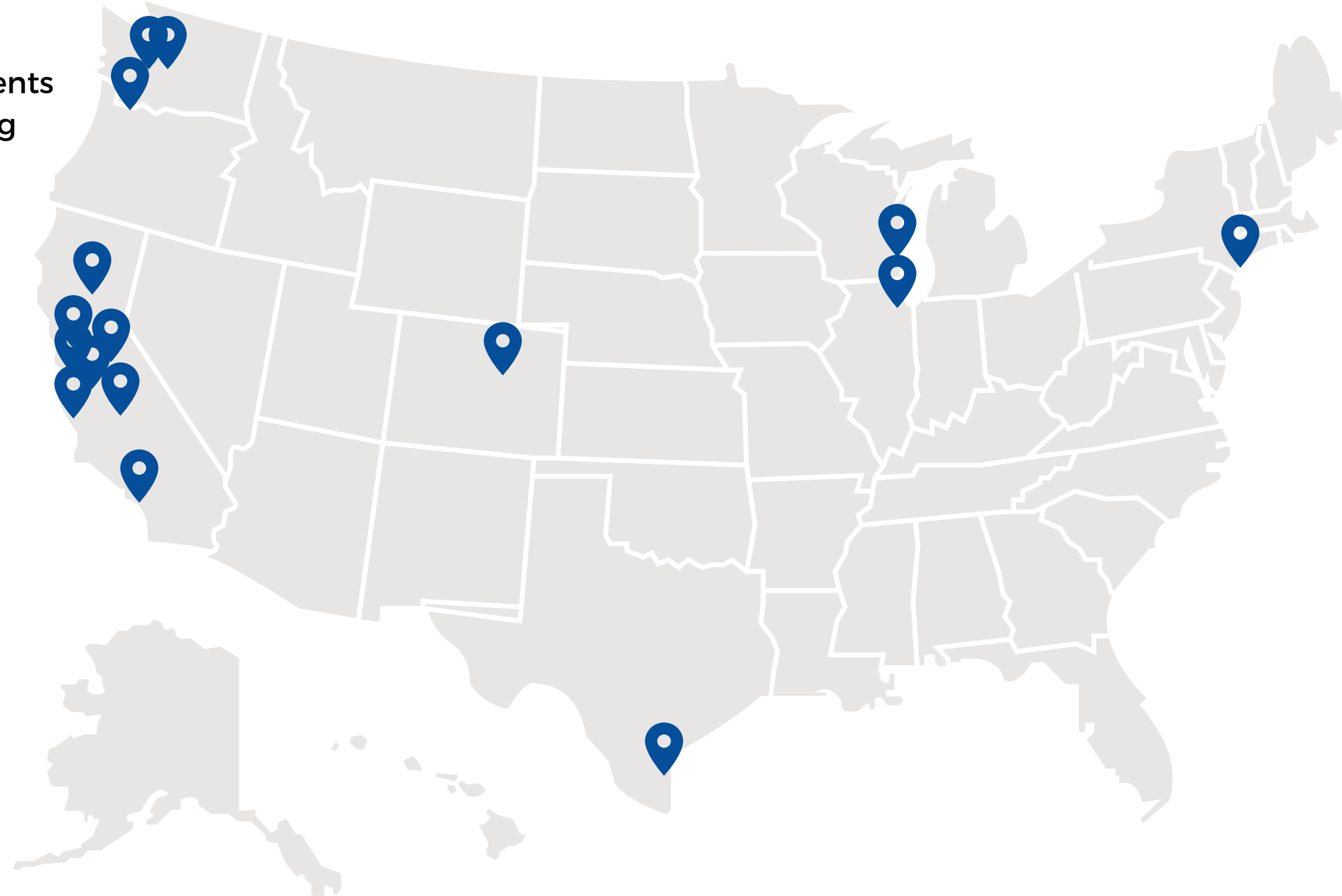
Calculus Roundtable carries a multitiered approach to impact with impact at multiple levels:

- **Direct impact** - Calculus Roundtable works to tutor individual students, work in small groups and classrooms to bring alive mathematics and science subject.
- **Collective impact** - Calculus Roundtable creates STEM events bey any ind district in doff locations with a mutually reinforcing set of activities with shared measurement – using the same measures across all involved schools and organizations.
- **System impact** - Calculus Roundtable works with research organizations to further academic research on students of color, teachers of color, math articulation and the cost of inequity in education.

STEM education changes lives

Our impact

Together with our partners, Calculus Roundtable is empowering thousands of students around the country by increasing their math and science skills



25,000

students impacted by our work

48

school districts we have partnered with

7

states that we have worked in

Our Programs

Proven and tested programs

Math and Sciences of Indigenous People (MSIP)

The MSIP program is a culturally inclusive course combining the traditions of Native communities with STEM subjects.

BioMed

Our BioMed programs encourage students to connect natural science and medical technology through engaging, hands-on activities.

Think Like a Game Designer (TLAGD)

Students work in teams with industry-leading game designers and engineering students to learn the basics of game development.

Girls Math Club (GMC)

GMC is designed and led by female mathematicians and college students of color who create a fun, supportive homework club for girls.

Post-Secondary Fellowship

Calculus Roundtable has two fellowship programs:

Diversity in STEM Fellowship

EdX Fellowship

Climate Justice

Students observe and measure climate change in their communities and around the world.

Money Works

Our Money Works program is designed to give students the tools and knowledge to succeed financially.

Here's how our approach works



**Dedicated College
STEM Fellows**



**New STEM lessons
and activities**



**In-person and
virtual classes**



ENGAGED STUDENTS

Resources

Photos

Calculus Roundtable photos are available on [Flickr](#). Please provide proper attribution when sharing - "photo credit to Calculus Roundtable."

Videos

Calculus Roundtable videos are available on our [YouTube](#) channel for viewing, sharing, and embedding. Please provide proper attribution when sharing - "video credit to Calculus Roundtable."

Share graphics

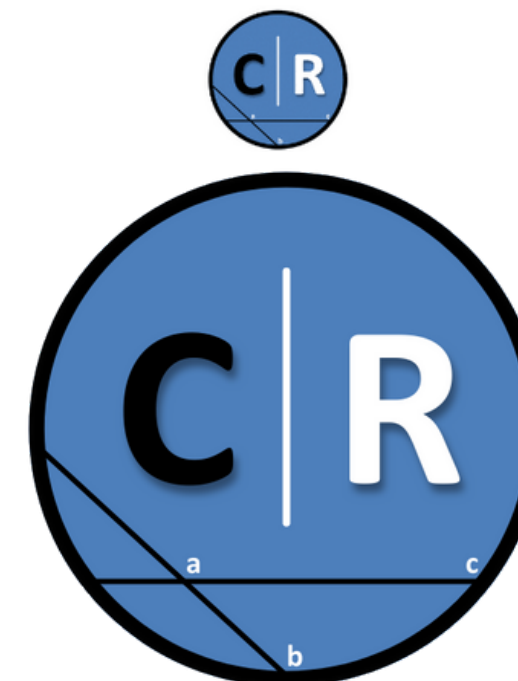
Calculus Roundtable uses graphics to inform our social audiences. These can be made accessible for your use available upon request.

Logo Files

Download the Calculus Roundtable logo files here:



Calculus Roundtable serves over 25,000 across 48 school districts



Media from our Executive Director

"Education is the civil right of the 21st Century. We've worked with over 25,000 students which gives us 25,000 reasons to be hopeful."



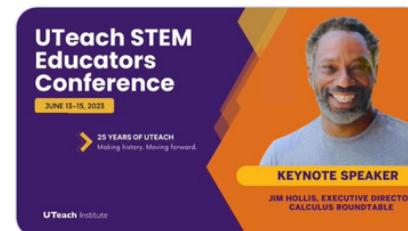
- Black Renaissance guest appearance of Jim Hollis
KPIX Channel 5 News: Feb 20, 2020
[Watch the Video >](#)
- Bay Area Black Youth Tech-A-Thon equips kids for jobs in technology, arts in Silicon Valley
ABC 7 News: Feb 20, 2020
[Watch the Video >](#)



- New tool in East Bay history class: 'Assassin's Creed' video game
The Mercury News: Sept 18, 2019
[Read More >](#)
- 'A Space for Girls' film takes Richmond program out of this world
The Richmond Standard: Oct 18, 2021
[Read More >](#)



- California Business Connection Podcast:
Jan 14, 2019
Jim Hollis discusses Bay Area Black Youth Tecathon
[Listen to the Podcast >](#)
- California Department of Education
Extended Learning Exemplars in Math
December 14, 2022
Jim Hollis discusses Equity and Education in STEM
[Listen to the Podcast >](#)
- YMCA Podcast
Aug 14, 2023
Jim Hollis discusses Equity and Education in STEM
[Listen to the Podcast >](#)



- San Francisco Human Rights Commission
- UTeach 25th Anniversary
Key Note Speaker
Austin, TX June 13th 2023
- Chevron Black Employee Network
[Key Note Speaker](#)
- Silicon Valley Education Foundation
Calculus completion and equity?
Network Panelist [View Panel](#)



Jim is a father, a founder and a life long learner. Jim has had a long career in the technology sector and later in education some 20 years ago. Jim previously served as Director of the Innovation Incubator at Pivot Learning Partners where he led significant reform work in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Seattle Public School districts.

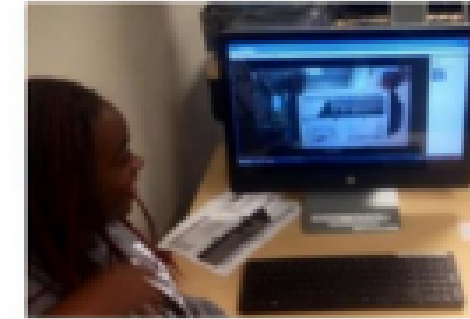
Ten years ago, Jim co-founded the Calculus Roundtable - a nonprofit dedicated to improving math and science skills for students particularly students of color.

What folks are saying ...

"Addressing disparities in STEM education for underserved youth."
yahoo!finance

"What parents have been waiting for..."
 ABC Channel 7 

"Possibly, the future of education"
The Mercury News
 The Newspaper of Silicon Valley



12:1
 Student to STEM Mentor Ratio

A promising practice in closing the achievement gap
 ED TRUST WEST

"A game changer at our school"

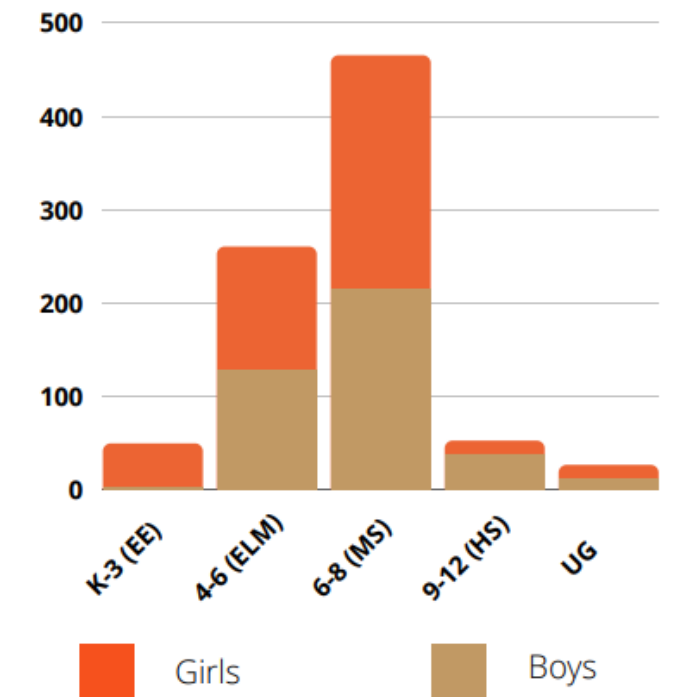
Dr. Ida Oberman
 Community School for Creative Education
 (top 5 schools for growth in African American math test scores in the Bay Area)

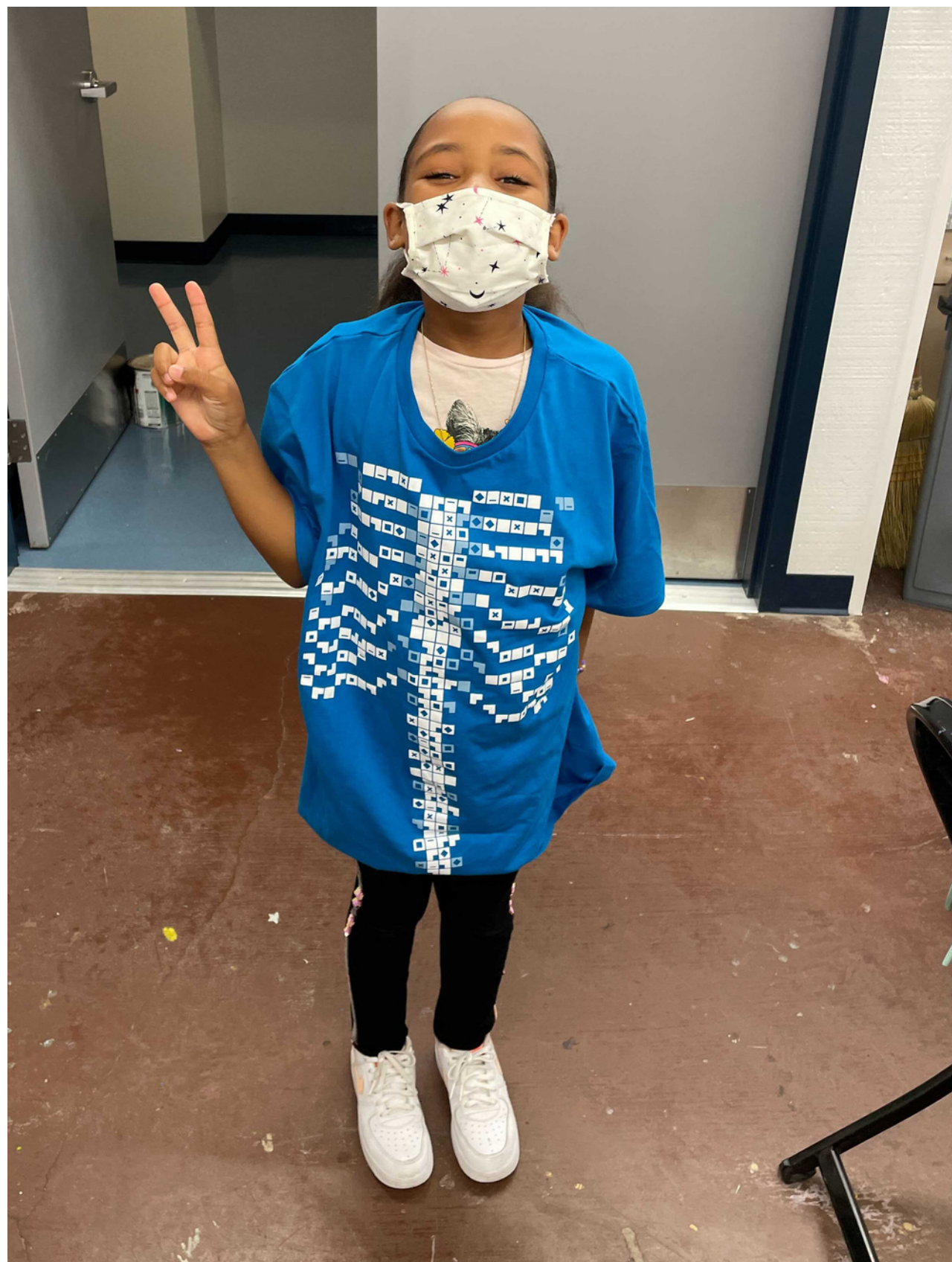
2 OF THE TOP 5
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE BAY AREA WITH THE HIGHEST GROWTH RATES IN MATH SCORES ARE **CALCULUS ROUNDTABLE SCHOOLS**



Awarded
 The Special Congressional Recognition Award for our work,
"Bringing STEM Education to Communities of Color"

U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D) at Pullman Point Public Housing Development, Richmond, CA





Resources

Stories from the field

We find that the best way to convey our impact is by telling the stories of those we serve. Calculus Roundtable has numerous stories from the field that display the impact the access to STEM education has in transforming the lives of future generations.

Here are five stories available for your use:

Girls Math Club

Our College Fellows of Color

Success at One School (Nystrom Elementary in Richmond, CA)

Diversity in STEM Education

MSIP Karuk Tribe Program



**"Building a community
of learners creates
more learners."**

**-Jim Hollis,
Executive Director of Calculus Roundtable**

Resources

Quotes from our Executive Director, Jim Hollis

- "Math and science education is the civil rights of the 21st Century."
- "Creativity and intelligence is universal, opportunities are not."

Quotes from our Calculus Roundtable Fellows

- "I try to inspire the students that I am with right now into going into healthcare or STEM to add more representation to the field" ~ John Zelaski, Former CR Fellow
- "I'm amazed at how much Calculus Roundtable is doing and forever changing the lives of the kids that need it the most" ~ Ana, Former CR Fellow

Available bookings

Jim Hollis

Executive Director

Jim is the Director and Founder of The Calculus Roundtable. Jim is a school reformer and a social entrepreneur who has worked with some of this country's largest school districts, as well as some of the smallest. Jim has helped to incubate scores of education startups and consulted with state department's of education on data quality and fiscal planning at the site level. Jim directs the executive functions of the organization as well as the coordination, management and administration of the Integrated Technology solutions and services for schools, districts and foundations.

Yolanda Ferraloro

Director of Research

Yolanda Ferraloro received her Master of Public Affairs from the Goldman School of Public Policy at U.C. Berkeley in 2022. Yolanda also has a Teaching Credential in Special Education and spent close to a decade working as a Special Educator in grades K-12 in Fairfield, California. Additionally, Yolanda is also a Special Education advocate for Spanish-speaking families.

Calculus Roundtable Fellows

Calculus Roundtable Fellows assist elementary, middle, high school and advanced placement students by delivering and participating in fun innovative activities that encourage kids to enjoy the scientific process. Our fellows are accomplished upper-level students from some of America's greatest colleges and universities.

How to reach us

Contact us at Jim@calcround.org.

Speaking requests:

[link](#)

Media requests:

[link](#)



Our Origin Story

Back in 2013, when we first embarked on the journey of Calculus Roundtable, we stumbled upon a startling piece of data. In the San Francisco Bay Area, which comprises nine counties, there were fewer than 100 African-American students enrolled in calculus classes. The situation wasn't much better for Latinx students either, despite them forming a significant portion of the student population in our state. While 40% of Hispanic students are accepted into a UC college or university, a mere 3% pursue degrees in STEM subjects, which is deeply concerning.

These statistics became more than just numbers to us; they became a call to action. We couldn't simply ignore the stark reality that lay in the shadows of some of America's most influential tech companies. It was unacceptable to do nothing.

Rather than viewing this as a problem, we saw an opportunity to make a tangible and meaningful impact. We saw a chance to address the significant drop-off in math and science proficiency, particularly among underserved students, at a time when these skills are in high demand worldwide.

We quickly realized that the issues in schools were not isolated but deeply rooted within the system itself. It wasn't a lack of caring teachers, but rather a lack of flexibility to cater to the individual needs of students. We identified several key areas that needed attention:

- Limited course offerings deter many students from exploring higher-level sciences.
- Insufficient experiential learning opportunities in math and science.
- Scarcity of role models that students can relate to and see themselves in.
- Inadequate support systems that discourage acceleration in math and science.

Additionally, we recognized that the causes of these challenges were also systemic:

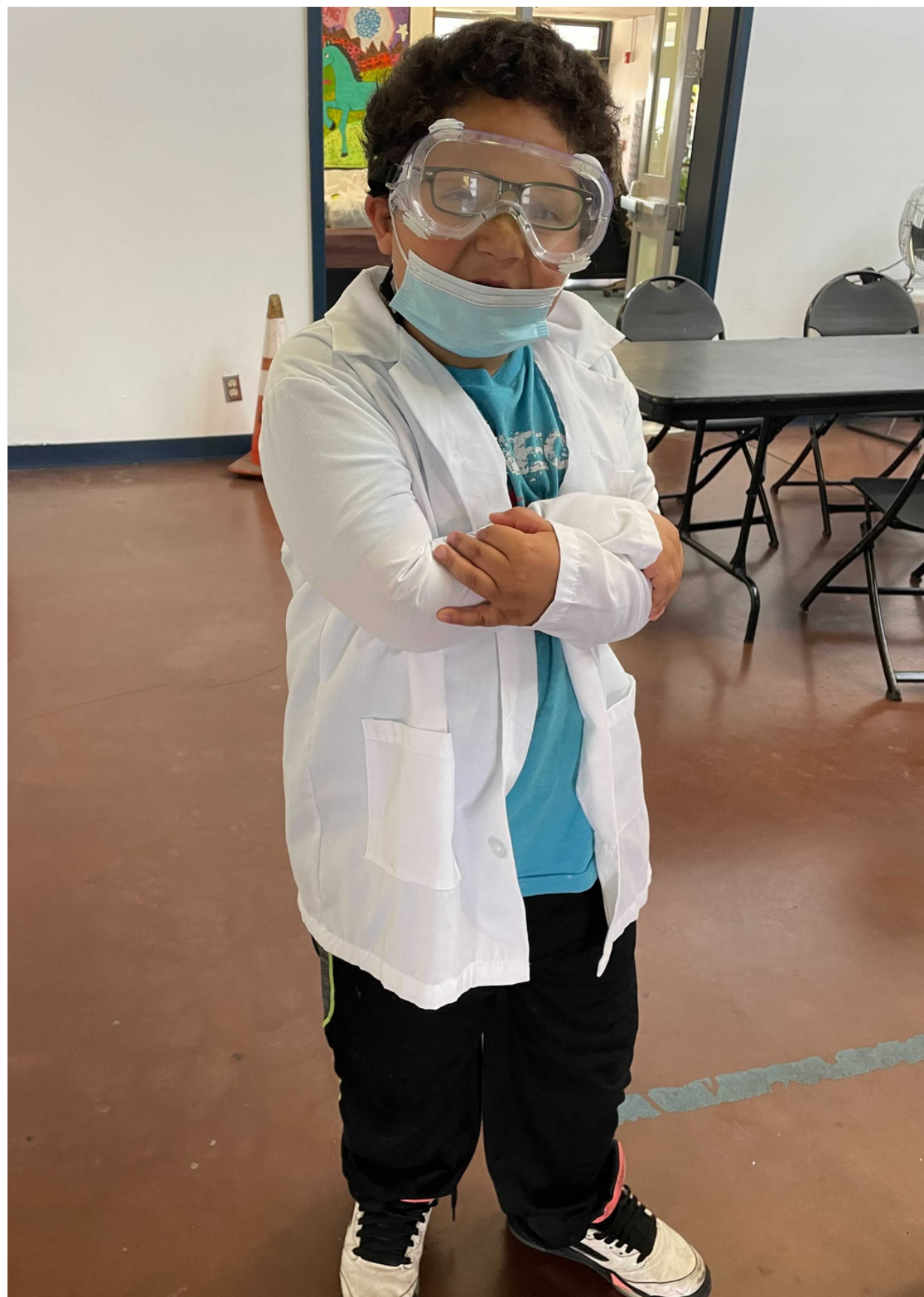
- Limited training for teachers to incorporate 21st-century skills into their curriculum.
- Inadequate efforts to recruit minority science and math teachers.
- Lack of rigorous STEM learning opportunities in underserved communities.
- Inaccessibility to mentors in STEM-related fields who represent the students we serve.
- The absence of a "college-going culture" at home for many students in need of support.

To address these issues head-on, we began with rigorous academic research and conducted comprehensive audits of districts and systems. This paved the way for impactful training to equip teachers with the necessary skills to make a difference.

Our journey has just begun, and we are committed to transforming the narrative surrounding math and science education for minority students. By providing the support, resources, and opportunities they deserve, we aim to close the gap and ensure every student has an equal chance to thrive in the 21st-century workforce.

Our journey is far from over, but with each step, we are determined to create a more equitable educational landscape. Together with our partners, volunteers, and supporters, we continue to make strides toward a future where all students have equal opportunities to thrive in math and science.





Join us

Upcoming events

Event	Location	Date
Equity and the New California Math Framework	Online	September 2nd
CA Dept of Education Live Podcast	Online from Sacramento, CA	September 2nd
Hispanics in Engineering Day	Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA	September 24th
Hispanic BioMed Techathon	The Tech Experience San Jose, CA	September 30th
California Black Youth Techathon	Haward, CA (& Online)	September 30th

Together we will see a world where every child is recognized for their precious humanity, where children learn to maximize their passion and turn that passion into academic excellence. A world where academic outcomes are not based on a family's zip code. **Join Us.**

