
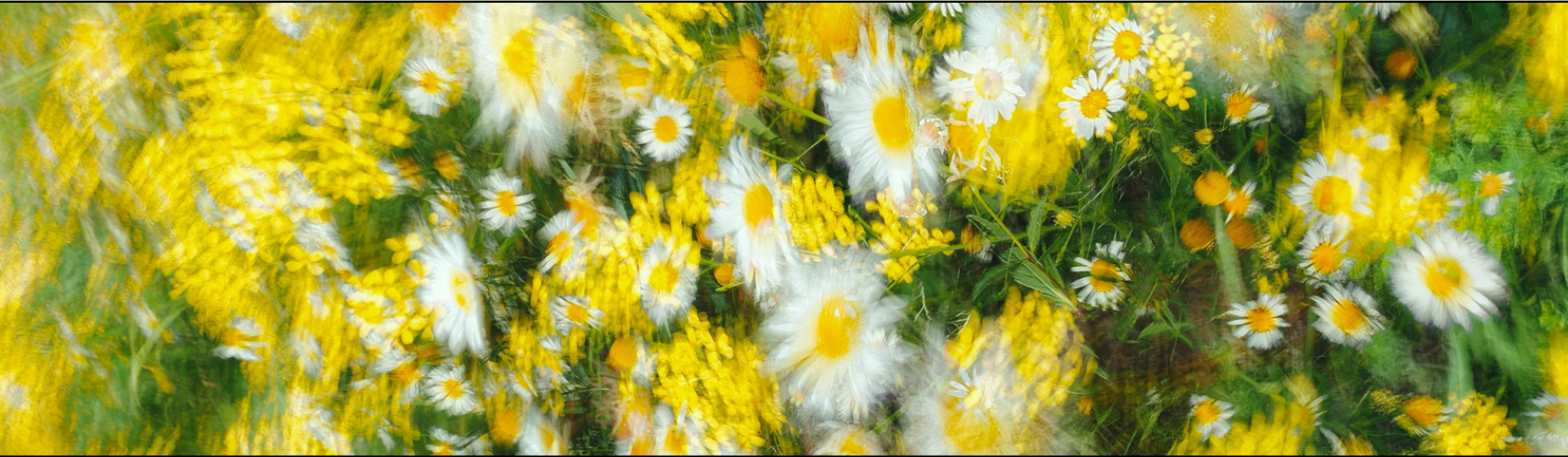


csme@sfsu.edu |  @csme_sfsu | 415-405-4190



Welcome to April



Welcome to April! This month is filled with exciting events including that chance to glimpse a rare solar eclipse, and celebrating Earth Day on the 22nd. Earth Day may come once a year, but protecting our planet is a task we incorporate in our everyday lives. Taking a STEM class, being a STEM major or aspiring to become a STEM teacher, helps create leaders who understand, appreciate, and are prepared to teach others about the importance of sustaining life on this our planet.

While we care for our planet, CSME would like to remind our students that we also care for and about them! Join us for weekly tea time on Wednesdays from 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm in CA 127. If you're a student preparing for finals, take a break from the day and relax with a nice drink in our office.

As the year comes to a close, CSME is once again preparing for our annual banquet in May that celebrates the hard work of our students. Find more information on page 7 and don't forget to RSVP. We hope to see all of our students and their families and friends at this special event.

Sincerely,
 CSME

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WHERE TO FIND US

Our main office is located in the Creative Arts building in room 127. Feel free to drop by anytime for a quiet place to study or to grab a snack between classes. You're always welcome at CSME.



CENTER FOR
 SCIENCE &
 MATHEMATICS
 EDUCATION

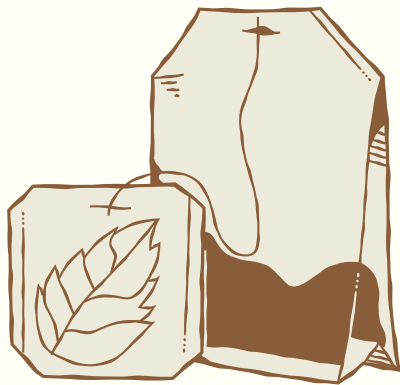


WEEKLY TEA TIME

We're in Your Corner



Join Us!



CSME is a constant support for our students. If you need a safe space to study, make some friends, or just be, stop by CSME.

Every Wednesday CSME holds tea times for students to stop by the office and relax. Of course, you're always welcome anytime, but take a chance to meet new students or staff.

Take some time off your busy day and get some complimentary drinks and snacks.

→ Join us every Wednesday!

3 pm - 3:30 pm in CA 127

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Sergio Alvarez Jr.



“Hello. My name is Sergio Alvarez Jr. This will be my third year with the CSME’s Teacher Fellowship program. I spent two years as an undergraduate math education student and now I am associated with CSME as a Single Subject-Mathematics credential student on track to get my MA in Curriculum and Instruction.”

What interested you in the Teacher Fellowship program?

“Instead of ‘What interested me in this program?’, the better question would be, ‘Who got me interested in this program?’. And to that question, my response would be the one and only, Professor Kimberly Seashore. I was first introduced to Professor Seashore in her Math 375 Field Study class in Fall 2022. Professor Seashore HIGHLY recommended all of us in the class to join the CSME Teacher Fellows, as we would be observing in classrooms and if we were able to join, we would earn money and be a part of an awesome community. So, I guess you could say it was the monetary gain that interested me, but now I have built such a connection to the fellowship that it is no longer money that interests me but the community and mentorship that is gained when being a part of it.



My interest in the program has also grown to be an interest that is more curious. I plan to inquire about how mentor-teachers have found community in this program and how that community has aided them in finding longevity in their careers. A lot of fear that aspiring teachers have is the fear of burnout that stress induces. It was nice to find professional teachers in this community that helped guide me through fear, with their wise perspectives and authentic care. One thing that makes communities successful is that one and another care for each other and it is evident that people care about each other in this CSME community.”

CSME's Self Care Tips



Take a moment to prioritize yourself as the year comes to a close.

Here are some self-care activities you can incorporate into your daily life:

- Take a break
- Listen to music
- Read a book
- Eat a healthy meal
- Engage in exercise
- Go for a walk
- Drink water
- Call/text a friend
- Connect with nature
- Meditate
- Self-Reflect

What are some of the most memorable experiences you've had being a part of this program?

“One memorable experience close to my heart was when the fellowship took a field trip to the Planetarium inside Thornton Hall on SF State’s campus. This was an awesome experience to learn about astronomy. The math and science that I learned was inspiring. Not only was this an opportunity to think about math and science, but the leaders of CSME’s Teacher Fellowship program created a project for us fellows to conceptualize an ideal field trip that maybe one day we would like to take our future students on. They created a space to reflect on the importance of field trips when teaching math and science while taking us on a math/science field trip.... How awesome....”

How have you benefited or grown from this experience?

“I have grown so much as a teacher because of this program. I have been a Teacher Fellow, SF Math Circle employee, and now a NOYCE Scholar. I have met so many great teachers as a Fellow. I have taught some awesome math with SF Math Circle and have thought critically about education through the lens of equity and social justice as a NOYCE scholar.

This community has given me the best tool that a teacher can possess. This tool is the sacred tool of HOPE. I have gained hope through great mentorship and experiences. This community has opened doors for me, all whilst creating a home for me to run to. I see the community growing so much in the next couple of years and I hope to grow right alongside it.”

What advice can you offer someone who wants to join this program?

“My advice is that if you have any inclination to TEACH, whether that be math, science, history, in any level, please come. We need you. Email me at sergalvarez6@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Just come down to the CSME office. The CSME office is in the Creative Arts Building on campus. It is close to the intersection of Holloway Ave and Tapia. However, it is easiest to access from Holloway. Near the intersection, you will find the big TELEVISION sign on the building. Walk through that door and you will find the office right when you walk in.”

Additional Comments

“I would like to thank CSME front office staff and all the members that belong to CSME’s Teacher Fellowship program.”

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Lika Chhit

Supplemental Instruction



“Hi, my name is Lika Chhit, a senior majoring in Cell & Molecular Biology and Chemistry. My goal is to become a physician neuroscientist. My specific interest lies in the application of stem cell therapy in this field.”

What interested you in the Supplemental Instruction program?

“My interest in the Supplemental Instruction program was driven by my passion for supporting students in their understanding of chemistry. I believe it’s an amazing subject, and I wanted to help others appreciate its intricacies.”

What are some of the most memorable experiences you’ve had being a part of this program?

“The most memorable experience was witnessing a student's transformation, who was initially struggling with chemistry, blossom into genuine interest and confidence. Hearing them say, ‘I finally understand it! It wasn’t as challenging as I thought,’ filled me with immense satisfaction.”

How have you benefited or grown from this experience?

“As a Supplemental Instructor, I’ve learned to break down complex chemistry concepts into clear, digestible pieces. This emphasis on clarity, coupled with interaction with students, further solidified my own in-depth grasp of the material. This deeper understanding will undoubtedly benefit my MCAT preparations.”

What advice can you offer someone who wants to join this program?

“If you’re interested in joining, don’t hesitate! You’ll be paired with an experienced co-facilitator to guide you. My final piece of advice: to truly enhance student comprehension, focus on providing ample practice problems before diving into exam materials.”

April 2024

AFFILIATED FACULTY



STEPHANIE SISK-HILTON PROFESSOR

Stephanie Sisk-Hilton is a Professor in the Department of Elementary Education. Her teaching and research focuses on the intersections of children’s science learning, cognition and development, and collaborative teacher learning. Her current research focuses on how young children can come to understand and use challenging science concepts when they are engaged in pedagogically ambitious approaches to teaching and learning.



MARIA ZAVALA PROFESSOR

Maria is the daughter of Peruvian immigrants, who moved all over the United States and finally settled in the San Francisco Bay Area. At SF State, she teaches courses related to teaching mathematics, learning theories, and bilingual education. Her research focuses on culturally responsive and sustaining mathematics pedagogies, mathematics identities of traditionally marginalized youth, and teaching mathematics for social justice.



Read their brand-new books!

Stop by the office in CA 127 and pick up a copy of Stephanie’s book, *Teaching Climate Science in the Elementary Classroom*, and Maria’s book, *Cultivating Mathematical Hearts: Culturally Responsive Mathematics Teaching in Elementary Classrooms*.

CSME EVENTS

CSME'S ANNUAL BANQUET



Join CSME for our annual Spring banquet! There will be some fun activities with prizes, plenty of food, and a chance to get to know the rest of the CSME community. Stop by early from 4 pm - 5 pm for the pre-banquet activities.

We hope to see you there!

When: May 10th
5 pm - 7 pm

Where: Seven Hills Conference Center

[RSVP by Friday, April 12th on Qualtrics here.](#)

CSME COFFEE CORNER



Curious about CSME? Interested in learning more about our programs? Want to know more about becoming a teacher?

Visit our CSME office in person and get your questions answered over a cup of tea and some snacks. We are here for you.

Stop by and receive CSME swag.

When: In person every Tuesday
12 pm - 1 pm

Where: Creative Arts 127

Can't make it in person?
Join us online every Friday,
1 pm - 2 pm

Zoom ID: 829 3522 5159

Passcode: 0xSCjv

ORIGAMI LESSONS

Join CSME student assistants before a Teacher Fellows meeting as they answer the question: how does math and origami mix?

Join us every month and learn something new!

When: 4/19
4 pm - 4:30 pm

Where: Creative Arts 126



TEACHER FELLOWS SPRING 2024 MEETING

Interested in learning more about the Teacher Fellows program? Attend a seminar, get a tasty dinner, and meet other students who are exploring a teaching career. For more information, contact Arnold at arnoldkhampaseut@sfsu.edu.

When: 4/19
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

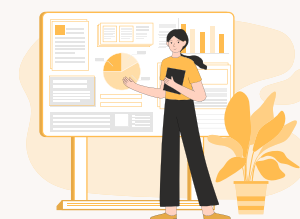
Where: Creative Arts 127

COSE STUDENT PROJECT SHOWCASE

Check out a variety of interesting student projects at the COSE Student Project Showcase. Learn something new!

When: 5/3
12 pm - 6 pm

Where: Student Live Events Center
Annex I





OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities

SF Math Circle

SF Math Circle is now hiring for Summer 2024 and Fall 2024. Earn at least \$20/hour to work with small groups of elementary or middle school students as they explore interactive, hands-on puzzles and games. To find out more information and to apply, visit sfmathcircle.org/facilitators

Supplemental Instruction

Applications to become a Fall 2024 SI facilitator are now open. Applicants will be contacted via email to set up follow-up interviews at the end of April. Visit our website csme.sfsu.edu/SI for an application.

Learning Assistants

Apply to become a Learning Assistant today! If you're an undergrad passionate about chemistry, physics, astronomy, computer science, or math, Learning Assistants might be for you. Visit our website csme.sfsu.edu/learning-assistants or email Kim Coble (kcoble@sfsu.edu) to find out more information.



SF Math Circle Festival

Scholarships

Black Excellence Scholarship

The San Francisco Foundation Black Excellence Scholarship for SF State is a charitable fund of the San Francisco Foundation (SFF) that provides dedicated scholarship support to Black students at San Francisco State University.

Interested students must submit their applications by April 30th at sff.org/BLACKEXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP/

Teacher Fellows

Interested in becoming a K-12 STEM teacher and gaining support from a community of like-minded students who love science and math?

Consider joining Teacher Fellows and gain experience in the field while earning \$500 - \$1,500 a semester.

Visit our website to learn more about Teacher Fellows and consider applying to our program.

Support

Campus Resources

SF State has an abundance of on-campus resources for students, ranging from food/shelter support to equity support.

Visit the student resources website at studentresources.sfsu.edu/resources

If you're having trouble during this school year and need to talk to someone, visit CAPS (counseling and psychological services) <https://caps.sfsu.edu>

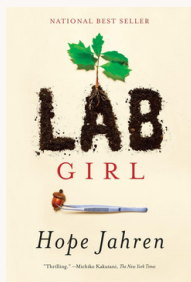
Find academic support at SF State's Tutoring and Academic Support Center (TASC). Visit their website at tutoring.sfsu.edu

CSME'S MONTHLY BOOK LIST



We would like to share a selection of books and articles to help inform our community of ways we can be conscious of issues surrounding injustice and racism while celebrating the different cultures and identities that make our community rewarding and meaningful.

CSME is now giving away free STEM education, math, science, and social justice books year-round! Stop by Creative Arts 127 and pick up something new to read.



Lab Girl

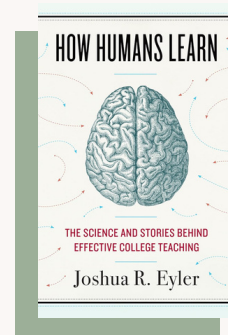
by Hope Jahren

Lab Girl is a book about work, love, and the mountains that can be moved when those two things come together. It is told through Jahren's remarkable stories: about her childhood in rural Minnesota with an uncompromising mother and a father who encouraged hours of play in his classroom's labs; about how she found a sanctuary in science, and learned to perform lab work done "with both the heart and the hands"; and about the inevitable disappointments, but also the triumphs and exhilarating discoveries, of scientific work.

How Humans Learn

by Joshua R. Eyster

Even on good days, teaching is a challenging profession. One way to make the job of college instructors easier, however, is to know more about the ways students learn. How Humans Learn aims to do just that by peering behind the curtain and surveying research in fields as diverse as developmental psychology, anthropology, and cognitive neuroscience for insight into the science behind learning.



Solve:



If there are **7 people** and each person shakes hands with every other person once, how many handshakes will occur?
Is it possible for **7 people** to shake hands so that each person shakes hands with exactly **5 different people**? If so, how could they do it? (Who should shake hands with whom?) How many handshakes will occur?
Is it possible for **7 people** to shake hands so that each person shakes hands with exactly **4 different people**? If so, how could they do it? (Who should shake hands with whom?) How many handshakes will occur?

PUZZLE CORNER

Do you have an interest in puzzles like this and teaching kids? Join SF Math Circle and teach 2nd - 8th grade kids while gaining teaching experience. Visit our opportunities page (9) and find out how to join.

Got the answer? The first five people to visit our office, Creative Arts 127, with the correct answer will win a prize. The winners and the answers will be revealed in our next newsletter.

We Would Love to Hear from You!

Your support and input at CSME is important to us. Let us know if you have feedback you'd like to offer—suggestions for student/teacher spotlights, book recommendations, etc. Have a club you'd like to advertise? Let us know about it!

Feel free to leave comments through the QR code or link provided!
https://sfsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_74cHrE7WXY8imiO



Q&A

Got more questions about the Center or one of our programs? Fill out our Qualtrics survey and we'll get back to you ASAP.

Feel free to leave any questions through the QR code or link provided.
https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1YRXJxYRd5O9dNY



Keep Up With CSME News!

Subscribe to CSME's Mailing List and receive updates and announcements, including our monthly newsletters. Subscribe by clicking the link or scanning the QR code:
https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2s1liWxVkuEPqu2



Donate to CSME

If you'd like to help CSME continue to support equity on our campus and across the Bay Area, please consider a donation to our program. Visit our website at csme.sfsu.edu/donate, click the 'Support CSME' dropdown menu, and select donate.

If you're interested in discussing a donation, contact our director, Tendai Chitewere (tendai@sfsu.edu).

Thank you!

Follow Our Instagram

Keep up with CSME on our Instagram page at [@csme_sfsu](https://www.instagram.com/csme_sfsu)! Get information about our events, programs, and important CSME updates.



@csme_sfsu