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CSME members and staff at our 2023 annual banquet

Welcome to September



CSME Director, Tendai Chitewere

¡Bienvenida!

Welcome to another academic year at the Center for Science and Mathematics Education and to our newly revamped newsletter. I hope you had a productive and rejuvenating summer.

As you might expect, CSME is once again a buzz with new faces and old friends. The energy at the beginning of the semester is electric and we are glad to be back together. CSME is excited to introduce Lisa Sao, who graduated from SF State last year and joins our team as our CSU VISTA Fellow. Lisa has already made a significant impact by restarting this CSME newsletter.

We have a lot of exciting initiatives, resources, and opportunities this month. In this edition, you will learn about our different programs, meet members of our community, and find resources we think are helpful in all things STEM education, equity and community. We have included a section on recommended readings to expand our knowledge of equity, social justice, and anti-racism work in STEM. And we have listed resources to support your health and well-being. This newsletter is the restart of our student and staff spotlight, where we will share our appreciation for the hardworking members of our community. Lastly, we hope you will find useful information in our scholarship and job opportunity section.

CSME is a fantastic place to explore your career in STEM education, in all the different ways we teach and reach out to others. We are so glad you are part of our community. You belong here!

Sincerely,
Tendai

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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

OUR PROGRAMS

Learning Assistants

Want to help facilitate active learning in science courses? Well, look no further. Become a Learning Assistant and support other students in science courses and earn credits in a unique and fun way.

Noyce STAJES

STEM Teaching toward A Just and Equitable Society (STAJES) program is a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded program to provide scholarships to students who are committed to teaching science or mathematics in high-need school districts upon the completion of a single subject teacher credential program.

SF Math Circle

SF Math Circle works to make math accessible, inclusive, and fun for 2nd through 5th graders in after-school classes and camps. We offer compelling, low-floor, high-ceiling activities that make mathematical thinking accessible and fun for students from diverse backgrounds.



SF Math Circle

Supplemental Instruction

Take a fun one-unit SCI course to help study efficiently and effectively with your friends. Work in small groups on practice problems and activities to support learning in the parent STEM course with the help of two friendly undergrad facilitators.



STEM House

STEM House

Local elementary classrooms partner with SF State by bringing their students to campus for an inspirational college science experience, complete with lab coats and goggles. STEM House arranges for undergraduate future teachers to spend a semester doing paired teaching with small groups of students in grades 3 through 5.

Teacher Fellowship

Each year, CSME supports a cohort of STEM majors and credential students interested in being K-12 teachers. Teacher Fellows create a supportive community of aspiring teachers who gain experience in the field while earning their degrees. Teacher Fellows receive a stipend, extra mentoring, special seminars and access to a dedicated study center.

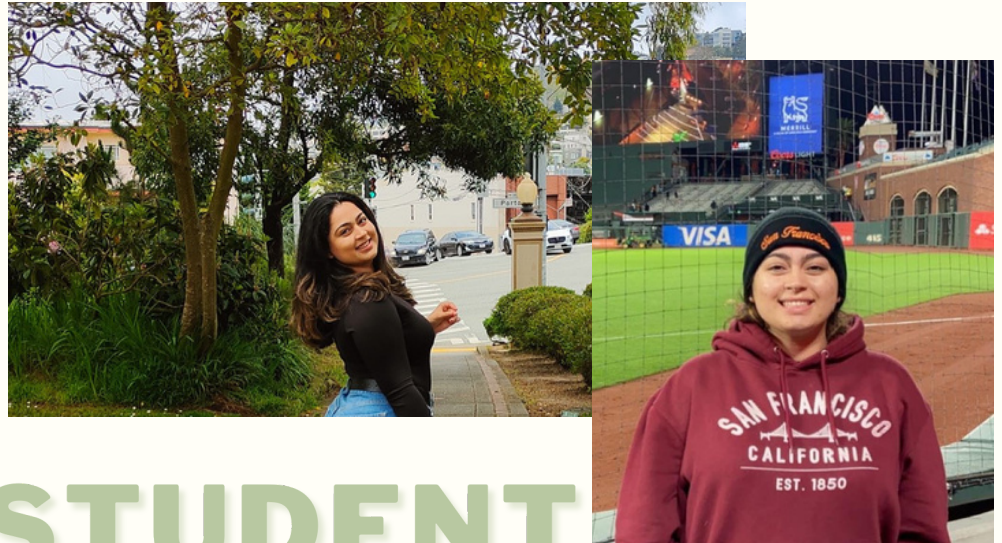
CSME Staff Spotlight



Sol Arellano Calderon, Student Assistant

Meet one of our wonderful student assistants, Sol. She is in her sophomore year as a Studio Arts major. She loves anything art related, watching movies, reading graphic novels, and exploring the city with her friends.

Sol joined CSME last year and has already created many amazing designs for the Center. Here is one of her sticker designs, which you'll find on some of our swag!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Hannah Manzo – SF Math Circle

“Hi everyone,

My name is Hannah Manzo. I work at CSME as a student assistant and a lead instructor for SF Math Circle. I am a 5th year and majoring in Mathematics with a concentration in teaching.

Outside of work and school, I am president of my sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma. I keep myself busy, but love being on campus and being involved in the community. When I have free time, you usually can find me somewhere out in nature. Whether it be in the ocean kayaking or between the trees hiking, I love being surrounded by nature.”

What interested you in joining SF Math Circle?

“While teaching is my major, there are very few opportunities that allow me as an undergraduate to interact with younger students. In Math Circle, we are given the biggest opportunity to not only observe students engaging in mathematical puzzles, but also perfect our own skills in interacting with a wide variety of students. Math Circle also provided me the opportunity to learn how to prep for classes and write notes on student behavior.”

National Hispanic Heritage Month



September 15th - October 15th is National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Celebrate and recognize the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements for the United States.

Participate in National Hispanic Heritage Month by finding local events around the Bay Area.



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

“Working with Math Circle for so long, I have collected many memorable experiences. Besides meeting so many amazing students and staff, I have had the opportunity to lead in activities for a few consecutive semesters. One student I had was very quiet and shy when I first met them. They were always afraid to share their ideas and try the activity. But, after a few semesters in Math Circle, they became more excited with each activity. Soon [they] became the first student to raise their hand when volunteering, were always ready to share their thinking, and were so excited to try something new. Watching other students like this one made me proud to be a part of their growth.”

How have you benefited or grown from your experience with SF Math Circle?

“As a teaching major, you are taught how to understand all levels of math so that you can articulate what you want your students to learn and to ensure there aren't any gaps in student learning. But something they never teach you is how to interact with kids. Math Circle has provided me with the space to learn about a variety of personalities and learning challenges that students may have. It also has created a space for me to explore my boundaries so that I know when my limits have been reached. Working with Math Circle for so long has taught me so much about being a leader for students.”

What advice can you offer someone who is interested in joining SF Math Circle?

“Don't be afraid to ask questions! And don't expect to know everything about the students. Everyone has a different story, including the kids. So take things slow and try your best to help them. It's very easy to assume that a student doesn't want to participate. More often than not, that student doesn't understand and needs a bit of attention.”

CSME Staff Spotlight



Kim Seashore,
Associate Director

Kimseash@sfsu.edu

In 2015, Kim Seashore joined the math department at SF State. She is an associate professor and teaches undergraduate students in both math and math education courses, and advises masters students in math teaching and mathematics education projects. She also convenes a research group, Mathematics Education Research Group for Equity (MERGE), to investigate issues of K-16 mathematics teaching and teacher education.

Want to be featured or recommend someone for our next student spotlight?
Email us at csme@sfsu.edu



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Andrew Yu - Supplemental Instruction

“Hi everyone! My name is Andrew Yu. I am a 6th year student at SF State majoring in Cell and Molecular Biology and minoring in Chinese language. I hope to graduate by the end of this 2023-2024 school year. Outside of school, I have being a furry as one of my big hobbies; it has led me to make some nice social connections and attend fun events in my personal life. A furry is someone that is interested in anthropomorphic animals / animals with human characteristics and there’s a large fandom surrounding that interest that brings us like-minded people together. I also am trying to get better at chess, and I can be too nice for my own good, especially with friends that I care very much about.”

What interested you in the Supplemental Instruction program?

“I found out about the SCI program my freshman year at SF State during the 2018-2019 school year. I heard about SCI when I was taking BIOL 230, and I felt like I didn’t need additional support until I took BIOL 240 and felt lost in the class. I decided to give the SCI program a chance during my sophomore year between 2019-2020 when I took CHEM 115, and I thoroughly enjoyed my experience. I met some really nice classmates, and my SCI facilitators Nancy and Khloe were extremely supportive in helping me learn Intro to Chem I topics. I found that I had a knack for explaining topics in the SCI 115 class and a few of my classmates and my SCI facilitators recommended that I apply to become a SCI facilitator. I gave it some thought and I decided to become one in Spring 2020 and landed a position for SCI 227 which deals with Calculus II.”

Self-Care Awareness Month



Take a moment to prioritize yourself.

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

**SELF-CARE IS
EMPOWERMENT**

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

“With this job, you will meet a wide variety of people. I’ve met freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and super seniors. I’ve met veterans, people who went to college straight after high school, people who went to college later in life, people part of the Metro program, people living on-campus, people commuting to school, people of various STEM majors, people with dreams, people with aspirations, people working while in college, people who are still figuring out who they are in life, people who already have their own business, etc. It’s cool that this job will expose you to different perspectives, lifestyles, and stories.

Not to mention, I adore the little, daily interactions I get whenever I’m around the CSME space in person. I may have a chat with SCI coworkers, CSME office staff and assistants, Teacher Fellows people, Math Circle people, my classmates, former and current SCI students, and other acquaintances using the CSME study space. It’s great to develop an air of familiarity with someone through frequent interactions as it can lead to a more connected relationship around the workplace. And I have made friendships with some coworkers and students that I hope to last over time after I graduate.”

How have you benefited or grown from your experience with Supplemental Instruction?

“I argue that being a SCI facilitator has allowed me to practice getting better with communication, planning, and public speaking. I now feel more at ease when I need to present in front of an audience, I feel like I’ve gained some practice in terms of thinking on my feet, I know I have been diligent with communicating with my co-facilitator and sending out emails and reminders to people in CSME, and I know that I try my best to make sure my class is organized so that I can give my students a good experience. Not to mention, I get to feel like I’m a part of something big with all the colleagues and coworkers that I’ve come to know and talk to around the CSME area. As I’ve gotten used to their presence, they have gotten used to my presence and the aforementioned sense of familiarity is a nice feeling.”

What advice can you offer someone who is interested in joining Supplemental Instruction?

“For future SCI facilitators that would like to join the program, I would recommend that you don’t be afraid to communicate and take the initiative. You run a 1-unit class, shape it in the way that works for you, your co-facilitator, and your students. Give your students an experience and class community that they will remember for its uniqueness—everyone in the SCI class are undergraduates helping each other out. And don’t forget to make connections with your SCI co-workers and the other staff and workers at CSME, you’re going to see them from time to time, the little interactions can make your day more interesting, you never know who will become a friend, and it’s nice to know you have support from coworkers while working.”

CSME EVENTS

Coffee Chat

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 free CSME swag.

When: In person every Wednesday, 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



Socials

CSME's Ice Cream Social

Stop by our office for some free ice cream! Get to know more about our programs and spend some time with our CSME staff and community.

When: Friday, September 8th, 3 pm - 4 pm

Where: Creative Arts 127

Teacher Fellows Fall 2023 Seminar

Interested in learning more about the Teacher Fellows program? Attend a seminar and get more information.

When: 9/15, 10/13, 11/3, 12/8

4 pm - 6 pm

Where: Creative Arts 126

STAJES Fall 2023 Seminar

Dear STAJES members, don't forget to attend your monthly seminar meetings.

When: 9/8, 9/29 (zoom); 10/27, 11/17, 12/15

4 pm - 6 pm

Where: Creative Arts 126



Fairs

SF Math Circle Festival

A festival for 2nd - 8th grade students and their families to explore the fun side of math in an accessible, engaging way.

When: Saturday, September 9th, 10 am - 12 pm

Where: Entrance of Thornton Hall
For more information or to register, visit the [SF Math Circle](#) website.

Fall Part-Time Job Fair

When: Thursday, September 7th, 12 pm - 3 pm

Where: Jack Adams Hall, Cesar Chavez Student Center

Fall Career & Internship Fair

When: Thursday, September 28th, 12 pm - 3 pm

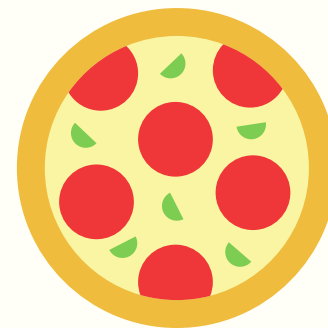
Where: Mashouf Wellness Center, MAC Gym



Puzzle Corner

What is the maximum number of pieces you can divide a pizza into with 4 straight-line cuts? The cuts don't have to go through the center of the pizza, and the pieces don't have to be the same size.

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.



Scholarships

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 \$300 - \$1,500 a semester.

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



Two Teacher Fellows



Job Opportunities

SF Math Circle

Earn at least \$19/hour to work with small groups of elementary or middle school students as they explore interactive, hands-on puzzles and games! Contact David Klein at dklein@sfmathcircle.org

CMC-N Annual Math Conference Volunteers

Student volunteers needed December 1st - 3rd. California Mathematics Counsel North is a committee dedicated to math education and serving teachers.

Student volunteers will receive free conference registration and a \$25 voucher.

For more information on this event or to register, visit the CMC-N website. Teacher Fellows interested in volunteering may contact Kim Seashore (kimseash@sfsu.edu) for accommodations support.



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>



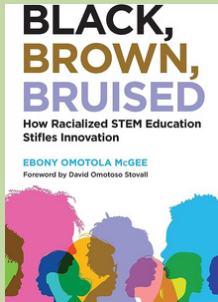
CSME's Monthly Book List

Part of the CSME mission is to confront racism, discrimination, and anti-blackness to create a culture of inclusion in the world around us. 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 while celebrating the different cultures and identities that make our community meaningful.

Black, Brown, Bruised: How Racialized STEM Education Stifles Innovation

by Ebony Omotola McGee

Black, Brown, Bruised reveals the challenges that underrepresented racially minoritized students confront in order to succeed in these exclusive, usually all-White, academic and professional realms. The book provides searing accounts of racism inscribed on campus, in the lab, and on the job, and portrays learning and work environments as arenas rife with racial stereotyping, conscious and unconscious bias, and micro-aggressions. As a result, many students experience the effects of a racial battle fatigue-physical and mental exhaustion borne of their hostile learning and work environments-leading them to abandon STEM fields entirely.



*Free copies are available in our office @ Creative Arts 127

Science in the City: Culturally Relevant STEM Education (Race and Education)

by Bryan A. Brown

Science in the City examines how language and culture matter for effective science teaching. Author Bryan A. Brown argues that, given the realities of our multilingual and multicultural society, teachers must truly understand how issues of culture intersect with the fundamental principles of learning. This book links an exploration of contemporary research on urban science teaching to a more generative instructional approach in which students develop mastery by discussing science in culturally meaningful ways.



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_0ujtaHCjM08PPp4

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 sending an email to csme@sfsu.edu.

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!
