

# INVESTING IN UTAH'S TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

A request for expanding iSEE legislative support



## Informal Science Education Enhancement

iSEE experiences engage Utah students and teachers in science education programs designed to build science literacy.

### NEED FOR SUPPORT

- **Add Breadth:** Move two proven RFP institutions, Thanksgiving Point Institute (\$750,000) and Hawkwatch International (\$100,000), to line item status to serve more students and teachers throughout the State.
- **Add Depth:** Increased support (\$715,000) for existing organizations will allow them to meet the growing STEM demand we see in classrooms and to support development of new programs that align with the needs that teachers express for their classrooms.
- Investing an additional \$1,565,000 will leverage a similar amount of private dollars, bringing over \$8,500,000 in public and private dollars to support Utah teachers and students for an investment of just over \$4,000,000.
- Supporting this initiative will allow us to excite and inspire students by giving them authentic experiences in STEM fields, starting at an early age and continuing through career planning.



### 2013/2014 Impacts

#### Outreach

291,409 Student Experiences  
10,923 Teacher Experiences

#### Field Trips

292,804 Student Experiences  
14,913 Teacher Experiences

#### Teacher Resources

55,938 Student Experiences  
5,724 Teacher Experiences

Total Student Experiences **640,151**  
Total Teacher Experiences **31,560**

Public Investment **\$2,600,240**  
Private Match **\$3,612,335**

### Projected 2015/2016 Impacts

#### Outreach

397,020 Student Experiences  
14,235 Teacher Experiences

#### Field Trips

378,178 Student Experiences  
17,421 Teacher Experiences

#### Teacher Resources

86,500 Student Experiences  
7,079 Teacher Experiences

Total Student Experiences **861,698**  
Total Teacher Experiences **38,735**

Public Investment **\$4,165,340**  
Private Match **\$4,375,375**



## URGENCY

- Utah needs more employees for STEM jobs
- iSEE has a proven track record of inspiring and engaging teachers and students across the state.
- iSEE programs offer vital and authentic experiences in science and STEM.
- Research supports the importance of informal science in STEM education.  
*NRC, 2009<sup>†</sup> & Tang, Pan, & Newmeyer, 2008<sup>‡</sup>*
- With new emphasis on STEM and school accountability, iSEE organizations have seen a surge in demand for services but are not currently resourced to provide the necessary level of assistance.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

- By leveraging public dollars with at least a 1:1.1 match of private dollars, iSEE will turn \$4,165,000 into over \$8,500,000 to support Utah students and teachers (K-12) in all 41 districts across the state.
- With changing state science standards and a proven track record of delivery, iSEE organizations will be counted on to help prepare teachers and students for the transition.



<sup>†</sup>National Research Council, (2009). *Learning science in informal environments: People, places, and pursuits*. National Academies Press, Washington, D.C.

<sup>‡</sup>Tang, M., Pan, W., Newmeyer, M.D. (2008). Factors influencing high school students' career aspirations. *Journal of Professional School Counseling, American School Counselor Association, Vol 11* (5).