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Region One STEM Center Recognized for Inspirational Work

Recognized Statewide for Efforts to Inspire Young Girls toward STEM Activities

The Region One ESC STEM Center of South Texas received statewide recognition for their work in encouraging and inspiring young girls to pursue science careers and engage in STEM activities. The Region One STEM Center was awarded the Million Women Mentors-Texas 2020 Educational Stand Up for STEM Award for their mentorship, guidance, and support in establishing a diverse STEM pipeline in the region, with an emphasis on encouraging young women to enter STEM fields. The Region One STEM Center was formally recognized at Stand Up for STEM Awards recognition ceremony held in conjunction with the Texas Women and Girls in STEM Summit in early December.

Throughout the school year and summer months the Region One STEM Center hosts various programming and computer camps such as the STEM Coding Camps for Girls, Edinburg Girls Camp, Laredo Girls Camp, and STEM Community Days to inspire young girls about STEM. With activities such as these, the Region One STEM Center is building STEM awareness and interest in girls as well as educators, families, and the local community, according to an award press release by Million Women Mentors. The Region One STEM Center has also been a long-time partner with TxGCP in bringing SciGirls and other educator professional development workshops focused on advancing equity in classrooms and STEM programming.

“We are extremely proud of the work carried out by the talented staff within the Region One STEM Center. They work tirelessly to ensure that they meet the professional development needs of educators in our region while at the same time developing innovative programs to support the academic needs of students within our region,” says Ali Kolahdouz, Deputy Director, Region One Division of Technology for Learning. “Our team takes pride in providing opportunities for young girls to spark an interest in the STEM field because they understand the impact that it can make in their lives.” The Region One STEM Center Team consists of Miguel Chuca, STEM Center Director, Gustavo Perez, STEM Specialist, and Sylvia Escobar, STEM Specialist.

The Million Women Mentors – Texas 2020 Educational Organization Stand Up for STEM Award recognizes individual K-12 schools, Pre-K schools or non-profits, educational non-profits and similar organizations. Nominees shall demonstrate a commitment to engaging STEM mentors and role models in programs encouraging women and girls to pursue STEM careers, increasing the diversity of those pursuing STEM careers, and retaining women and girls who enter the STEM education pipeline.

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