

# Press Release



SOLANA BEACH SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Solana Beach School District Students Showcase Their STREAM Skills at Discovery Fest**

*More than 1,500 people – including 900 students – attended the free, outdoor event*

**SOLANA BEACH** — After a hiatus due to the pandemic, the Solana Beach School District community came together for Discovery Fest, a fun-filled day of festivities and STREAM-based learning activities for all.

Held May 7 at Solana Pacific School, Discovery Fest offered learners of all ages a variety of ways to experience a taste of the science, technology, research, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STREAM) skills students gain through SBSD Discovery Lab classes and explore the theme, “Can You Dig It: All Things Prehistoric.”

Discovery Fest is hosted by the Solana Beach School District (SBSD) in partnership with the Solana Beach Schools Foundation (SBSF\*). More than 1,500 people attended this year’s event, including 900 students.

“Discovery Fest is an excellent opportunity for our students to showcase the STREAM knowledge they acquire through regular Discover Lab lessons, and share the experience with their families and the community,” Superintendent Jodee Brentlinger said. “We are delighted that

our partnership with the Solana Beach Schools Foundation supports these critical skills and empowers learners to find their voice, share their gifts and advance the world.”

Students demonstrated their knowledge with TED Talk-style presentations delivered from the Discovery Fest main stage, and a judged engineering challenge had competitors scrambling to construct a device to help a paleontologist, geologist, or gemologist do their work.

Jiya A., Shoshana G., and Serena M. of Solana Highlands School, and Kumar A., Adam L., and Eric M. of Solana Pacific School, shared first place honors for their winning entries in the engineering competition. Board President King, Board Member Dana King, Superintendent Jodee Brentlinger, SBSF President Kim Criscuolo, and Jessie McConville, Associate Director of Marketing with Scientist.com, sat on the judging panel.

Dozens of hands-on activities at Discovery Lab stations offered children and families learning opportunities that allowed them to step into the shoes of an engineer to build robots and write code; put on their archeologist's hat and dig for fossils using an augmented reality (AR) sandbox; tap into their artistic talents to draw and paint a watercolor resist ammonite — a prehistoric ocean dweller similar to the nautilus — and much more.



Booths hosted by event sponsors and community partners featured STREAM-based education. San Diego County Parks and Recreation exhibited a native animals display and treated attendees to a live meet-and-greet with a harmless snake; the Fleet Science Center sparked curiosity with a fun engineering project building a spoon catapult; and Ting and San Diego LabRats teamed up to bring the STEAM Discovery Center where learners experimented with changes to atmospheric pressure.



Discovery Fest was sponsored by Tri Pointe Homes, Scientist.com, Ting, Coastal Kids Dentistry & Orthodontics, Huntington Learning Center of Del Mar, and Segal Speech and Language Therapy. In-kind donations were given by Batch & Box, Carmel Valley Tennis, CeramiCafe Del Mar, Del Mar Golf Center, Del Sol Lions Club, Diesel Del Mar, Feather Acres Nursery, Geppetto's Toys, Griffin Ace Hardware Carmel Valley, Handel's Del Mar, Huntington Learning Center of Del Mar, Kumon Solana Beach, Noonan Family Swim, Solana Succulents, The Coder School Encinitas.

**About the Solana Beach Schools Foundation**

The Solana Beach Schools Foundation (SBSF) is a non-profit organization that raises funds for Discovery Lab classes that provide students regular experiences with hands-on, inquiry-based learning opportunities.

**About the Solana Beach School District**

The Solana Beach School District, nestled on the north coast of San Diego County, serves approximately 2,800 students. Instruction is rich, varied, and innovative. Our emphasis is on core standards instruction provided through a continuous progressive curriculum. District schools consistently rank at or near the top in district, county, and state accountability measures. Our students and schools have received numerous awards and have been recognized at county, state, and national levels for a variety of accomplishments.

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