

# Boston STEM Network

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*December 11, 2014*

[www.bostonstemnetwork.org](http://www.bostonstemnetwork.org)

[@BostonSTEM](https://twitter.com/BostonSTEM)



BOSTON PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL



# Digital Badges

Currency for the STEM Learning  
Ecosystem



# Boston's STEM Learning Ecosystem



Professionals earn licenses

Adults earn degrees

High school graduates earn a diploma

**What can youth earn?**


**Badges** are a new way to recognize the knowledge, skills, and experiences earned both in and outside of school.

# Youthservices.net as Infrastructure

**Boston After School & Beyond** Logout

**ADD ISSUER** Cancel Add Issuer

**Admin List**  
**Badges**  
**Admin Reports**  
**Issue Tracker**  
**Login Editor**  
**Account Settings**

  
**Add Image**

Add Image

**General Info**

Name

Url

Email (Optional)

Description (Optional)

[Admin List](#)[Badges](#)[Admin Reports](#)[Issue Tracker](#)[Login Editor](#)[Account Settings](#)

## ADD BADGE

[Cancel](#)[Add Badge](#)[Change Image](#)

### Tags

|   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| + |  | + - |
| + |  | + - |
| + |  | + - |

### General Info

Name

Short Description (0 / 140 characters)

Description for Earners

Description for Consumers

### Criteria

Description

[+](#) [-](#)

### Standard Alignments (Optional)

Name

[+](#) [-](#)

Url

Description

# Public Facing Page

Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

## STEM Participation

as;lkdfja;sdf



### About

as;lfjasdf

### Criteria

a;lfjalsdf;a

### How to Earn

asdfi;kja;sdf

### Details

Category

*Under Development*

Time To Complete

*Under Development*

Documents

*Under Development*

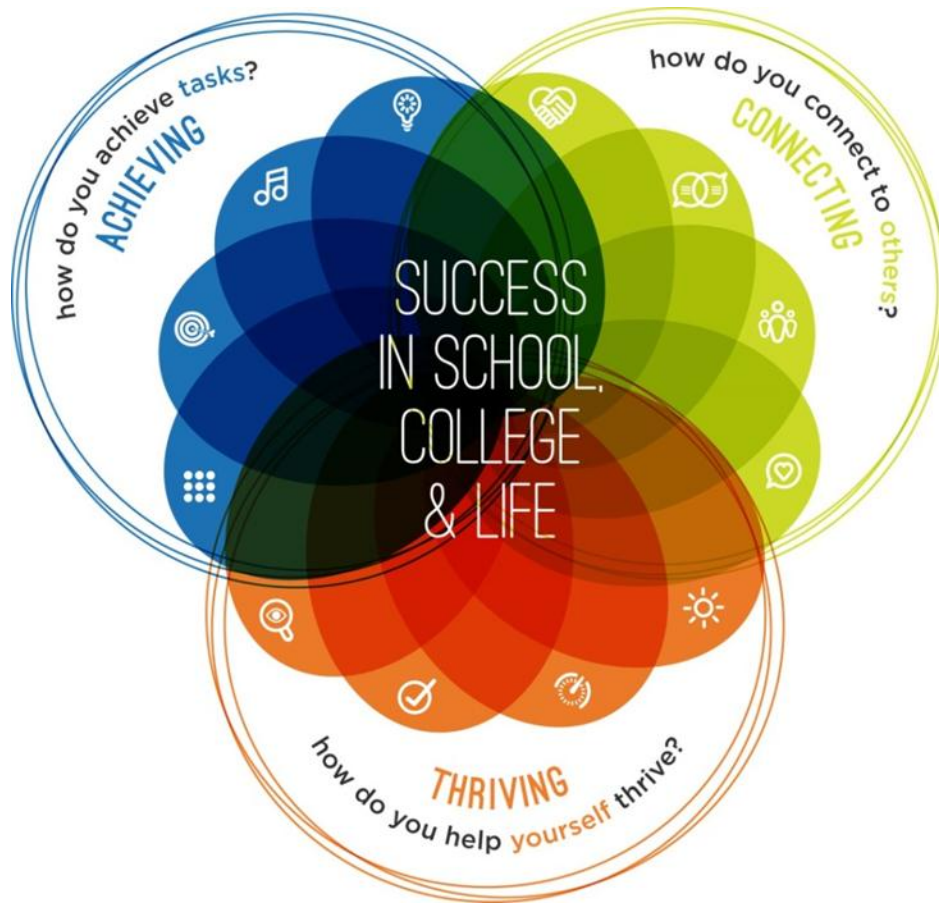
© 2014 - Cityspan



# STEM Badge Pilot in Boston

- Partners in this effort:
  - PEAR
  - NIOST
  - Cityspan
  - Providence After School Alliance
- Three big research questions:
  - How does an organization qualify to award a badge?
  - How does a young person qualify to earn a badge?
  - What is the value of a badge?

# Competencies Needed to Practice STEM



|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| ACHIEVING  | critical thinking ★        |
|            | creativity ★               |
|            | goal focus                 |
|            | organization ★             |
| CONNECTING | relationships              |
|            | communication ★            |
|            | teamwork ★                 |
|            | respect                    |
| THRIVING   | wellbeing                  |
|            | drive ★                    |
|            | efficacy                   |
|            | awareness of self & others |

# Next Steps for Boston

- Create badging function in Youthservices.net
- Collaborate with NIOST and PEAR on setting thresholds for awarding and earning badges
- Convene focus groups to learn how badges might carry value
  - Youth
  - PreK – 12 schools
  - Community organizations
  - Institutions of higher education
  - Businesses and employers

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# STEM Network Updates

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## Subcommittees

- **Out-of-School Time**  
*Next Meeting: Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:30AM*
- **High School to Higher Ed. Transitions**  
*Next Meeting: Wednesday February 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-4:30PM*
- **Measurement**  
*Next Meeting: Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:30AM*

\*Subcommittee members interested in hosting a meeting, please contact Julia

# Announcements

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- **STEM Council/STEM Pipeline Fund Update**  
*Keith Connors, Program Manager-STEM Pipeline Fund, Department of Higher Ed.*
- **Computer Science Education Week** (December 8<sup>th</sup>-December 14<sup>th</sup>)  
*Deborah Boisvert, Executive Director & Principal Investigator, BATEC*
- **BPS Guidance Department Professional Development** (January 13<sup>th</sup>)  
*Catherine Chiu, Director of Guidance, Boston Public Schools*
- **Cambridge Science Festival** (April 17<sup>th</sup>-April 26<sup>th</sup>)  
*Sung Kim, Cambridge Science Festival Manager, MIT Museum*
- **Job Shadow Day** (February 6<sup>th</sup>)
- **STEM Teacher of the Year Award**- nominations due February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (online application in follow-up)