

STScI E/PO PARTNERSHIPS

In order to have the greatest reach in a cost-effective manner, a key strategy has always been to form strategic partnerships with other programs and organizations to reach new audiences and to integrate new techniques into our programs without reinventing or duplicating efforts. We use a top-down approach and work with colleges and universities, state education initiatives, school districts, and informal venues to ensure appropriateness, wide dissemination, and great impact. We also develop and maintain partnerships with industry, non-profit organizations, etc., that result in the creation of products and programs and their dissemination on a national scale.

We enter into partnerships based on specific criteria:

- Does the institution complement the work we do?
- Does the partner serve underserved/underrepresented populations?
- Does the partner demonstrate sustainability and can it carry on independently?
- Does the partner collect follow-up data collection (summative evaluation) that it is willing to share with us?

Although the STScI education team is quite small, through its network of over 500 partners, it has been able to demonstrate very broad reach and high impact. Examples of partners include:

- *NASA programs*, such as Space Grant Consortia and Solar System Ambassadors
- *Organizations*, such as National Federation for the Blind, Space Grant Consortia, American Library Association, World Wide Telescope, the Maryland Science Center, Learning.com and the Ohio Resource Center for Mathematics, Science and Reading (ORC). Learning.com is an online repository that enables educators to locate standards-based resources. It reaches 150,000 educators nationwide. The Ohio Resource Center for Mathematics, Science and Reading (ORC) recommends *Amazing Space* to prepare 130,000 5th grade students for a statewide science test.
- *Universities*, such as the Johns Hopkins University Center for Technology Education which will integrate our materials into the Boundless Learning Program for STEM; and University of California/Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science GEMS Space Science Sequence for grade 6-8, which reaches 25,000 students across the US.
- *Textbook publishers*, such as McGraw-Hill, Houghton Mifflin, and National Science Teachers Association SciGuides
- *State Departments of Education*: Our materials have been adopted by the Departments of Education in 27 states, but are used in all 50. This will be described in more detail in a later section.

The current list of partners can be found at: <http://outreachoffice.stsci.edu/education-partnerships/> .