



For Immediate Release  
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**APRIL IS STEM MONTH WITH GIRL SCOUTS OF OREGON AND SW WASHINGTON,  
SPONSORED BY FIRST TECH FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

**Signature STEM Event Spotlight: OMSI Family Night, April 23,  
Sponsored by First Tech Federal Credit Union and Epping Family Foundation**

PORTLAND, Ore. – April 3, 2018 – Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington (GSOSW) kicks off science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) Month in April. STEM Month is sponsored by First Tech Federal Credit Union and features more than 20 STEM activities and interactive workshops featuring:

- Astronomy
- Building Robotics
- Computer Programming
- Digital Storytelling
- Ecosystems
- Engineering
- Habitat
- Math
- Ocean Conservation
- Science
- Sustainability
- Technology
- Wildlife
- Women Aviators
- Women Engineers

“First Tech and the Girl Scouts share a passion for inspiring and empowering the next generation of leaders through science, technology, engineering, and math programs,” says Nicole Frisch, Community Engagement Director for First Tech Federal Credit Union. “We’re thrilled to support the Girl Scouts in building strong foundations for young women and their futures, to fuel the future of our communities.”

On April 23, Girl Scouts—as well as their family members and friend guests—have the opportunity to enjoy a signature STEM event: OMSI Family Science Night. Attendees can explore popular exhibit halls, visit the physics and life science labs and see OMSI's featured exhibit, Robot Revolution.

“What makes OMSI Family Science Night a special experience for Girl Scouts is that girls have an opportunity to interact with and learn about a variety of STEM careers,” says Shannon Joseph, STEM Specialist for Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington. “Girls will have a chance to work on skill-building badges throughout the exhibits, ranging in topics from water chemistry to animal behavior to robotics. While they’re having a great time, they’re also getting a chance to see a future for themselves in these exciting and far-reaching fields.”

The event also offers attendees opportunities to connect with OMSI Science Communication Fellows, discover competitive robotics teams with the Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program and star-gaze with members of Rose City Astronomers.

OMSI Family Science Night is generously sponsored by First Tech Federal Credit Union and the Epping Family Foundation. “We understand that girls are seriously underrepresented in the Science, Technology and Engineering fields, partly because they lack role models and mentors in those areas,” says Shawn Epping Engelberg, Trustee, Epping Family Foundation. “We commend the way the Girl Scouts introduces and inspires girls into these fields, and we believe the Girl Scout programs will help develop successful women working in impact fields.”

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## **ABOUT OMSI FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT**

**WHO:** Hundreds of Girl Scouts of all ages, their family members and friends; Troop Leaders | Volunteers; Staff

**WHAT:** Third Annual Oregon Museum of Science and Industry-OMSI Family Science Night with Girl Scouts of Oregon and SW Washington; Sponsored by First Tech Federal Credit Union and Epping Family Foundation

**WHEN:** Monday, April 23, 2018, 6 - 8 p.m.

**WHERE:** Oregon Museum of Science and Industry—OMSI, 1945 SE Water Ave., Portland, Ore. 97214

**REGISTRATION:** Community event open to registered Girl Scouts, their family members and friends. All attendees must register for this event. Please visit: <http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/en/sf-events-repository/2018/oregon-museum-of-science-and-industry--omsi--family-science-nigh.html>

**PARKING:** There is limited parking at the facility and street parking nearby. Parking cost is included in admission. Carpooling is encouraged.

**QUESTIONS?** Please email [activities@girlscoutsosw.org](mailto:activities@girlscoutsosw.org).

## **INTERESTED MEDIA—PLEASE R.S.V.P.**

Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington's Director of Communications, Sarah Shipe; Program Manager, Lisa Gilham-Luginbill; and STEM Program Specialist, Shannon Joseph; as well as Girl Scouts, will be available on-site for media interviews at OMSI Family Science Night.

Interested media should R.S.V.P. to [communications@girlscoutsosw.org](mailto:communications@girlscoutsosw.org).

## **ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS COMMITMENT TO STEM PROGRAMMING**

To learn more about GSOSW's STEM programming, please see: [http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/en/our-council/news/2018/explore\\_science\\_tech.html](http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/en/our-council/news/2018/explore_science_tech.html)

Girl Scouts of the USA's STEM Pledge is a multiyear initiative to put 2.5 million girls through progressive hands-on STEM programs by 2025. Donate at: <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/adults/donate/STEM-pledge.html>.

## **ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS OF OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON | GSOSW**

Our council serves 13,955 girls in 38 counties with the help of over 10,000 volunteers. The Girl Scout mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Every opportunity in Girl Scouting, including the Girl Scout Cookie Program, develops these essential skills in an all-girl, inclusive, safe environment. For more information, please visit [girlscoutsosw.org](http://www.girlscoutsosw.org).

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