

# STEM + Computer Science x Creativity Team



**Principal Investigator (PI). Dr. Ann Robinson** is a professor at UA Little Rock and founding director of the Jodie Mahony Center for Gifted Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is past president of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC), and has been honored by NAGC as Early Scholar, Early Leader, Distinguished Scholar, and for Distinguished Service. She developed five Jacob K. Javits projects including two STEM research and demonstration programs for elementary students and teachers. An internationally known scholar, she is the lead author on the best-selling *Best Practices in Gifted Education: An Evidence-Based Guide* and coeditor of *A Century of Contributions to Gifted Education: Illuminating Lives*. Her *Blueprints for Biography* curriculum guides provide teachers with enrichment strategies for using biographies to foster engagement.



**Co-Principal Investigator (C-PI). Dr. Jill L. Adelson** is Research Scientist at Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP), has a doctorate in educational psychology with a joint emphasis in Measurement, Evaluation, and Assessment as well as Gifted Education from the University of Connecticut. She holds a Certificate in Quantitative Research Methods in Psychology. Dr. Adelson brings both content expertise (elementary school gifted/mathematics education background) as well as methodological/statistical expertise. Her background as an elementary school teacher of a self-contained gifted program along with her educational background in mathematics education is important to implementation issues in an effective STEM intervention in the elementary grades.



**Curriculum Director (CD). Dr. Christine Deitz** is the Associate Director for the Jodie Mahony Center for Gifted Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is a nationally recognized educator in gifted, creative, and talented education. During her 26 years of public school service, she was a College Board faculty consultant in social studies. Christine is a two-time National Board Certified Teacher and the coordinator of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Support Site at UA Little Rock. A recipient of multiple national educator and curriculum awards, Dr. Deitz was recognized as Doctoral Student of the Year and received the A. Harry Passow Classroom Teacher Award from the National Association for Gifted Children. She is the author of articles on gifted education and is the President of the state's advocacy association, Arkansans for Gifted and Talented Educat



**Technical Assistance Director (TAD). Kristy A Kidd** Kristy Kidd is the STEM Starters+ Director, a Jacob K. Javits research and demonstration project, at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Kristy has 21 years of experience teaching elementary and middle school science. She has also served as a gifted and talented facilitator for the Little Rock Schools, an adjunct professor of early childhood science methods for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and as the k-12 math and science specialist for the eStem Public Charter Schools. Kristy is the recipient of the Milken National Educator Award which honors top educators around the country for their achievements in education.



**Engineering Education Consultant (EEC). Dr. Christine Cunningham** is a leading expert on science and engineering education. She received her doctorate in Science Education from Cornell and is currently professor of education and engineering at The Pennsylvania State University. In 2017, she was awarded the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education which recognizes individuals who have made innovative and significant contributions to changes in P-12 Education.