



## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Bicycle Club Celebration

## STEM bicycle club

It ended up being a perfect, warm, sunny day on Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> after threats of rain earlier in the week had the [Greater Cincinnati STEM Collaborative](#) (GCSC) team nervous. Music flowed from the Blegen Library Lawn in front of GCSC's home, UC's College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services (CECH) that was soon accompanied by the voices of 350 people, 220 of which belonged to students in STEM Bicycle Clubs.

As clubs began arriving, they were instructed to line their bikes up in designated areas. The students then participated in yard games like cornhole or hula hoop while the "Bike Tune Crew" checked every bike for safety concerns. The "Bike Tune Crew" was led by Chris Schmidt and Dave Goldberg, longtime GCSC volunteers, with help from GE employees and other local bike enthusiasts.

The day got started with the "Opening Ceremony" which included:

- Welcome from Dr. Kathie Maynard, UC Associate Dean of Educational Innovations and Community Partnerships, and background on the STEM Bicycle Club
- Pump up speech from "Captain Fun", Casey Fischer of Cincinnati Public Schools
- Q&A session with Kobey, from Ockerman Middle School, about his club experience
- Awarding the two Marvin Masterson Volunteer Award 2019 Winners – GE employee, Randi Batts and UC engineering student, Matthew Eblen
- Announcing the raffle winners – Norwood Middle School won the raffle for a 3d Printer and 3d Printers Club for the 2019-2020 school year

After the "Opening Ceremony", the fun dialed up to a 12 as clubs broke into groups and rotated through different activities. Club members ate a delicious lunch provided by a local, family-owned caterer, were recognized for their achievements, or took a bike ride across campus.

During the recognition portion of the day, clubs came up one by one and shook the hands of GCSC team members. Each student also received a gift bag of special bike tools that will help them repair and tune their bikes.

The campus ride and scavenger hunt led students and family members through UC's sprawling campus. You could hear the "woahs" of the students as they rode past buildings and the "one day, you could be a bearcat" comments from parents and club leaders.

We'd be remiss not to mention Miss C, 5 year old daughter of Brighton Center STEM Bicycle Club Leader, who stole the show with her energy. To close out the day she thanked the clubs for coming and for their hard work, and then sang us a song.



The [STEM Bicycle Celebration](#) is the perfect event to bring our at-school, after-school club season to an end – celebrating the achievements and hard work of students. It's block party- like atmosphere also makes it the perfect event to welcome summer and get ready for all a Summer of STEM has to offer.

### What is STEM Bicycle Club?

A 10 weeklong GCSC program that had 26 clubs running during the 2018-2019 school year across OH, KY, and IN. During the at-school, after-school club, students are each given their own bike they reverse engineer with the support of a club leader and volunteer mentors. The STEM Bicycle Club curriculum was written to build students' making and problem-solving skills and to help them gain confidence which they will need when they pursue STEM education and careers.

STEM Bicycle Clubs are supported by Duke Energy Foundation, Charles H. Dater Foundation, The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile Jr/ U.S. Bank Foundation, GE, Cummins, Colonel De, Bicycle and More, The University of Cincinnati, and many other partners across the Greater Cincinnati Region.