

Our Mission

The Massachusetts Academy of Sciences seeks to stimulate engagement in science, promote quality scientific research, improve scientific instruction, disseminate scientific knowledge, and recognize high achievement in science education, research and its applications.

To fulfill this mission, the Academy has set these broad goals:

- **Encourage** the discovery, understanding, dissemination, and practice of science and its applications.
- **Facilitate** professional development and training of scientists and science educators.
- **Provide** scientific advice to local, state, and federal governments.
- **Promote** innovation and adoption of new technologies.
- **Monitor**, report on, and advocate for funding opportunities for research and education.
- **Promote** public understanding and appreciation of science.
- **Publish** and disseminate original contributions to education, science, and its applications.
- **Encourage** young people to become involved in science through support of the Massachusetts Junior Academy of Sciences.
- **Award** high achievement in science education and its applications.



"Massachusetts is one of the world's leading centers of science. To connect its citizens to this intellectual bounty and spread its benefits to all, the Commonwealth needs a very visible organization devoted to the intersection of science, education, and public service. It also needs a consulting service to strengthen regional leadership in government and business. The Massachusetts Academy of Sciences is designed to fill both these roles." - E.O. Wilson

MAS Outreach

- We initiated the already highly successful afterschool STEM mentoring program, Engage in STEM (E-STEM) (<http://projectengagesite.com>), which pairs undergraduate mentors with middle school students engaged in independent research projects, and, in partnership with the Massachusetts State Science & Engineering Fair, provides professional development in inquiry-based learning to their teachers;
- We created a STEM education reform initiative, Students Improving STEM Education (<http://studentsimprovingstemedu.wordpress.com/>), which gives a voice to undergraduate STEM majors;
- We created and maintain a leading science education and outreach web site (www.massacademysciences.org);
- We sponsored 25 of the most talented high school students in the state to represent Massachusetts at the 2009-2012 AAAS National Science Fair Competitions;
- We have garnered several prestigious STEM education awards, including a Science Educator of the Year Award (Executive Director, Jenna Farrell) from the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers, and an Outstanding Outreach Award from the College of Natural Sciences at UMass (President, Peg Riley).
- We have elected a growing body of Academy Fellows, which now number 59 and represent the very best in STEM research and education in the Commonwealth.