JINA Outreach at NSCL



The Goals for Outreach

- Rising Above the Gathering Storm:
 - A Report by the National Academies of Science
 - "Summer research programs stimulate student interest and achievement in science..."
 - "...the committee recommends a summer education program for 50,000 classroom teachers each year."
 - "Professional development for teachers increases student achievement in science."
 - "The system of national laboratories ... can be tapped for continuing education of K-12 teachers."

Physics of Atomic Nuclei (PAN)

Organization: JINA/NSCL Grade Level: HS Teachers and Students

- The 2-week PAN program, now in its 14th year, features:
 - Faculty lectures on nuclear science and cutting-edge research
 - Radiation laboratory experience
 - Building a cosmic ray detector and conducting self-designed experiments
 - Experience and tools for teachers to use in the classroom
 - A taste of research at a large institution for students





JINA Art-to-Science

Organization: JINA Grade Level: K-6th grades

- Young students learn about astronomy through creativity
 - Grants to classrooms provide:
 - Elementary-level books on stars, planets, observing, etc.
 - Art supplies
 - After reading the books, the students paint astronomical phenomena that inspire them
 - Their artwork is displayed at JINA frontier centers and on the JINA website



JINA Classroom Mini-Grants

Organization: JINA Grade Level: Any

- Putting technology in the classroom
 - Teachers may apply for any equipment/materials they could use to teach subjects related to Nuclear Astrophysics
 - JINA has provided:
 - Cameras for spectroscopes
 - Telescope eyepieces
 - Geiger counters
 - Mini planetaria
 - Cloud chambers
 - CPEP Nuclear Science Charts
 - And much more...



Mini-PAN

Organization: JINA/NSCL Grade Level: High School

- A day at a world-class nuclear research laboratory
 - Tour NSCL
 - Hear faculty lecture on the nature of cosmic rays and cutting edge research
 - Learn to operate a cosmic ray detector
 - Conduct small-group experiments on cosmic rays
 - Return to school with data for further analysis and discussion



Magnetic Marble Nuclei

Organization: JINA/NSCL Grade Level: 6th-8th grades

- This introduction to isotopes lets groups:
 - Explore nuclear properties by building a model nucleus with magnetic marbles and then smash it
 - Touch on subjects such as unstable isotopes, decay modes, nuclear reactions...
 - Learn how NSCL creates and studies rare isotopes



Looking ahead for outreach

- Through current programs and more to come, we will continue to provide what the teachers and students need most
 - For teachers: access to new equipment and continuing education to help them bring nuclear science to the classroom
 - For students: a chance to experience science in action, find inspiration, and discover new careers

