

# AAST NEWSLETTER

[AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET](http://AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET)



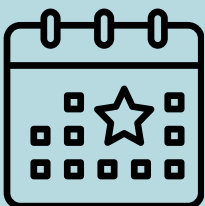
Nov. 4 - Nov. 8, 2024

## SC Aquarium Field Trip

On Thursday, Environmental Engineering and Marine Science students visited Water Mission, a non-profit in North Charleston. They engaged in a role-play exercise about fleeing to a refugee camp and obtaining clean water, followed by a tour of the facility that provides solar-powered water filtration systems globally, including areas affected by Hurricane Helene. Later, at the South Carolina Aquarium, students acted as Sea Turtle Biologists, performing measurements, analyzing x-rays, and simulating lab tests to determine the causes of sea turtle strandings. It was an enlightening experience!



### Upcoming Events



**VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY**  
NOVEMBER 11

**THANKSGIVING MEAL**  
NOVEMBER 18

**SIC**  
NOVEMBER 21, 5:00PM

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**  
NOVEMBER 25-29

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
DECEMBER 6

**OPEN HOUSE**  
DECEMBER 10

**ASVAB**  
DECEMBER 12

**WINTER DANCE**  
DECEMBER 13

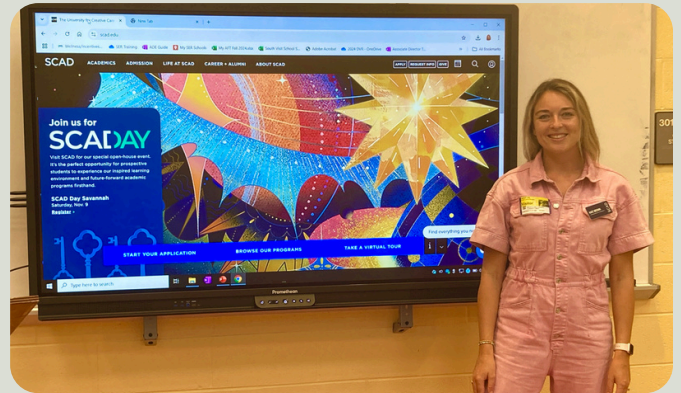
**HOLIDAY BREAK**  
DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 3

## Guest Speaker: Patrick Hunter, Goodwyn Mills Cawood



Patrick Hunter from the engineering firm Goodwyn Mills Cawood came in to present to Environmental Engineering seniors about his career pathway and current projects as an environmental engineer!

## Guest Speaker: Kate Brown, Savannah College of Art and Design



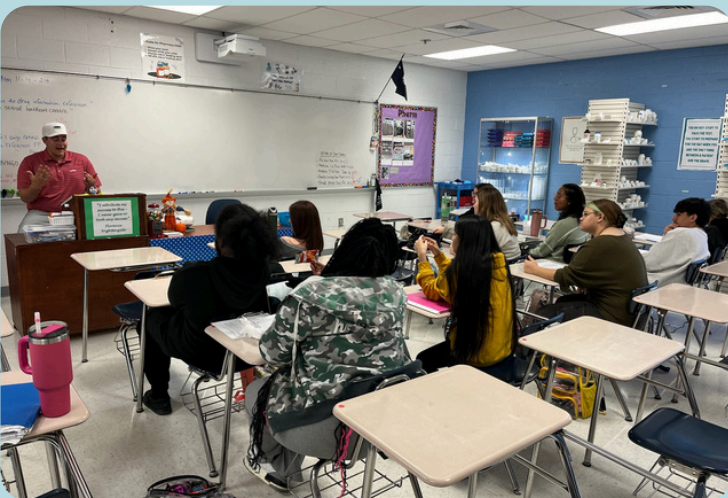
Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) representative, Kate Brown, visited to speak to our Art, Entertainment Technology, and Digital Communications students about the many wonderful programs SCAD has to offer.



## Technical Theatre Learning Makeup Techniques

Technical Theatre students are starting a new unit focused on stage makeup. The initial lesson covered the techniques of highlighting and contouring to create the appearance of aged hands.

## Guest Speaker: Drake Rhodes, AAST Alumni



John "Drake" Rhodes, an AAST Pre-Medicine completer from the class of 2023, visited Mrs. Watson's 2nd-block Pharmacology for Medical Careers Honors class and spoke with the students about college, HOSA, and his experience working as a Pharmacy Technician. Drake is currently a sophomore at College of Charleston, and has been accepted into the pharmacy program at MUSC. He works as a pharmacy technician at Delta Pharmacy and MUSC Hospital and has earned two additional certifications: non-sterile products compounding and SC state certification.

## AAST Alumni, Bailey Johnson

Bailey Johnson, AAST Computer Science major Class of 2017, sent us an update on how he's working with AI tools in his career at Flexport:



Over the past year or so I've gone from not using any kind of AI tools to assist me with my work to using them almost every day. My most frequent use case is generating tests for new code, closely followed by using it to debug errors from our type checkers/linters/etc. Advanced auto-complete is something else I use a lot and is sometimes scary-good. If I'm building new frontend components and have design mockups then I'll usually drop a screenshot into my prompt and use the output as a starting point (rather than trying to build them from scratch).

I'm using Cursor with the October build of Claude 3.5 Sonnet. Sonnet seems to give the best results and hallucinates less than the other leading models right now (at least for my use cases). The 200k context window means I can almost always fit all the files I need in the initial request. I think the results from o1-preview/mini are impressive but it's too slow right now which makes 3.5 Sonnet a better option day-to-day. I'm still excited to see where chain-of-thought goes and I'm looking forward to the full o1 release.

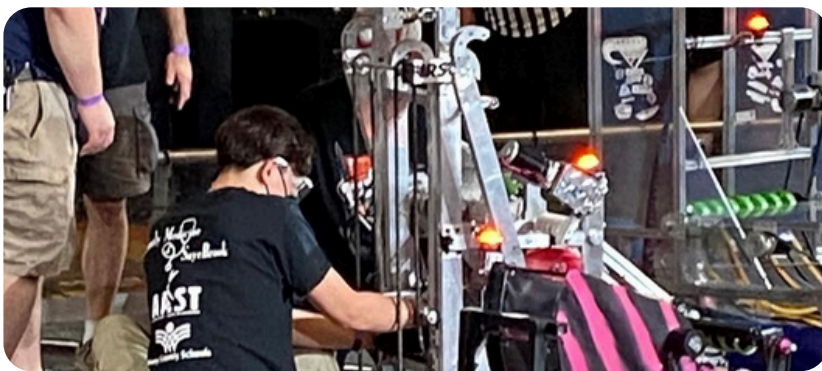
While it's not quite at the point where I can throw instructions + enough context at a model to have it build entire features in our codebase, I think it's getting there. If I do that it usually seems to take me longer to debug things the model gets wrong than it would've to just build features myself but I'm not sure how much longer that will be the case.

# Major Spotlight

## Innovations in STEM with Core Engineering

**Innovations in STEM with Core Engineering** students are introduced to the core fundamental concepts of science and technology through authentic projects. Through these projects, students will develop an understanding of the relationship between the physical, biological and social world. Students will gain an understanding of the differences between science and technology, and learn that technology is a process for applying science.

Innovations in STEM will appeal to students who want to use a hands-on approach to solving STEM-related projects and problems that are authentic to the real world and the global workforce. The Innovations in STEM program will develop students' technological literacy and stimulate their interest in pursuing a career in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). This STEM program will provide students with the knowledge and hands-on experiences they need to be successful in the new global workforce. Students in this major have an enthusiastic curiosity and enjoy challenges that involve solving complex real-world problems.

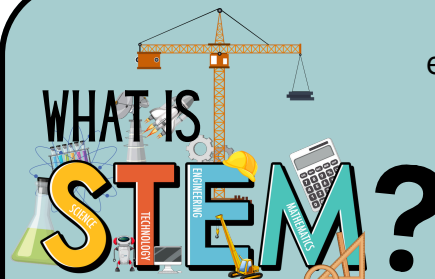


Career Pathways	Median Salary
Industrial Engineer	\$94,500
Mechanical Engineer	\$99,510
Materials Engineer	\$100,738
Nuclear Engineer	\$124,736
Robotics Engineer	\$113,471
Architectural Engineer	\$91,420
Mechatronics Engineer	\$103,380
Electrical Engineer	\$100,830

### Opportunities



- Industry Standard certifications
- Local and Community mentors
- Innovation and research
- Field Experiences
- Project Based Learning



STEM is a philosophy of education embracing teaching skills and subjects in a way that resembles real life. STEM is about discovering and creating ingenious ways of problem solving, integrating principles, or presenting information.

# Beta Club Fundraisers



## AAST FIELD OF FLAGS

*Fly a flag, honor a veteran*

The National Beta Club of AAST will be accepting donations for the **Disabled American Veterans**. For each donation received, an American flag will be planted in the school field to honor a veteran.

**WHAT:** Minimum of \$5 donation per flag

**HOW:** Donations may be made through MyPaymentsPlus or in-person at school through November 8

**WHEN:** Flags will be on display at AAST from November 8-18



## AAST Beta Club FALL FOOD DRIVE


Help us fight hunger and give hope to the community!

Drop off at bag check in the morning

**1-15 NOVEMBER**

Don't forget to check expiration dates!

Breakfast items	Lunch and dinner items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oatmeal</li> <li>Dry cereal</li> <li>Powdered milk</li> <li>Jelly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canned veggies</li> <li>Dry beans</li> <li>Hamburger Helper</li> <li>Canned pasta</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fruit cups / canned fruit</li> <li>Pop Tarts</li> <li>Pancake mix and syrup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canned meats (chicken, tuna, etc.)</li> <li>Pizza / taco dinner kits</li> </ul>
Desserts	Meals for the homeless
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cake / brownie mixes</li> <li>Apple sauce</li> <li>Pie fillings</li> <li>Jello and pudding mixes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vienna sausages</li> <li>Juice boxes</li> <li>Peanut butter</li> <li>Crackers</li> <li>Protein bars</li> <li>Canned pasta with pop top</li> </ul>
Extra pantry items (new / unopened)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laundry detergent</li> <li>Bleach</li> <li>Baby formula, food</li> <li>Diapers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Men's and women's socks</li> <li>Toothbrushes and travel-size toothpaste</li> </ul>



Please review the AAST Student Handbook linked below: [AAST Student Handbook](#)



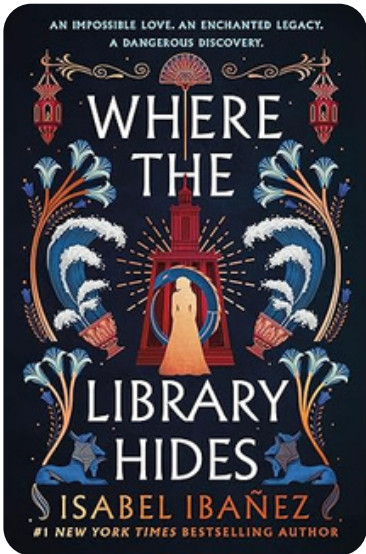
Click the links below to learn more about AAST's plans to keep our koi safe!

[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(English\)](#)

[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(Spanish\)](#)

[School Safety Poster](#)

### New @ the AAST Library



Inez Olivera traveled across the world to Egypt, seeking answers into her parents' recent and mysterious deaths. But all her searching led her down a perilous road, filled with heartache, betrayal, and a dangerous magic that pulled her deep into the past.

When Tío Ricardo issues an ultimatum about her inheritance, she's left with only one option to consider.

Marriage to Whitford Hayes.

Former British soldier, her uncle's aide de camp, and one time nemesis, Whit has his own mysterious reasons for staying in Egypt. With her heart on the line, Inez might have to bind her fate to the one person whose secret plans could ruin her.



# AAST

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

## Open House

Tuesday  
December 10  
6:00pm - 7:00pm

