

Welcome to Reach for the Stars! Be a Star!

STEM and Resource Fair for K-12 Students with Disabilities, Families and Friends! We are so glad you are here!

Welcome to Reach for the Stars!
Be A Star!



This event is organized by: Catalyst

Creating opportunities in STEM for students with disabilities, which is located at the Science House at the College of Sciences, NC State University. You can read more about our free, international, national, and local award-winning program on our webpage

https://sciencehouse.ncsu.edu/student_programs/catalyst



A special thank you to our sponsors, who make this event possible!



ThermoFisher
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A special thank you to the following businesses and people in our community that have donated supplies to help make this event so successful!

Frito-Lay, Ruckus Pizza, Learning Express, McAlisters Deli, Sassool, Publix, TrunkShow, Fresh Market, First Watch, American Red Cross, Panera Bread, Rhea Miles, Coca-Cola Consolidated, Triumph Gymnastics, SouthEastern Camera, Carolina Biological, Amazon, and Newark!

A special thank you to members of our local law enforcement, elected officials, and school administrators for taking the time to support our event!

Willie Rowe, Wake County Sheriff's Office

Marcia Morey, Zach Hawkins, Vernetta Alston
NC House of Representatives

Lisa Grafstein, North Carolina State Senate

Dr. Lorenza M. Wilkins
President, Chairman & CEO of Compas Youth Center

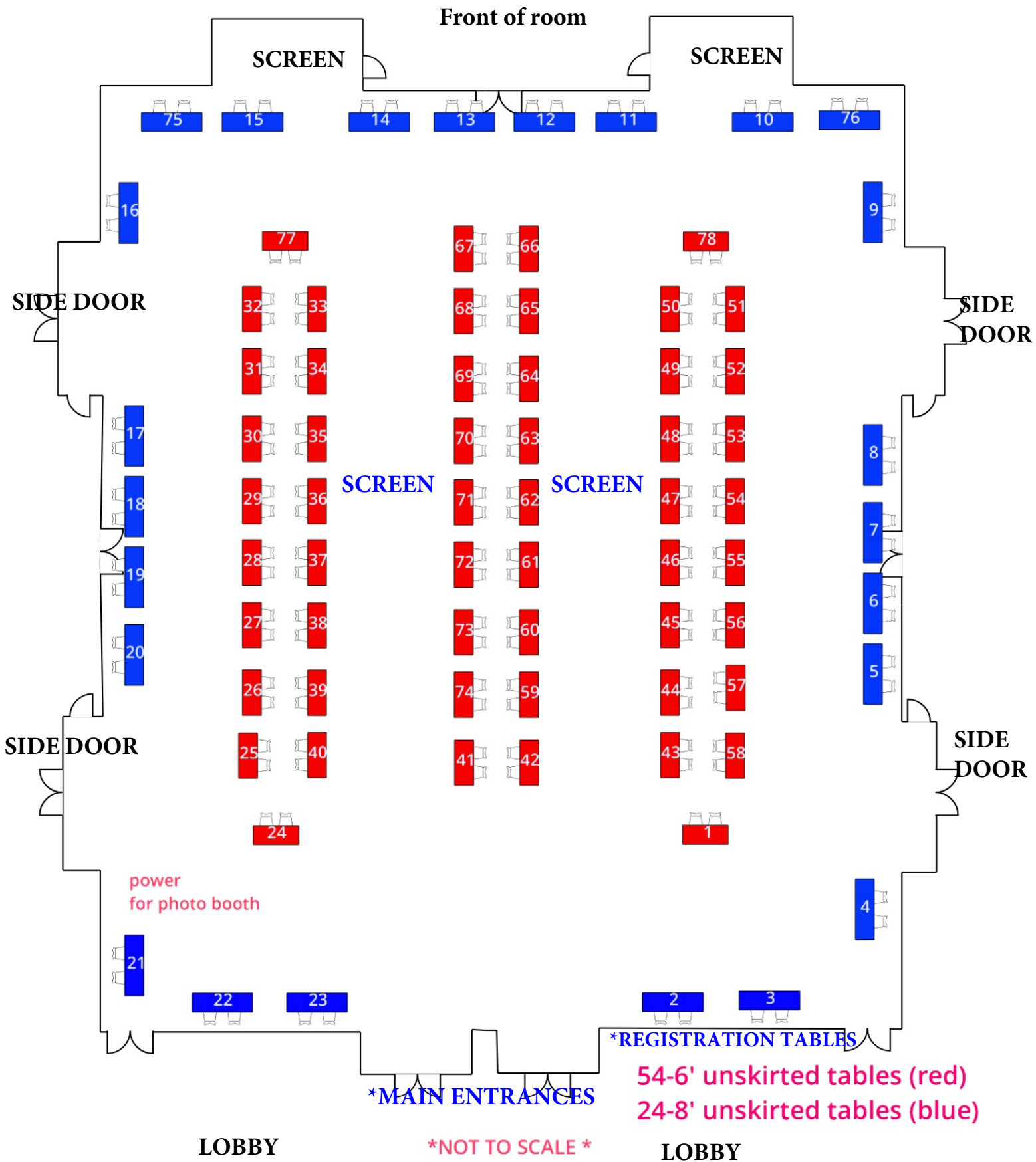
Felicia Moore
Dean of Students
Wake Early College of Information and Biotechnologies

Dr. Carol Ann Hudgens
Senior Director, Exceptional Children, NC DPI

Lastly, countless members of the NC State community and local organizations have put in so much effort to make this event a huge success. We cannot thank you all enough!

We appreciate you all!

Tables will be in room 1 and speaker presentations will be in room 3!



10 Feet

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Schedule of Speakers

Speaker presentations will be held in Room 3.

TIME & TOPIC

SPEAKER

9:30AM-10:00AM

Personal Art Journey
Hands-on Origami Activity

Alexander Roa

Alexander is a self taught, disabled origami artist and teaching artist located in Durham, NC and teaches origami across the state. Alexander is part of Arts Access's Art Link Project, which is a non-profit dedicated to creating positive impact at the intersection of arts, education and disability.

10:00AM-10:30AM

ADA Basics

Christina Bauman

Christina is the ADA Coordinator with the City of Raleigh Municipal Government. She works alongside the Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities which Addresses the Needs of People with Disabilities and their Families. This committee helps people with disabilities to participate in the economic and social life of the community, promotes employment of people with disabilities, and communicates their needs to local leaders and the public. The committee also sponsors activities benefiting people with disabilities and their families.

10:30AM-11:00AM

Supports in the STEM
Workplace for People with
Disabilities

Angela Martin

Angela is a Staff User Experience Designer at Lenovo, a certified Humane Technologist, and an advocate for inclusive, human-centered design. A Savannah College of Art and Design graduate with a Fine Art Bachelors in UX Design, she helps shape Lenovo's digital experiences for over 44 million users monthly. As Board Chair of ABLE, Lenovo's disability advocacy ERG, she drives internal accessibility initiatives, facilitates local community outreach and giveback programs, and builds a community of employees championing inclusive spaces. Recognized as a Future CX Leader by Reuters, Angela is committed to designing with intention—advancing Lenovo's vision for Smarter Technology for All.

11:00AM-11:30AM

Youth LEAD NC

Kay McMillian

Kay McMillian describes herself as a "disability rights hippie" and is the founding board chair of Youth LEAD NC. The life-changing experience at NCYLF gave her the confidence that led her to graduate college from NC State University, advocate for the greater inclusion of people with disabilities in her community, and live life to the fullest as a person with a disability. In 2019, Kay and a couple of her friends, all who had disabilities and felt like NCYLF had greatly impacted their lives, founded Youth LEAD NC. At Youth LEAD NC, Kay oversees all programming and activities of the organization. Kay also serves on the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Meredith Humi

Meredith joined the YLNC team in March of 2023. Previously, she worked at Disability Rights NC and the Raleigh Center for Independent Living, Alliance of Disability Advocates. She also served as the NC Chapter Director with the FSHD Society for 6 years.

11:30AM-12:00PM

Personal Life Story and
Benefits of Vocational
Rehab Services

Mark Svajger

Mark Svajger, based in Castle Hayne, NC, is currently a Senior Project Quality Manager - New Plants Project at GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy. Mark Svajger brings experience from previous roles at GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, Fluke Biomedical, Cardinal Health Radiation Measurements and Victoreen. Mark Svajger holds a Bachelor of Science - BS in Physics from Cleveland State University.