

2. Volunteer for a community event. Provide written documentation summarizing the experience.

My TSA chapter hosts a biannual STEM Academy, where we bring in 50 kids from our local elementary school to our Engineering Lab to create fun, tactical projects together that they can take home. Every time, the STEM Academy has a theme for that semester, and we raise \$8,000 for our chapter. My favorite semester had the Carnival theme. In this STEM Academy, we built carnival games like carousels, BuzzWire games, and catapults. Despite me being the one to watch over them, I was notoriously known for being the volunteer that all the kids laugh at. In fact, on the final day for that semester's STEM academy, I dressed up as a clown to entertain the kids! I played games with them and had a couple of dance battles, which taught me that I may not be as youthful as I thought I was. However, throughout my experience in volunteering, I learned how incredibly smart our future generation is. The very kids I danced and played with as a clown are future engineers, doctors, lawyers, and people who can bring good change into this world. I started to believe that by volunteering to help these children make engineering projects, I might inspire them to take the initiative to build and explore the world around them.