

# The Zebrafish Summer Institute

The Zebrafish Summer Institute (ZSI) is a transformative initiative aimed at revitalizing science education in Texas secondary schools. ZSI is committed to inspiring the next generation of scientists and creating a more diverse and inclusive STEM community. Traditional teaching methods often fail to inspire curiosity or provide practical scientific skills, creating barriers to STEM success, particularly among historically underrepresented student populations. The ZSI is directed by biomedical scientist and educator, Dr. Vinita Hajeri (top right) in collaboration with UT Arlington, the STARS team at UT Southwestern, and Region 10.



The Zebrafish excite my students, give them something long-term, as a living organism in class to take care of and be responsible for, and teach them to explain and explore many biological concepts from one inexpensive organism! - Tim Sears UT RGV UTEACH Program



## Empowering Solutions



**TRAINING & YEAR-ROUND SUPPORT** for teachers to directly address student disengagement in life sciences via the introduction of pioneering zebrafish-based teaching techniques, aligned with TEKS standards.



**ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION** through ZSI's cost-efficient approach that ensures schools with limited resources can engage in real-world scientific experiments, removing financial barriers to quality STEM education.



**DIVERSITY IN STEM** via the empowerment of historically underrepresented students to explore STEM fields, fostering a more inclusive STEM community.



**SCALABILITY & NATIONWIDE IMPACT** through philanthropic support, will allow ZSI to expand its successful model beyond the State of Texas, disseminating valuable resources to STEM educators nationwide.

## With your Support, We Can Make a Profound Difference

**\$10,000**

Covers aquariums, supply costs, curriculum development, assessment, and professional development workshop expenses for 24 teachers, impacting 3,600 students.



**\$25,000**

Expands the impact by including graduate student intern hiring and ZSI laboratory consumables for the year.



**\$50,000**

Comprehensive support, encompassing teacher recruitment, travel costs, and director support for the ZSI's execution.



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