

# Women **in** STEM CONFERENCE

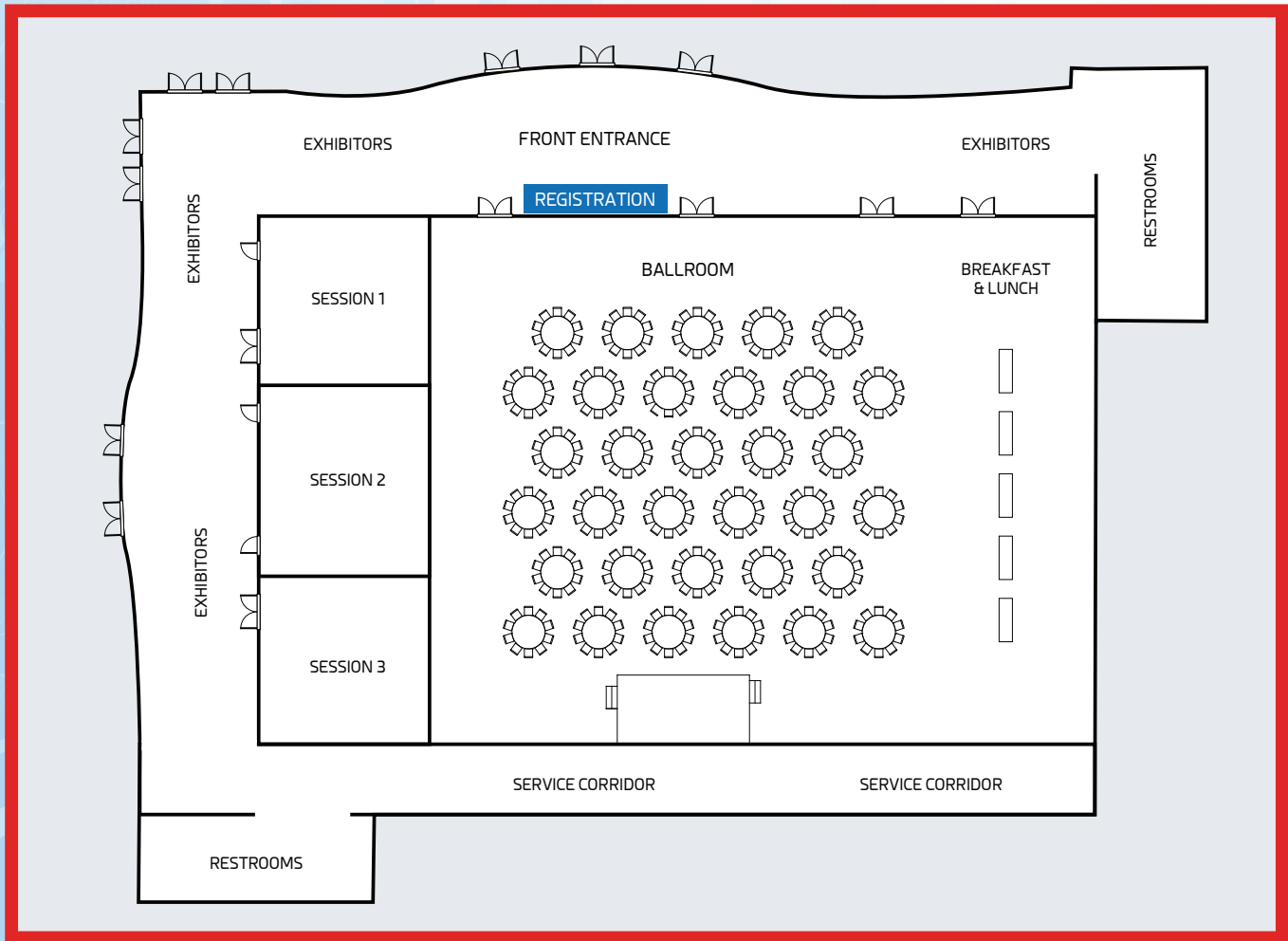


## AGENDA - FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026

7:45 am – 10:00 am	<b>Registration</b>	
7:45 am – 11:00 am	<b>STEM Competitions</b>	[Service Corridor]
8:45 am – 8:55 am	<b>Conference Opening</b> – Leonard Smith, ARDOT; Jurnee Taylor, THV 11	[Ballroom]
8:55 am – 9:10 am	<b>ARDOT Welcome</b> – Crystal Woods, ARDOT; Jared Wiley, P.E., Director, ARDOT	[Ballroom]
9:10 am – 10:15 am	<b>Panel Discussion</b> – <i>Moderator: Keli Wylie, P.E., ARDOT</i> Cindy Williams, Time Striping Dr. Stacy Williams, P.E., U of A Research Staci Staggs, CISCO Raven Simelton, TEKsystems Duke Alexander, Independent	[Ballroom]
10:15 am – 10:45 am	<b>Break – Visit Exhibitors</b>	
10:45 am – 11:15 am	<b>Breakout Session</b> – <i>Moderators: Trevis Bentley, ARDOT; Steven Lewis, P.E., ARDOT; DeAngelo Nelson, ARDOT</i> Session 1 – Bridget Aaron, Regions Bank Session 2 – Jennifer Beaty-West, Arkansas State Crime Lab Session 3 – Ty Bailey, West Rock Coffee	[Session Rooms]
11:15 am – 11:45 am	<b>Break – Visit Exhibitors</b>	
11:45 pm – 12:30 pm	<b>Lunch and Keynote Speaker</b> – Dr. Constance Meadors, Arkansas Space Grant Consortium	[Ballroom]
12:30 pm – 12:45 pm	<b>Announcement of STEM Competition Winners</b>	[Ballroom]
12:45 pm – 1:15 pm	<b>Break – Visit Exhibitors</b>	
1:15 pm – 1:45 pm	<b>Breakout Session</b> – <i>Moderators: Trevis Bentley, ARDOT; Steven Lewis, P.E., ARDOT; DeAngelo Nelson, ARDOT</i> Session 1 – Bridget Aaron, Regions Bank Session 2 – Jennifer Beaty-West, Arkansas State Crime Lab Session 3 – Ty Bailey, West Rock Coffee	[Session Rooms]
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	<b>Break – Visit Exhibitors</b>	
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	<b>Breakout Session</b> – <i>Moderators: Trevis Bentley, ARDOT; Steven Lewis, P.E., ARDOT; DeAngelo Nelson, ARDOT</i> Session 1 – Bridget Aaron, Regions Bank Session 2 – Jennifer Beaty-West, Arkansas State Crime Lab Session 3 – Ty Bailey, West Rock Coffee	[Session Rooms]
2:30 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b> – Patrick Thomas, ARDOT	[Ballroom]

Special thanks to Jurnee Taylor from THV11 for serving as our conference emcee.

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A note from the *visionary* behind the

## Women **in** STEM CONFERENCE

In September 2021, I became ARDOT's On-the-Job Training Supportive Services Specialist, bringing the program back in-house to strengthen its impact.

The Women in STEM Conference quickly became my passion—created to support young women pursuing careers in a traditionally male-dominated field by building confidence, connections, and opportunity.

I was inspired by my wife, who earned multiple STEM degrees, and my sister, who passed away in 2020 before she could use hers. Both believed deeply in equal access to education.

Now celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the conference has grown into an inclusive space for all. My goal is to continue building a strong foundation that connects students, educators, and industry professionals.

I look forward to growing this program for years to come and invite you to be part of it.

—Patrick Thomas, ARDOT