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Posted on April 8, 2008

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UpLink

URL: <http://www.yf-uplink.org/>



Mission:

To inspire students to pursue careers in math, engineering, technology, and science by connecting them with dynamic mentors, progressive teachers, and real-world learning experiences.

Background:

Developed and managed by the school-based mentoring organization **YouthFriends**, UpLink is an online hub connecting Kansas City-area businesses with students and teachers who want to increase their knowledge and skills in math, engineering, technology, and science (METS). Funded in part by the **Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation**, the initiative has just completed its pilot year.

Outstanding Web Features:

The UpLink hub has three core components: **YouthFriends** connects METS professionals with student mentoring opportunities in area schools; **TeacherTech** connects teachers with paid METS-related summer externships with area employers; and **LaunchPad** connects middle and high school students with METS-related internships and job shadowing opportunities provided by local employers as well as a career-related volunteer speakers' bureau. The UpLink site also offers **video overviews** of each component, a chart of **partnering opportunities** for area

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GRANTSEEKER TRAINING INSTITUTE

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businesses, **application timetables** for each program component, and a list of **founding partners**.

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