Children's Museum will expand summer

By Nathaniel Cary
Staff Writer
ncary@greenvillenews.com

The Children's Museum of the Upstate will expand its summer hands-on learning activities for preschool and elementary school children through a grant from Cognizant Technology.

The grant, worth $24,500, is designed to engage children in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education with hands-on activities.

The children's museum will launch six weeks of summer camps for preschool and elementary school students and will expand its elementary school camp capacity from 40 children to 60 children a week.

The camps will revolve around STEM activities such as electronics, robotics, computer programming, digital fabrication, 3D printing and wearable technology.

This marks the third time the children's museum has received a grant from Cognizant's Making the Future national grant program, said Nancy Halverson, the museum's president and CEO.

"Cognizant's support has allowed us to consistently increase our maker summer camp offerings and grow our capacity to serve more than 400 children this year," Halverson said.

programs

The museum will leverage the Cognizant grant with the museum's Smithsonian Affiliation and the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series for use in its summer camps, she said.

Cognizant is partnering with nonprofits across the country to fulfill a committment it announced in 2014 to provide 1.5 million hours of making experiences to 25,000 youth in over 200 communities by the end of 2017.