

## **University of Akron Diversity Action Grant 2008 Kids' Career Day for Girls**

The University of Akron's Diversity Action Grant was used by the ASME-UA student chapter in association with the UA Women in Engineering Program and the Society of Women Engineers student chapter. The grant was used to promote women in engineering at the "2008 Kids' Career Day for Girls." The program targeted girls in grades one through six. The goal was to encourage and support the interests of these children in the academic areas of science, technology, engineering and math. The purpose of Kid's Career Day for Girls is to help these girls identify their interests early in life, and consequently begin a more directed academic focus in the fields of engineering. The Diversity Action Grant was used to help offset the cost of upgrading materials for the program. An upgrade in materials greatly helped to enhance the learning experience for participants. Also, some of the funding was used to introduce four new scientific projects at the Career Day for Girls. These projects explored the areas of air bearings, friction in toy cars, industrial engineering, and properties of materials. The grant was also used to improve or replace eleven existing projects and build two hovercrafts for students to ride. The "2008 Kids' Career Day for Girls" successfully supported and promoted engineering and related science studies to the young girls that participated. The ASME Diversity Action Grant supported the efforts to provide an exceptional and lasting learning experience for the participants.

### **Summary**

**Partnering Organizations:** Lockheed Martin, McDonald's Corp., Ruhlin Corp., Babcock and Wilcox, CT Consultants, NASA, Girl Scouts NEO, Society of Women Engineers UA student chapter, University of Akron, ARCADIS, Go Jo Industries

<b>Overall Attendance:</b>	576
<b>Girls:</b>	356
<b>Minorities:</b>	200+
<b>Grant:</b>	\$1170
<b>Budget for Event:</b>	\$9800

### **Survey**

**66.7%** rated program to be **excellent**

**98.2%** said they had **fun**

**93.5%** said they would **come back next year**

**100%** of parents believed it had a **positive effect on their child**