

Science World's 5th Annual Girls & STEAM Teaches Youth Coding, BYOR (How to Build Your Own Robots) and Offers Mentorship in Action Packed Day-Long Event

Attendees to hear from keynote speaker Tanya Gupta, renowned Art Director, first Indian American selected for Adobe Creative Residency, and former NASA engineer

Photos are available at this <u>link</u>.



October 26, 2022, Vancouver BC - Science World's annual *Girls & STEAM* (science, technology, engineering, arts + design, and math) summit is back on November 5th in-person this year after 2-years of virtual delivery. This free, action-packed day of workshops will host 300 girls aged 12-14 who will participate in fun, hands-on activities, sessions with STEAM mentors, a community showcase, and a keynote presentation from <u>Tanya Gupta</u>. Tanya is a New York-based art director, multimedia artist, and content creator. A former NASA aerospace engineer, she worked on a prototype Martian aircraft which now sits at the Smithsonian, and owns a software patent with Kennedy Space Center!

Girls and STEAM is a Science World program that encourages young girls and women to pursue their scientific interests and explore careers in STEAM by expanding their knowledge of and access

to STEAM opportunities. Amongst the activities, participants will learn to build robots, view an Atmospheric River event in hologram 3D, design an electrochemical cell, and much more.

"There is a significant gender gap in the number of girls and women entering STEAM studies and careers in Canada today," said Dana Higgins, Director of Public Programs & Engagement at Science World. "The likelihood of a girl enrolled in grade one in Canada going on to receive a PhD in science or engineering is one in 223. For a boy, it's one in 117. We know that early and positive engagement in STEAM, real life connections and access to champions in STEAM fields can greatly impact a girl's decision to pursue STEAM in high school and post-secondary."

While the terms "women" and "girls" are used for this program, we invite attendees and mentors who identify as women, girls, trans, genderqueer, non-binary, two-spirit, and gender questioning.

Girls and STEAM dispels myths about STEAM fields and gives girls a welcoming space to engage in STEAM-based activities in order to increase their interest and confidence. It also highlights the local community and resources available to girls and women in STEAM.

Media are invited to attend:

When: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Saturday, November 5th

What: Capture footage of the girls participating in activities, mentor sessions, and community showcase. Interviews available with Science World spokespeople, event participants, as well as keynote speaker, Tanya Gupta.

Where: Science World, 1455 Quebec Street

During the event, a sponsor and community showcase will run throughout the dome from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm for attendees and the public to experience. This will feature eye-popping science shows, tabletop demonstrations, and opportunities to connect with role models and mentors to explore science fields and the cool science happening right here in our community. The Showcase is open to all youth with entry to Science World and will feature science demonstrations from 24 different organizations.

There will be over 40 mentors present for the girls to connect with. Backgrounds of the mentors include Vaccine and Therapeutic Development, Biomedicine/Immunology, Animation, Product Design, Stem Cell Research, Biology, Civil Engineering, Operations and Leadership, Aerospace, Structural Engineering, Infrastructure Development, and Mining.

Learn more about Girls & STEAM at https://www.scienceworld.ca/girls-and-steam-summit/

About Science World

Science World is a BC-based charitable organization that engages the people of British Columbia in STEAM literacy. Their mission is to ignite wonder and empower dreams through science and nature. Their vision is that within a generation, Canada will be a country of thriving, sustainable communities rooted in science, innovation and a deep connection to nature.

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