

Aerospace Engineer Dr. Farah Alibay Set to Inspire 300 Girls Aged 12-14 at Science World's Girls and STEAM Summit



Keynote from Dr. Alibay, an Aerospace Engineer working on robotic missions that explore our solar system, will headline an action-packed day of STEAM mentorship and workshops

Photos from the 2024 Girls & STEAM event can be found here.

Vancouver, BC, November 6, 2025 – <u>Dr. Farah Alibay</u>, a renowned French-Canadian Aerospace Engineer in the United States who has worked on several robotic exploration missions, including the Perseverance rover, is set to inspire at Science World's <u>Girls and STEAM Summit</u> (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts + Design, and Math), presented by STEMCELL Technologies. During her keynote, Dr. Alibay will share her inspiring journey from facing educational obstacles to achieving her dream of working on robotic space exploration missions. She'll share strategies she used to build self-confidence and a place for herself in a male-dominated field.

On November 15th, 300 girls aged 12-14 will spend the day exploring the incredible possibilities of careers in STEAM fields at the Girls and STEAM Summit. This event is a vital step in bridging the



persistent gender gap in critical STEAM sectors. In Canada, women currently comprise only <u>24% of entrants into STEM bachelor's programs</u>. Aligned with Science World's mission of "Science for All," this event directly addresses that disparity by igniting passion and providing real-world mentorship to young girls and women.

"Girls and STEAM is a year-round initiative, and this is our marquee event where we get so many great minds into one room, making it a powerful catalyst for change," says Issy Worrall, Manager, Public Programs and Engagement at Science World. "Hundreds of enthusiastic young participants get the chance to learn from and engage with over 150 different STEAM professionals and organizations for a day of discovery. By nurturing the next generation of female innovators, we can fuel progress and unlock the full potential of our future workforce."

A Day of Inspiration: From Local Experts to Space Exploration

- In her keynote sessions, Aerospace Engineer Dr. Farah Alibay will share her path from a small town in Quebec to a pioneering role in a male-dominated field.
- Throughout the day, participants will have the opportunity to meet female STEAM role models and learn about diverse roles through the mentor café sessions.
- Participants will dive into hands-on workshops, exploring fundamental DNA extraction lab techniques, crafting custom mug designs using sublimation technology and experimenting with Python to understand Artificial Neural Networks and Al behaviour.

Although the Girls and STEAM Summit is sold out, Science World visitors can still experience the excitement on November 15! Thirty interactive partner booths will be open all day across the building, offering everyone the chance to get hands-on with fun, engaging activities.

"Our commitment to the Girls and STEAM Summit is rooted in a belief that sparking curiosity in the next generation of scientists will lead to the future's most important scientific breakthroughs," said Dr. Kim Nelson, Director, Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility, STEMCELL Technologies. "STEMCELL is proud to be the presenting partner of the Girls and STEAM Summit for the third consecutive year, as we share Science World's passion for fostering science education and creating opportunities for young women and girls to envision themselves as future STEAM professionals."

Science World is committed to making STEAM accessible to everyone. While the program uses the terms "women" and "girls," the event is inclusive of attendees and mentors who identify as women, girls, trans, genderqueer, non-binary, two-spirit, and gender questioning. In addition to the Summit,



the Girls and STEAM initiative offers year-round online resources, workshops, and livestreams to further support participants' development. Visit scienceworld.ca to learn about the ongoing Girls and STEAM offerings throughout the year.

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About Science World

Science World is a charity that provides engaging and playful STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art & design and math) learning experiences. Visitors to the iconic dome in Vancouver explore interactive, hands-on exhibits, galleries and events that nurture discovery and inspire connection with their natural, physical and built environments. Beyond the dome, outreach programs inspire students, teachers and families in every region of British Columbia through virtual and in-person visits and programs. Science World's mission is to ignite wonder and empower dreams through science and nature. And their vision is a sustainable future filled with critical thinkers, problem solvers and wonder seekers. Learn more at scienceworld.ca.

About STEMCELL Technologies

STEMCELL Technologies, Canada's largest biotechnology company, provides over 2500 high-quality cell culture media, cell separation technologies, instruments, accessory products, and services to scientists around the world working on stem cell, immunology, cancer, regenerative medicine, and cellular therapy research. Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, STEMCELL is an anchor company and we are passionate about ensuring the success of the province's life sciences sector. We are Scientists Helping Scientists who are dedicated to improving lives by advancing knowledge and scientific discovery, fostering inclusion in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and investing in sustainability and corporate social responsibility. For more information, visit www.stemcell.com/our-responsibility.

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Media Contacts

Science World
Larissa Dundon
larissa@the-tea.co
604.649.5506

STEMCELL Technologies public.relations@stemcell.com