Cornell University
Sponsorship Packet 2021
What is Expanding Your Horizons?

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) is typically a one-day conference for 7th–9th grade students hosted on Cornell University’s campus. The goals of the conference are to stimulate the participants’ interest in math and science through these hands-on activities, to provide them with female scientist role models, and to foster awareness of opportunities in math and science-related careers.

We focus on providing hands-on workshop experiences in STEM which young women would not be exposed to in the classroom. Each year, the keynote speaker is a woman who is prominent in her STEM field. We strive to make EYH accessible for students of all backgrounds. For the past few years, participants have come from the majority of New York counties. We continue to offer scholarships for those who are unable to afford the registration fee, and we have been able to provide sign language interpreters and other accommodations to be inclusive to all participants.

Although the focus of the EYH conference is to provide hands-on learning experiences, we also organize a special session for accompanying adults to give them information on educational and career opportunities involving science, math, and engineering.

Last April, in just five weeks, we managed to convert our entire in person conference to a virtual format. During our nine hours of workshops, panels, and demos, we had over 450 participants from across the United States and Canada. The silver lining to the virtual format was our ability to increase the reach of our event. Going into our 2021 virtual conference, we hope to increase our impact even more by directly integrating EYH into the curriculum of schools by pairing up with teachers in New York state and beyond.
EYH 2021 Conference

Format

Synchronous and Asynchronous Content throughout April 2021

EYH 2021 will remain a virtual event for the safety of all participants and our communities. This year, we will be hosting a mix of synchronous and asynchronous content to maximize the accessibility of EYH for as many participants as possible. Whenever possible, synchronous events (such as hands-on workshops and live presentations) will be recorded and posted to our YouTube channel for on-demand viewing. Additional content (such as virtual lab tours or experiment demonstrations) will also be posted on YouTube and our website.

Synchronous Interactive Workshops

Live, interactive workshops will be presented remotely via Zoom during several school days throughout the month of April. We are working directly with educators across New York State and beyond to integrate EYH effectively into classroom curriculum. With accessibility always at the forefront, EYH has committed to providing necessary workshop supplies to teachers or participants who can serve as ‘distributors’ for their local area whenever possible.

Asynchronous Content

Pre-recorded content, including virtual tours of Cornell’s world-class laboratory facilities, will be posted on our website and YouTube channel for on-demand viewing. Recordings of most synchronous content will also be posted for students who are unable to attend live.

Live Online Conference

The month of EYH’s virtual content will culminate in an online conference on Saturday, April 24th designed to foster the strong EYH community. It will feature a keynote speaker, panels with professional scientists across all fields, and virtual lunchrooms where participants can meet and interact with each other and EYH workshop leaders.
History of EYH at Cornell

In 1987, a group of graduate students invited about 30 girls and parents to Cornell to discuss the benefits and impacts of math and science. The grad students discussed their degree programs, thesis projects, coursework, and how math and science had helped them achieve their goals. The girls asked questions about different majors, job opportunities and difficulties they might face. The girls said that they would like to do some experiments the next year, and EYH was born. In 1988, we found the Expand Your Horizons Network which is a nationwide non-profit that provides support and experience in hosting hand-on workshops that focus on middle school girls. The framework of the one day, workshop focused conference was created with the inspiration of the EYH Network. The conference model constructed in the late 80s is very similar to what we still run today.

EYH was initially offered to 6-8th graders, and over time, the program has evolved to focus on 7th-9th graders. Studies have shown that 7-10th grades are the critical years when girls lose interest in math and science, and that is why we have specifically geared our conference to cater toward this age group. From the beginning, Cornell’s EYH Conference has been organized and run by mostly graduate student volunteers from departments all over Cornell. From our humble beginnings, we have increased the number of young women from 30 to 300 in 2011 and now to just over 500. Similarly, the number of workshops has increased from 15 to over 30. Despite our expansion, the focus on hands-on science exploration has remained the same. This dedication to not only introducing the girls to science, but also to fostering a community, is now more important than ever.
The Volunteers

Expanding Your Horizons is not possible without 30+ graduate student committee chairs to organize the conference. Many Cornell graduate students, faculty, undergraduates, and staff volunteer to lead our workshops, perform experiment demonstrations, and record lab tours to make virtual EYH a reality. We have highlighted below the three conference chairs in charge of making the whole event run smoothly. A list of all conference chairs is available on the EYH website.

Berit Goodge
Conference Chair

Rachael Cohn
Finance Chair

Kara Zielinski
Fundraising Chair
EYH Sponsorship

Each year EYH depends on the sponsorship of donors within Cornell and beyond. All of our synchronous and asynchronous content is free for all participants, but we aim to provide workshop supplies to as many teachers and students as possible. To pay for the extra shipping costs of distributing all of these supplies we rely on donations.

Sponsoring EYH at Cornell is a visible way to show that you or your organization is committed to supporting women in STEM. We encourage donors to participate in the conference and thank our generous donors by displaying their logos in a variety of ways throughout the conference.

Donation: $2500+
- Logo included in keynote address
- Individual slide advertisement during live conference and YouTube content intro
- Extra large logo on the top of the sponsor webpage, YouTube content outro, and live conference sponsorship slide

Donation: $1000+
- Shared slide advertisement during live conference
- Large logo on sponsor webpage, YouTube content outro and live conference sponsorship slide

Donation: $500+
- Logo on sponsor webpage
- YouTube content outro
- Live conference sponsorship slide

Donation: <$500
- Name written on sponsor webpage
- YouTube content outro
- Live conference sponsorship slide

Non-monetary Support
- Donate workshop supplies
- Advertise to Schools
- Volunteer as Panelists

What could be the impact of a $500 donation to EYH?
- Supports five classrooms get one workshop supply kit each
- Funds materials for all experiment demonstration videos

Contact Kara Zielinski at kaz42@cornell.edu for more details.

Cornell University is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.

For Cornell donors, our account number is M09-3340. Please send us your eDoc#.