expanding your horizons network
powered by techbridge girls

Cornell University Sponsorship Packet 2026

What is Expanding Your Horizons?

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) is a one-day conference for 7th–10th 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 and students from other historically marginalized backgrounds would not otherwise 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, we have had participants from the majority of New York counties, and are always striving to increase our reach. We offer conference registration scholarships for those who are unable to afford the registration fee, and provide sign language interpreters and other accommodations to be inclusive to all participants. In 2022, we launched a bussing program to cover the costs of transportation, and this has brought hundreds of students to the EYH Conference from school districts that could not otherwise afford to attend.

EYH 2026 Conference Schedule

EYH will be held on March 28, 2026

The 7th & 8th grade students each participate in three workshops organized by Cornell students and faculty, while the 9th and 10th grade students participate in two extended workshops and will recieve tours of Cornell's world-class research facilities. Other highlights of EYH include a keynote speech by a prominent scientist and a display of science demonstrations, resources, and games that participants and their parents can access throughout the day. EYH also provides breakfast and lunch for all participants.

Junior Scientist Program

This track is designed for 7th and 8th grade students.

7:30-8:45	Breakfast
7:30-8:45	Registration
9:00-9:45	Welcome & Keynote Address
9:45–10:10	Participants escorted to Workshop 1
10:20–11:30	Workshop 1
11:45–12:30	Lunch and Demos (Purple Group) and Lab Tours (Green Group)
12:30–1:15	Lunch and Demos (Green Group) and Lab Tours (Purple Group)
1:35–2:45	Workshop 2
3:10–4:20	Workshop 3
4:20–4:30	Reconvene for Closing Remarks

Senior Scientist Program

This track is designed for 9th and 10th grade students, and offers a more in-depth experience.

7:30-8:45	Breakfast
7:30-8:45	Registration
9:00-9:45	Welcome & Keynote Address
9:55–10:05	Participants escorted to Demos
10:05–10:35	9th & 10th Grade Demos
10:45–12:25	Workshop 1
12:35–1:15	Lunch
1:30–2:15	9th & 10th Grade Activity
2:40–4:20	Workshop 2
4:20–4:30	Reconvene for Closing Remarks
4:30–5:00	Raffle Drawing

History of EYH at Cornell

In 1987, a group of graduate students invited about 30 students and parents to Cornell to discuss the benefits and impacts of math and science. The graduate students discussed their degree programs, thesis projects, course work, and how math and science training had helped them achieve their goals. The students asked questions about different majors, job opportunities, and difficulties they might face. After this meeting, the students said that they would like to do some experiments the next year, and EYH was born. In 1988, we founded the Expand Your Horizons Network, which is a nationwide non-profit that provides support and experience in hosting hands-on workshops that focus on middle school students. 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 run to this day.

EYH was initially offered to 6-8th graders, and over time, the program has evolved to focus on the 7th-10th grades. Studies have shown that 7-10th grades are the critical years when students lose interest in math and science, which 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 students from 30 in 1987 to 300 in 2011, and now to just over 500 in 2025. Similarly, the number of workshops has increased from 15 to over 30, and we now offer laboratory tours and science demonstrations. Despite our expansion, the focus on hands-on science exploration has remained the same. Our dedication to not only introducing the participants to science, but also fostering a community, is more important now than ever.

The Volunteers

Expanding Your Horizons is not possible without the 30+ graduate student committee chairs organizing the conference. Cornell graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, and staff volunteer to lead our workshops, perform experiment demonstrations, and curate lab tours to bring EYH to hundreds of students. Here we have highlighted the eight chairs in charge of bringing our event to life. A list of all conference chairs is available on the EYH website. You will likely see familar faces from your group,

The Executive Board

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EYH Sponsorship

Each year, EYH depends on the sponsorship of donors within Cornell and beyond. We keep our registration fee minimal to stay affordable for families and school districts. Because of that, our costs exceed our registration revenue, and we rely on donations to bring students to campus. Sponsoring EYH at Cornell is a visible way to show that you or your organization is committed to supporting young scientists pursuing STEM. We encourage donors to participate in the conference, and thank our generous donors by displaying their logos in a variety of ways before and during the event.

78 **Pt** Platinum $2500+

Donation: $2500+

- Logo included in keynote address
- One page advertisement in conference slide deck
- Access to table for advertising at during breakfast, lunch and closing remarks
- Extra large logo on the top of the sponsor webpage, publicity materials, and t-shirts

79 **Au** Gold $1000+

Donation: $1000+

- Access to table for advertising at during breakfast, lunch, and closing remarks
- Large logo on sponsor webpage, publicity materials, and t-shirts

47 **Ag** Silver $500+

Donation: $500+
Logo included on:

- sponsor webpage
- publicity materials
- t-shirts

What is the impact of your donation?

- $1500 = 1 school group of 30 students fully funded with transportation
- $500 = 25 conference scholarships
- $250 = materials for 5 workshops
- $100 = all supplies for 1 participant

29 **Cu** Copper <$500

Donation: < $500
Name included on:

- sponsor webpage
- publicity materials
- t-shirts

Contact

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or Lydia Guertin (lg673@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#