

PRESS RELEASE | Sept. 15, 2021

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INFLUENTIAL WOMEN AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING STEM PROFESSIONALS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT GIRLS ROCK SCIENCE EVENT FEATURING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL STEM LEADERS ON SEPTEMBER 25

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 15, 2021 — Aspiring scientists, inquisitive engineers, and budding explorers of all ages are invited to <u>Carnegie Science Center</u> on **Sat., Sept. 25** for <u>Girls Rock Science</u>. Activities will run from **10 am–5 pm** and include an immersive experience of how women and gender non-conforming individuals excel in science with a day full of inspiration and learning adventures.

"Girls Rock Science is a welcoming and inclusive event," said Sarah Grumet, Coordinator of Team & Community Programming at the Science Center. "We're honored to partner with local and national STEM leaders to bring their experiences and stories to our visitors and to positively influence the younger generation and get them motivated to join the STEM field."

Free with general admission, visitors to the family-friendly event will:

- Learn about different adaptations that birds have to survive in their specific environments with the National Aviary. Explore conservation and how you can make small differences to protect nature.
- Interact with several STEAM demonstrations and enjoy creative experiences with Assemble Pittsburgh.
- Examine artifacts ranging from pottery, stone tools, and animal bones created by the ancient Maya culture over 2000 years ago with archaeologists from the University of Pittsburgh. Plus, learn about the methods for examining artifacts to identify and document their details, and to figure out what they were used for by past peoples.
- Chat with experts from **Duolingo** about a day in the life of product management and how to get into this career path!

- Engage with an expert from the Center for Architecture Explorations at Carnegie Mellon University School of Architecture.
- Dig in to a gardening activity with North Hills Community Outreach.
- Experience how science is part of your everyday life though interactive activities related to the engineering and design of cosmetics with Women in Bio (WIB) and Young Women in Bio (YWIB). Learn about the science behind the food you eat from bacteria in your yogurt to the chemistry of cooking.
- Get a behind-the-scenes look at **Allegheny Observatory** with Dr. Sandhya Rao. Dr. Rao will talk about her research into the evolution of galaxies and show off the observatory's huge telescope.
- Stop by the H2Oh! gallery on the first floor to meet residents of the Science Center's Animal Habitats Department and discuss their care and feeding with our Environmental and Ecological experts. At 11:30 am and 1:30 pm, the Science Center's Animal Habitats specialists will lead a half-hour, family-friendly story time.
- Hear from Google's Site Reliability Engineer Abi Hunter and how she went from linguistics major to software engineer.
- Connect with Yuri Miyazaki, Integration Engineer in Software Technology at ICE Mortgage, for a
 presentation on, "A is for Average Empowering girls to strive for STEM careers regardless of
 what they think their academic strengths are."

In addition to the on-site activities, esteemed STEM leaders will join the Science Center virtually to give in-depth presentations and answer audience questions. Webinars will be streamed to the Science Stage at Carnegie Science Center and virtually through a Zoom Webinar. A Sign Language Interpreter will be present for each webinar.

- Dr. Deanna Sinex, Bioengineering professor at the University of Pittsburgh
 - \circ (10:30 am) "The skills and tools used in bioengineering and health literacy"
- Jennifer Sheridan, Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles at Carnegie Museum of Natural History
 - o (11:15 am) "Frogs: Who are they and why should you care?"
- Lynn Shay, Certified Professional Midwife at Meadowloft, LLC
 - (Noon) "Understanding what it's like to work as a primary nurse practitioner, midwife, and nurse educator."
- Mary McGlohon, Site Reliability Engineer at Google Pittsburgh
 - o (2 pm) "Solving technical and human puzzles in software engineering"

- Adeola Bannis, PhD candidate, Electrical and Computer Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University; Amelia Bonde, PhD candidate, Electrical and Computer Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University
 - o (3 pm) "Installing sensors on a farm to monitor sows and piglets."

Carnegie Science Center will also host a <u>Facebook Live</u> discussion at **noon** with four brilliant female and non-binary/gender-non-conforming STEM professionals in a **moderated roundtable conversation** about their inspirations, their experiences in the STEM workforce, and the advice they have for girls, GNC, and minority students interested in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Panelists include:

- Styger, Disaster Volunteer Coordinator at the City and County of San Francisco
- Carla Rosenfeld, Assistant Curator of Earth Sciences at Carnegie Museum of Natural History
- **Dr. Danielle M. Andrews-Brown**, Lecturer and Environmental Studies Program Coordinator at the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Geology and Environmental Science
- **Tiffani Teachey**, STEM Author and Senior Mechanical Engineer at Westinghouse Electric Company

Admission to Girls Rock Science is free with a general admission ticket to the Science Center. We strongly encourage you to purchase a timed-ticket <u>online</u> in advance (including Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh Members) to ensure availability.

To prevent the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant in areas with substantial/high transmission, Carnegie Science Center requires all visitors age 2 and above– vaccinated and unvaccinated – to wear masks while indoors.

Girls Rock Science is sponsored by PPG, WISH 99.7, PA Cyber Charter School, Clearway Community Energy, and Kennametal.

For more information, visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org or call 412.237.3400.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility.

Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or <u>info@carnegiesciencecenter.org</u>. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email <u>accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org</u>.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2018, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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