



Saturday STEM Academy

In Person

We're excited to announce that after two years the **Girls 4 Science Saturday STEM Academy** will be back in person for the Spring Session on *The Science of Cars*. The Spring session runs Saturdays, April 2 through May 7.

The curriculum will cover basic maintenance and emergency situations, including *The Basics: Know Your Car*, preventive maintenance and how to change a flat tire. Fast Lane Automotive Training will provide the instructors, automobiles and all tools and equipment necessary.

Transportation will be provided from Olive Harvey Community College, Malcolm X Community College and the University of St. Francis.

Photo (below): Girls 4 Science participants get a preview of The Science of Cars



Calling All Girls
10 – 18 Years
of Age ...

Saturday STEM Academy
6 Weeks of FREE science exploration,
field trips, mentorship

Saturdays: April 2 – May 7
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

GIRLS 4 SCIENCE

IN PERSON Spring 2022 Session:
THE SCIENCE OF CARS

2022 High School Program Sponsor:
Avantor

Fast Lane Automotive Training

Three Locations

- Olive Harvey Community College - Chicago, IL
- Malcolm X Community College - Chicago, IL
- University of St. Francis - Joliet, IL

REGISTRATION OPENS:
FEBRUARY 13, 2022 (For All Students)

All NEW and RETURNING Students Must Register @ www.girls4science.org click on the REGISTER TAB

Olive Harvey Program Coordinator –
Nasiba Carter (sailorvenus@aim.com)
Malcolm X Program Coordinator –
Dezarae Brooks (dezaraebrooks@imgredion.com)
University of St. Francis Program Coordinator –
Sandrine Davis (sandrine4@yahoo.com)

Certified Instructors • State of the art science laboratories • Increased self-esteem • Peer to peer mentoring

The Spring session will also include a field trip to the Aviation Institute of Maintenance to learn about careers in aviation maintenance.

Don't delay! Register Today!

Go to http://www.girls4science.org/programs_registration.html and click on the red "Registration" tab.

Winter Saturday STEM Academy

The Winter 2022 Saturday STEM Academy on *Mental Health* was held January 8 through February 12 on the Zoom platform. The participants learned mental health terminology, importance of mental health awareness, causes of mental illness, anatomy and physiology of the brain, neurons and the role of neurotransmitters, foundations for health and wellness, and mental health first aid. Activities included self-care, dissecting a sheep brain, creating a brain model using Play-Doh, building a neuron and therapeutic activities.

Photo (right): High school student Lexi Short dissects sheep's brain for the Winter Saturday STEM Academy on Mental Health.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Why does the U.S. celebrate Women's History Month every March? Women have always been part of history, but for centuries their participation in it was overlooked. Early history texts often excluded women altogether. Historians —

who were almost entirely men — often saw the past through the lens of the "great man" theory, which holds that history is largely shaped by male heroes and their struggles.

Inspiring the next generation: Meet 3 space station women engineers

Women of the International Space Station Program's workforce are trailblazers and contribute to the success of the orbiting laboratory in remarkable ways. From program management to research or mission integration, the numerous space station teams are rich with women engineers who work hard on the ground to ensure the seamless operation of the orbiting laboratory 250 miles above. [READ MORE](#)

National Women's History Month 2022: Girls 4 Science inspires young women in STEM - ABC7 Chicago

Girls 4 Science was featured by ABC7 Chicago on March 6 for Women's History Month. Executive Director Jackie Lomax described the program and highlighted the Saturday STEM Academy Spring session on *The Science of Cars*. See interview [here](#).

Smithsonian unveils 120 statues of women in STEM for Women's History Month

The Smithsonian is commemorating Women's History Month by honoring more than a hundred women who are changing the future. The Smithsonian unveiled a new historic exhibit, "#IfThenSheCan — The Exhibit," (*right*)



featuring 120 life-size 3D statues of women, who have excelled in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The museum called the historic exhibit the "largest collection of statues of women ever assembled." Each statue has a QR code that allows visitors to learn more about the figure depicted. Nicole Small, CEO of Lyda Hill Philanthropies, an organization that partnered with the Smithsonian on the exhibit, said the project was especially important for girls and young women to see. "We are calling this exhibit, the 'If Then She Can' exhibit because we know that if we show little girls all these amazing women doing all this amazing work in this world that each of them will know that they too can grow up and they too can change the world," Small said. [READ MORE](#)



Girls 4 Science salutes pioneering Black woman who designs interior of Cadillacs

Crystal Windham (*left*) became the first African-American woman Director of Interior Design at General Motors in 2008. She began her career at General

Motors in 1994, was appointed as Cadillac's Interior Design Director in 2016 and became Executive Director, Global Industrial Design at General Motors in 2021. Interior design is a nontraditional job most kids won't see advertised during Career Day, but the seeds of Windham's path were planted during her formidable years growing up in Detroit. "I found my passion early in the 10th grade after an art teacher told me that I had talent," recalls Windham. Windham earned a degree in Industrial Design from the College for Creative Studies, where a professor encouraged her to take her love for drawing and apply it to cars. "From there on, I've never looked back," she says.

GIRLS 4 SCIENCE STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, ALUMNI



Program Director

Dezarae Brooks, a G4S Program Coordinator at Malcolm X, has transitioned to Program Director as of Feb. 21, 2022. This half-time position is responsible for managing all aspects of the Saturday STEM Academy, including student recruitment, curriculum development and program evaluation. Brooks replaces Dominique Patterson who left to pursue other interests. Brooks is a Lead Chemist at Ingredion Inc., which she joined in 2008 as a microbiologist and chemist. She received her Bachelor of Science degree

Girls 4 Science Volunteer Mentors

Girls 4 Science Volunteer Mentors serve on the Program Committee, which identifies topics and helps develop the curriculum content for the Saturday STEM Academy, chaperone field trips, and mentor students during class. The Volunteer Mentors are Ambassadors for G4S, helping with outreach and recruitment of new students, and connections with new STEM partners. G4S would like to recognize and give thanks to three long-time Volunteer Mentors, who could have chosen any organization to serve. G4S is privileged to be the recipient of their time and talent year after year.

Jason Briski

Jason Briski has been a science teacher in Elgin, IL for four years. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Northern Illinois University in 2005 and completed teaching licensure coursework at Trinity Christian College in 2016. Jason has been a volunteer mentor at G4S since 2012, when he was working as a Quality Control Chemist at Cedar Concepts Corporation. His experience with G4S contributed to his decision to leave the corporate world and become a science teacher. Jason shares his love for science with the G4S participants and makes science accessible and interesting for the girls.



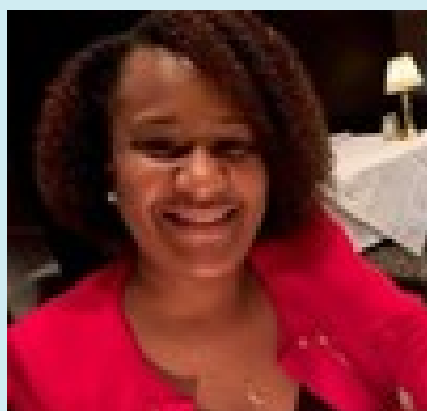
Grace Junge

Grace Junge has been a volunteer mentor for Girls 4 Science since 2020. She is a licensed professional engineer, LEED-accredited professional, and certified building commissioning professional, with over 10 years of experience in energy efficient equipment and controls for HVAC and industrial systems. She is currently Principal Engineer at Edison Energy. Grace received her Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



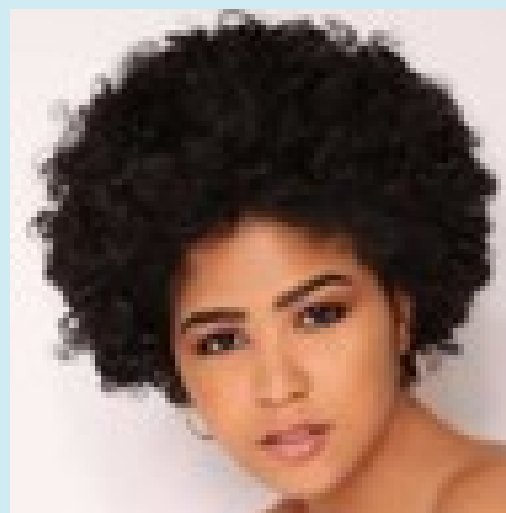
Ericka Kroger

Ericka Kroger is a Quality Leader at Newell Brands, where she works on new product launches, ensuring product safety and compliance with global regulations. Prior to Newell Brands, she worked as a manufacturing Quality Engineer at Ford Motor Company in Chicago, and as a Product Development/Test Engineer at Navistar Inc. Ericka has been a volunteer mentor with G4S since 2013. She graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science degree in Material Science Engineering and is currently finishing up her Master of Business Administration at the University of Illinois. Ericka's passion for engineering and all things mechanical and automotive-related came from her love of working on cars throughout high school.



Alumni

Girls 4 Science alumna, **Anise Puckett**, was one of 24 college freshmen selected for the Exelon Corporation HBCU Corporate Scholars Program. This cohort is the first to participate in the program, which provides scholarship assistance, internship experiences and early-career readiness training to students attending historically Black colleges and universities. Each student will receive \$25,000 per year for four years – a total of up to \$100,000. When asked about it, Anise replied: "If someone told me 5 years ago [when I visited ComEd] that I would receive a scholarship from Exelon, I would not have believed it. So happy that I woke up early on Saturdays for Girls 4 Science!" Anise participated in G4S for 8 years and is a freshman at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia.



GIRLS 4 SCIENCE ON THE MOVE

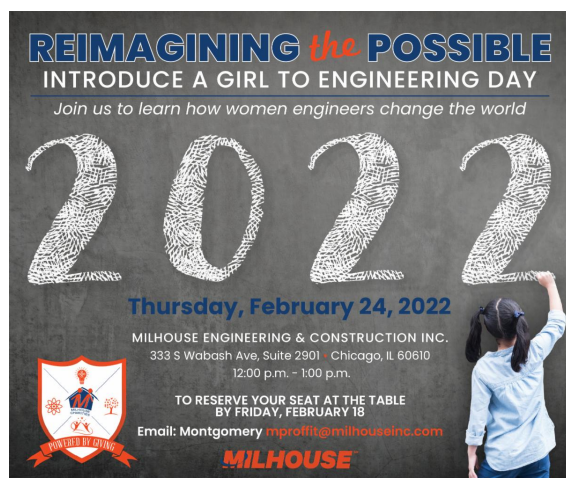
Chicago Park District Teen Opportunity Fair

Girls 4 Science hosted a table at the Chicago Park District's Annual Teen Opportunity Fair at Truman College on Saturday March 5, 2022. G4S



participants Kyla Wiggins (*on left*) and Logan Lomax (*on right*) highlighted the difference between plant and animal cells and created cell models using Rice Crispies, Skittles, M & M's, gummy bears, Twizzlers and sprinkles. Guests were encouraged to create a take home edible cell while registering for the G4S Saturday STEM Academy Spring session on *The Science of Cars*.

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day



Milhouse Engineering and Milhouse Charities partnered with several organizations -- including Girls 4 Science -- for *Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day* on Feb. 24, 2022. Held at the Milhouse Chicago headquarters, the program was intended to show how women engineers change the world and inspire a future generation of women in STEM.



Attendees learned about engineering through hands-on activities like *STEM Engineering with Spaghetti and Marshmallow Structures*. In the picture, Logan Lomax (*above left*) and Avery Ja (*above right*) experience structural engineering challenges building with spaghetti and marshmallows.

Nonprofit helps Chicago girls pursue futures in STEM

G4S Founder and Executive Director Jackie Lomax was interviewed March 3, 2022, for *Trending Now* on AccuWeather.com.



Trending Now | AccuWeather

Jackie Lomax, who originally wanted to help her own daughter achieve her dreams, has been helping girls chart their own courses into science, technology, engineering and math for more than a decade.

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/videos/non-profit-helps-chicago-girls-pursue-futures-in-stem/suTvPRUL>

Northwestern University

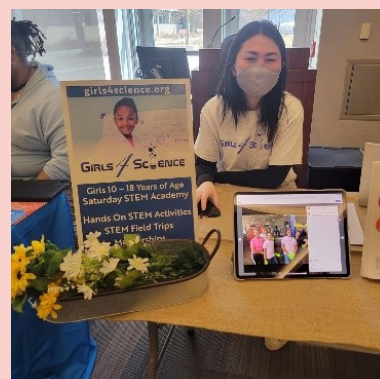
On February 24, 2022, G4S met with Northwestern University's Neuro Club for a tour of the Department of Neurobiology and discussion of careers in any of the numerous fields of neuroscience with faculty and Neuro Club members. Following the meeting with the Neuro Club, the G4S students had a meet-and-greet with the Northwestern University women basketball players who are STEM majors, then watched the NU women's basketball team play Purdue. The outing was sponsored by Horizon Therapeutics. *Photo: Northwestern University Women's Basketball team members and staff with G4S students (front row, L to R) Kaylen Irvin, Avery Ja, Lexi Short, Logan Lomax, Jenessa Velazquez (far right). Back row, third from right is Trinity Cowles.*



GIRLS 4 SCIENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Girls 4 Science on Instagram

"G4S Volunteer Mentor Tien Truong at Malcolm X City College on March 12, 2022 in partnership with Chicago Park District Teen Outreach Event."



Horizon on LinkedIn :
#BlackHistoryMonth



"Throughout #BlackHistoryMonth we are amplifying Black voices, including our employees and leaders from Horizon partner organizations. Today, hear from Jackie Lomax, founder of our partner organization Girls 4 Science."

2022 Summer Saturday STEM Academy



What could be more fun this summer than studying marine biology with Girls 4 Science! Registration opens May 8 and the first class is Saturday July 9. The Marine Biology Summer Session will dive deep into activities, such as dissecting a Tiger Shark, creating a glowing jellyfish, water sampling at Friends of the Chicago River and exploration at the Shedd Aquarium. The Summer Session will culminate with the Student Recognition and Awards Ceremony on August 13 at Olive Harvey City College.

**Calling All Girls
10 – 18 Years
of Age ...**

Marine Biology
[muh-reen bahy-oh-uh-jee]
Marine biology studies species (marine life) that live in marine habitats (coastal and open ocean habitats).

Saturday STEM Academy
6 Weeks of **FREE** science exploration,
field trips, mentorship

Saturdays: July 9 – August 13
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

GIRLS 4 SCIENCE

IN PERSON Summer 2022 Session:
MARINE BIOLOGY

2022 High School Program Sponsor:
Avantor

Thank you to the
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
for providing the content and training
for the Jellyfish Modeling activity.

Three Locations

- Olive Harvey Community College - Chicago, IL
- Malcolm X Community College - Chicago, IL
- University of St. Francis - Joliet, IL

REGISTRATION OPENS:
MAY 8, 2022 *(For All Students)*

All NEW and RETURNING Students Must Register
@ www.girls4science.org click on the REGISTER TAB

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Natasha Carter (sailorvenus@aim.com)

Malcolm X Program Coordinator –
Dezarae Brooks (dezarae.brooks@ingredion.com)

University of St. Francis Program Coordinator –
Jennifer Klein-Roberts (kleinj21@yahoo.com)

Certified Instructors • State of the art science laboratories • Increased self-esteem • Peer to peer mentoring

Alumni Association

Welcome ... Follow us on Instagram and Join our Facebook Group ... Subm

[Welcome](#)[Community](#)[Professional Development](#)[Volunteer](#)

Welcome to the Girls 4 Science Alumni Association! This alumni community is a place of continued encouragement, support, and education for the Girls 4 Science alumni. We're excited to reconnect with you and learn about what you're doing now.



The goal of the Girls 4 Science Alumni Association is to engage alumni with current Girls 4 Science students and programs. We provide professional development resources such as:

- Video Tutorials
- Interview Help
- STEM News
- Networking Opportunities
- Self-Assessment Tools
- Volunteer Opportunities

Resources will be available to alumni on the G4S website, quarterly newsletter, alumni Facebook group, and the alumni Instagram.

Subscribe to our newsletter, join our alumni Facebook group, and follow us on Instagram to stay up-to-date with Girls 4 Science.

The [G4S Alumni Association page](#) provides professional development resources -- including video tutorials on interview help, professional networking, resume writing, and self-assessment tools -- and volunteer opportunities with Girls 4 Science. G4S Alumni are encouraged to stay connected by joining the [Girls 4 Science Alumni Group on Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), and subscribing to the [G4S Alumni Newsletter](#), which will feature alumni spotlights, news and achievements related to women in STEM, and updates from current Girls 4 Science programs. The newsletter will also include information about local networking opportunities and provide tips to help G4S alum succeed in college, careers, and beyond.

Girls 4 Science is grateful to Horizon Therapeutics for assigning its summer college interns to set up these new resources.

****Girls 4 Science is seeking G4S alumni to help with the web page and newsletter. If you are interested contact Jackie Lomax at jlomax@girls4science.org.**

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Support Girls 4 Science by
starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com



Your generous donations help us expand our programs and expose more girls to STEM and the career opportunities available.

Other Ways to Support G4S

- Sponsor a Saturday STEM Academy session
- Host a Field Trip
- Donate lab supplies
- Provide refreshments for a Saturday STEM Academy
- Sponsor G4S T-shirts with your company logo
- Become a volunteer



DONATE

Our Sponsors



girls4science.org

