

TTAG NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024



TTAG ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to our 10 TTAGers who volunteered for TECH TREK 2024 INTERVIEWS on March 16 -17!

WOMEN IN STEM PANEL: Meet the Women in STEM from the San Francisco Branch

Who: Everyone

When: April 28th, 2024 @ 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

What: Learn about new career paths in STEM and meet San Francisco branch members who work in STEM, volunteer in Tech Trek/TTAG and might be your next mentor!

Where: Virtual

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83045939654?pwd=YVM3VEU1NDFnSENlbnVtXZEpHCUxOQT09>

Meeting ID: 830 4593 9654

Passcode: 780748

Meet our panelists:



Name: Maggy Kepler

Education: B.S. Biochemistry and Minor in Biotechnology, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. M.S. Genetic Counseling, University of California San Francisco (in progress!)

Current Occupation: Genetic counseling student Maggy did not discover her field of interest until her senior year of undergrad. She spent her undergraduate years collecting experience in different laboratories, exploring biochemistry, biodegradable polymers, and epigenetic mechanisms in snakes. Although she loved the science she had the opportunity to learn about, something was missing. It wasn't until discovering the field of genetic counseling that Maggy realized she could pair her passion for studying genetics with direct patient care. After realizing the career she would like to pursue, Maggy spent two years gaining patient experience as a patient advocate at a fertility clinic. She is currently a work study student for the genetic counselors at UCSF's Cardiovascular Genetics Clinic. When she's not studying, Maggy can be found cooking, reading, hiking, knitting, and petting cute dogs at Dolores Park.

Email: maggykep@gmail.com

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Name: Leslie Yuan

Education: Master's in Public Health (MPH), Epidemiology and Biostatistics, UC Berkeley; BA, Biology, Cornell University

Current Occupation: Leslie has always been interested in healthcare. She was pre-med in college and then decided not to go to medical school after all. She went to grad school, got a degree in Public Health, and after 10 years working in corporate America, she jumped ship and went to a healthcare IT start up. That job gave her great on-the-job training in technology and software development. Now, Leslie works at UCSF, alongside brilliant researchers and physicians. Her current management role as Chief Information Officer of UCSF's Clinical and Translational Science Institute allows her to contribute to UCSF's biomedical research mission, developing innovative software solutions and research infrastructure. When not at work, Leslie is often heard muttering "I can make that." She's a ceramicist, knitter, jewelry maker, and baker. **Email:** leslie.yuan@gmail.com

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**Name: Aisha Sawatsky**

**Education:** Master of Architecture, University of Virginia; Bachelor of Architectural Studies, Carleton University

**Current Occupation:** Designer and Preservation Specialist. Aisha works on historic buildings in the Bay Area, and has previously worked with architects in Washington DC, Canada, England, and Japan. She is interested in how buildings evolve and change over time, as well as how construction materials degrade, so that they can be repaired, restored, or adapted to last longer. Some historic buildings are fancy, and some might look like shacks. Working on any historic building is fun because there are opportunities to learn about community history, engage in research and detective work, and solve lots of complicated design problems.

**Email:** [aesawatsky@gmail.com](mailto:aesawatsky@gmail.com)





**Name:** Tracey Harding

**Education:** B.S. Management - Information Systems and Finance, Georgia Institute of Technology  
**Current Occupation:** Tracey, a seasoned Solution Architect with a specialization in Data and Artificial Intelligence, has dedicated her career to leveraging data to devise effective solutions and solve complex problems. Starting in enterprise data management, she has navigated various roles throughout the software development lifecycle across a multitude of industry verticals in several large enterprises. For the past ten years, she has been crafting platforms and solutions at Deloitte Consulting, developing repeatable assets that allow consulting teams to address a wide range of needs, with more efficiency and faster time to value. Residing in San Francisco, California with her family, Tracey is not only a dedicated professional but also a committed mother of two young girls. She is passionate about motivating young women to remain interested and enthusiastic about today's leading-edge technology. When not working, Tracey can be found practicing Hapkido as well as enjoying biking and skiing in the beautiful Californian outdoors.

**Email:** [tracey.harding02@gmail.com](mailto:tracey.harding02@gmail.com)

## STEM ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

## **CAREERS IN SCIENCE BY CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

**Who:** Current 9th and 10th grade students in an SFUSD school

**When:** Year-round, multi-year internship

**What:** Learn about science through interactive training, workshops, and project groups, teach science to diverse audiences, and conduct scientific field research and data analysis with Academy experts

**Where:** San Francisco, CA

**Deadline:** April 1st, 2024

**More info:** <https://www.calacademy.org/careers-in-science-cis-intern-program>

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## **ASTRONOMY LECTURE ON BLACK HOLES & SPIN-OFFS BY THE KAVLI INSTITUTE FOR PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS AND COSMOLOGY (KIPAC)**

**Who:** All (recommended for high school students and adults)

**When:** April 2nd, 2024

**What:** Lecture from Prof. Katherine Blundell - black holes are typically considered 'monster eaters,' but did you know that they can also eject mass? Learn how black holes spread matter to surroundings and influence the cosmic environment

**Where:** Hybrid - Hewlett Teaching Center 200 (Stanford) and YouTube

**More info:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/astronomy-lecture-black-holes-spin-offs-registration-867802790507>

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## **INVESTIGATING TIDEPOOLS FOR OCEAN HEALTH**

**Who:** All teenagers (13-18 years old)

**When:** April 13th, 2024 @ 8:30 AM - 1 PM

**What:** Join Latino Outdoors, Greater Farallones, and The Marine Mammal Center as we head to the shore for a coastal hike and to study tidepools along the local beach

**Where:** Bodega Bay (exact beach TBD)

**More info:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stewardship-saturday-investigating-tidepools-for-ocean-health-registration-853004067127?aff=schools>

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## **SPLASH AT BERKELEY**

**Who:** 9th - 12th graders

**When:** April 21st, 2024 @ 9 AM - 5 PM

**What:** Learn anything from acting to quantum mechanics (and more)! Spend a day on the UC Berkeley campus

**Where:** Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley

**Deadline:** April 17th, 2024

**More info:** <https://berkeley.learningu.org/>

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### **STEMSTRAVAGANZA BY STEM RESEARCHER**

**Who:** Girls in grades 8-12

**When:** April 20th, 2024 @ 11 AM - 3 PM

**What:** Keynote speakers, panel speakers, networking, swag!

**Where:** 2635 Homestead RD, Santa Clara, CA 95051

**More info:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stemstravaganza-tickets-808561297607>

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### **OUR ECHO CHALLENGE STEM COMPETITION**

**Who:** Students ages 13-16 in the US

**What:** Young leaders identify threats to natural resources in their communities, develop an innovative solution, and create an action plan in the form of a sustainable process or prototype

**Where:** Virtual

**Deadline:** April 26th, 2024

**More Info:** <https://www.earthecho.org/ourecho-challenge>

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### **BERKELEY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH LAB (BAIR) HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM**

**Who:** Students entering grades 10-12

**When:** July 8th - 12th, 2024

**What:** Free program to explore cutting-edge AI technologies, concepts, and ethics as they learn about the ongoing artificial intelligence research from Berkeley scientists and experts

**Where:** Berkeley, CA

**Deadline:** April 30th, 2024

**More info:**

<https://lawrencehallofscience.org/teen-research-programs/berkeley-artificial-intelligence-research-lab/>

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### **THE STANFORD PROGRAM FOR INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN IN PHYSICS (SPINWIP)**

**Who:** Female and gender minority students in high school between 9th to 11th grade

**When:** July 8th - 26th, 2024

**What:** Lessons in astro and quantum physics and python coding basics, and guest talks by women in physics

**Where:** Virtual on zoom

**Deadline:** May 1st, 2024

**More info:** <https://physics.stanford.edu/inclusion/spinwip>

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## OVERNIGHT SCIENCE CAMPS BY HEADWATERS SCIENCE INSTITUTE

**Who:** Middle and High School students

**When:** Varies by camp

**What:** Headwaters Science Institute overnight summer camps. Campers will be guided through the process of science in the natural world as they investigate a research topic in the field of ecology.

**Where:** Varies by camp

**Deadline:** Varies by camp

**More Info:** <https://headwatersscienceinstitute.org/science-camp/summer-camps/>

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## STEMEd FOR GIRLS 2024-25

**Who:** High school girls

**When:** Varies by session

**What:** Brought to you by AAUW National, STEMEd for Girls is a FREE series of lively, informative, and engaging virtual workshops for those interested in exploring or pursuing STEM in college

**Where:** Virtual

**More info:** <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/stemed-for-girls/>

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## ALLCOVE PALO ALTO: STUDY COVE (HOSTED BY SUPPORTED EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT)

**Who:** Youth ages 12-25

**When:** Mondays from 4:30 PM - 6 PM

**What:** Go enjoy a quiet space to read, study, work or just relax (snacks and music are provided)

**Where:** 2741 Middlefield Road, Suite 102, Palo Alto CA

**More info:** <https://allcove.org/>

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## NEW: SF- DCYF NEW YOUTH PORTAL OPENS!

**What:** The Opportunities for Youth portal is the best place to find summer jobs, summer programs, internships, scholarships, contests, and much more for

**Who:** San Francisco youth ages 14-24.

Where: <https://www.dcyf.org/youth-ages-16>; <https://www.dcyf.org/youth-under-14>  
(actually 14 +)

## STEM READS

Enjoy this NEW column of short stories and novels that use accurate astronomy, physics, and other science concepts.

This month's topic: Asteroids



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### **'PILOT' IN VACUUM DIAGRAM**

**Writer:** Stephen Baxter

**Description:** A future space traveler hollows out Chiron (asteroid) and uses it as a spaceship to escape invading aliens

**Link:** <https://www.stephen-baxter.com/stories.html#pilot>

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### **'DARK SANCTUARY' IN MATTER'S END**

**Writer:** Gregory Benford

**Description:** A prospector finds an interstellar spaceship hiding among the asteroids in the main belt

**Link:** <https://www.lightspeedmagazine.com/fiction/dark-sanctuary/>

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### **'GOLIATH' IN NATURE FUTURES**

**Writer:** Bruce Ferguson

**Description:** All the political mistakes that make Earth unable to save itself from an approaching asteroid impact

**Link:** [http://www.concatenation.org/futures/goliath\\_ferguson.pdf](http://www.concatenation.org/futures/goliath_ferguson.pdf)

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## **CONTACT US**

It's our goal to bring you workshops, camps, extra-curricular activities, internships, and other exciting opportunities in STEM. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to share with your TTAG community any cool STEM Ed event taking place at your high school. Want to share info and opportunities or give us feedback?

Please contact us at: [liencaitlin@gmail.com](mailto:liencaitlin@gmail.com) (Caitlin Lien)