

## TTAG NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2024



## TTAG ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TTAG MEMBERSHIP** will not only provide you with a community of like-minded girls interested in STEM, but also with access to college readiness workshops, STEM career panels, and a newsletter with opportunities and events tailored to TTAG's goals and interests. Finally, TTAG members will be eligible to apply for the TTAG Scholarship offering up to \$16,000 over 4 years to support college related expenses. More info and application form to come.

**JOIN:** If you attended Tech Trek during the Summer, you are invited to join the AAUW-SF Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG; pronounced TeeTAG) of the San Francisco Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW-SF). If you attended Tech Trek in prior years and are not part of TTAG yet, this is a good time to sign up and become a member!

**RENEW:** If you are already a TTAG member, we ask you to kindly fill in the form AGAIN to ensure your contacts are up to date!

To **Join** TTAG or **Renew** your TTAG membership, please fill the form [HERE](#).

For questions: please contact us at: [rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com)

**JOIN THE TECH TREK ALUMNAE GROUP!**

TTAG IS A GROUP OF TECHTREK ALUMNAE WHO CONTINUE THE TECHTREK EXPERIENCE BY EXPLORING STEM OPPORTUNITIES, SETTING THEMSELVES UP FOR SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND BEYOND. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TTAG, CHECK OUT [HTTPS://SANFRANCISCO-CA.AAUW.NET/](https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net/).

EXPLORE STEM FIELDS

HOST EDUCATIONAL EVENTS AND COLLEGE WORKSHOPS

DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS

REGISTER FOR TTAG BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE!

AAUW San Francisco Inc. (CA) Branch

TTAG Beta Chapter

Watch this short [video](#) to see what TTAG is all about!

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### PROVIDE A QUOTE FOR YOUR CAMP EXPERIENCE!

**When:** ASAP

**Who:** 2024 Tech Trek returning campers

**What:** Email a testimonial (one sentence to one paragraph) on your Tech Trek experience to appear in the Branch website and TTAG Newsletter

<https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net/>

**Contact:** [elizabethgraceoshea@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethgraceoshea@gmail.com) (Elizabeth O'Shea)

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### BEHIND THE SCENE EXPLORATORIUM VISIT & MEET the HEALDSBURG TTAG

**When:** **TENTATIVE** Sunday, December 4 or 11 - from 1 to 4 PM

**Who:** TTAG (8th to 12th grade)

**Where:** in person - at the Exploratorium - Pier 15 - Embarcadero, San Francisco

**What:** **Meet another TTAG** A visit tailored to our TTAG members featuring hands-on activities and presentations by Exploratorium volunteers - 3 hours (FREE)

**Registration:** Reserve your spot - first come first served - ONLY 15 spots available

**Contact:** [rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com)

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## SAVE THE DATE: A Parent Panel for TECH TREK & TTAG Parents

**When:** Thursday, January 16, 6:30 PM

**Who:** Tech Trek & TTAG parents

**Where:** online (link for registration coming soon)

**What:** Around Teen education and well-being - Guest Speaker: Laura E. Guzman, Greater Good Science Institute, UC Berkeley

**Contact:** [rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com)

## STEM ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

### First Friday: Spooky Astronomy

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** First Friday: SPOOKY ASTRONOMY is creeping up on you with a night of cosmic chills and family thrills! Join us for a frightfully fun evening featuring live music by local band Side Pony and the Homestead High Choir. Get into the Halloween spirit with out-of-this-world space face painting, then head over to our eerie laser dome for a spook-tacular Halloween-themed laser show! Plus, our friends from The MADE are bringing retro gaming fun to the game room. For a spooky treat, don't miss the live show with horror host Lord Bloodrah—he's sure to send chills down your spine. Perfect for all ages, this is one event your family won't want to miss!

**Where:** Chabot Space and Science Center, Oakland

**When:** November 1st - 6:00PM - 10:00PM

**Cost:** \$10 adults, \$5 kids/seniors and Free for members.

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://chabotspace.org/calendar/first-friday-spooky-astronomy/>

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### Creepy Crawly Critters: Live Spiders and Snakes!

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Commemorate the spooky season with a celebration of misunderstood creatures! Come dressed in your Halloween costume and learn about our skittering and slithering friends from eight legs to no legs. Get up close and personal with our resident snakes in the Animal Discovery Zone and observe live spiders from UC Berkeley researchers. Go on a spider hunt in the Outdoor Nature Lab and experience more spider activities! Costumed guests get a free temporary tattoo of Pheena the Fin Whale from our Discovery Store.

**Where:** The Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley

**When:** Saturday 2nd at 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Cost:** Adults & children ages 3+: \$20. Admission is free for UC Berkeley students & staff, Members, children 2 and under, Museums for All, and active-duty military.

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://lawrencehallofscience.org/events/creepy-crawly-critters-live-spiders-and-snakes/>

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### **Seeing Beyond Sight: Astronomical Images and the Aesthetics of the Sublime**

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Over the last several decades, astronomers have used the Hubble Space Telescope to look deep into the Universe, a practice that continues with the James Webb Space Telescope. The images from these instruments, as well as those from ground-based telescopes and space probes, have introduced us to a celestial plenitude: pictures of galaxies that glitter with millions of points of light and nebulae that reach upward as giant gaseous columns; panoramas of Martian landscapes and close-ups of its geological features; aerial views of Jupiter's swirling clouds and Saturn's many rings in brilliant hues; visual reconstructions of black holes outlined in glowing orange.

**Where:** California Academy of Sciences, Morrison Planetarium

**When:** Monday 4 at 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

**Cost:** \$15 General, \$12 Members & Seniors

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://www.calacademy.org/events/benjamin-dean-astronomy-lectures/seeing-beyond-sight-astronomical-images-and-the-aesthetics>

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### **Observing with the James Webb Space Telescope: Glimpsing the First Stars - Live Stream**

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** The Webb Telescope was designed to look back in time, to study the first generation of stars, and reveal our cosmic origins. In what is only its second year of operation, JWST has already brought us tantalizingly close to our dream of seeing those first stars. Dr. Coe will tell us about observations of "Earendel," the most distant star known, seen as it was 13 billion years ago. And we will marvel at the beauty of even more distant star clusters, including the Arc of Cosmic Gems. These objects were some the most important discoveries from his Hubble observing program, among them the galaxy cluster SMACS 0723 that became JWST's first stunning deep field. Soon the Euclid and Roman telescopes will survey much more of the sky, providing many more exciting targets for JWST to study in detail.

**Where:** Virtual

**When:** Wednesday 13 at 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**Apply/More info here:** <https://foothill.edu/astronomy/>

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### **Robotics for Change: Robotics and AI Workshop**

**Who:** Youth in 6th-12th grades

**What:** Join Robotics for Change for a virtual workshop on Robotics & AI. We will conduct hands-on lessons on how Robotics and AI can be leveraged to solve real-world problems. We are excited to share that we will end our workshop with guest speaker event from a leading robotics chip manufacturing firm in the Bay Area! Our guest speaker will discuss career opportunities and tips for individuals who wish to be participants in this ever-growing field!

**Where:** virtual

**When:** November 11th-17th

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdhlsEcNqRIBBMq2UN0PAIxDOzdgyl-qr8bGlpojzYI16X61A/viewform>

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### **Apollo 12 55th Anniversary/Techs on Decks**

**Who:** Middle and high school students; Free admission for kids and ID-carrying students

**What:** Join our annual celebration of sea, air and space innovation! On the anniversary of the Apollo 12 landing, students can explore interactive experiences and meet space, science and tech innovators to inspire their own 21st century #ApolloMoment.

**Where:** USS Hornet in Alameda

**When:** November 16 at 10:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://uss-hornet.org/calendar/apollo-12-55th-anniversary-techs-on-the-decks>

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### **Finding and Fighting Cells that can Kill us: One Patient's Story**

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Seminar

**Where:** Terra Linda High School

**When:** Wednesday 20 at 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://marinsscienceseminar.com/finding-and-fighting-cells-that-can-kill-us-one-patients>

[-story/](#)

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## The Galàpagos

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Join Dr. Jack Dumbacher, Curator of Ornithology and Mammalogy and Master Bird Instructor, to hear more about these amazing islands, the state of today's science, and how that science is contributing to conservation and regeneration of one of the best-preserved island archipelagos in the world.?

**Where:** Google SF Community Space / virtual

**When:** Thursday 21 at 7:00 PM

**Apply/More info here:**

[https://goldengatebirdalliance.org/speaker\\_series/the-galapagos/](https://goldengatebirdalliance.org/speaker_series/the-galapagos/)

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## Thanksgiving Under the Microscope

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Get into the Thanksgiving spirit and help us pilot activities for our upcoming exhibition, Future of Food. Join The Lawrence and SF Microscopical Society for a close-up look at all your Thanksgiving favorites. Under the microscope, examine turkey, pie, and more. We will also learn about traditional Ohlone foods and ingredients.

**Where:** Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley

**When:** Saturday 23 at 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM

**Cost:** Adults & children ages 3+: \$20. Admission is free for UC Berkeley students & staff, Members, children 2 and under, Museums for All, and active-duty military.

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://lawrencehallofscience.org/events/thanksgiving-under-the-microscope/>

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## Science Saturday: Monarch Madness!

**Who:** Open to all

**What:** Join us for our Free Science Saturday event, where we will explore the fascinating world of monarch butterflies. Learn about their incredible migratory journey, the challenges they face, and the vital role they play in our ecosystem. This engaging day will feature collection displays, informative talks, and activities for the whole family. Discover how you can contribute to the conservation of these remarkable creatures. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate and understand one of nature's most enigmatic wonders!

**Where:** Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, Pacific Grove



**When:** Saturday 30 at 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Apply/More info here:**

<https://www.pgmuseum.org/upcoming-events/science-saturday-monarch-madness>

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### **Watch the STEM Career Talks replay by Berkeley Lab**

**Who:** Everyone

**What:** Learn about the wide range of STEM professions through Berkeley Lab staff and Bay Area professionals

**Where:** Virtual

**When:** Ongoing

**Apply/More info here:** <https://k12education.lbl.gov/programs/virtual/career-talks>

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### **NASA Psyche Mission Innovation Toolkit**

**Who:** High school and beyond

**What:** A free online course series based on the real-world science, engineering, technology, and teamwork behind the Psyche mission.

**Where:** Virtual

**When:** Ongoing

**Apply/More info here:** <https://psyche.asu.edu/get-involved/innovation-toolkit/>

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## **STEM INTERNSHIPS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **CAREERS IN SCIENCE (CiS) INTERN PROGRAM**

**Who:** Grades 9-12 (must apply in grade 9 or 10)

**What:** Careers in Science is a multi-year, year-round paid internship and youth development program for San Francisco youth who come from communities typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

**Where:** California Academy of Sciences

**When:** Afterschool and weekends (Multi-year, year-round participation)

**Apply/More info here:**

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

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### **ACADEMY NATURALIST TEEN (ANT) VOLUNTEER**

**Who:** Participants must be between the ages of 15-17

**What:** Are you a teen who is interested in inspiring others to explore the natural world? Volunteer with us and help Academy guests of all ages learn, tinker, and investigate,

while gaining skills in public speaking and informal science engagement.

**Where:** California Academy of Sciences

**When:** We offer spring and fall sections, ANTs are expected to consistently attend a 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM shift every other Saturday

**Apply/More info here:** <https://www.calacademy.org/volunteering-at-the-academy>

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### **PAID NEAR PEER MENTOR OPPORTUNITY**

**Who:** Girls 15+

**What:** Help engage elementary-age girls and support Teachers and Assistants in hands-on STEM activities.

**Where:** Varies

**When:** Varies

**Apply/More info here:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHLSQh\\_kXQafmLc12dddKOUtSeEul7ks\\_oxK3EYti77RNvMnw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHLSQh_kXQafmLc12dddKOUtSeEul7ks_oxK3EYti77RNvMnw/viewform)

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### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES BY SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS**

**Who:** Age requirements vary

**What:** Volunteer Opportunities in Fall 2024

**Where:** Varies

**When:** Varies

**Apply/More info here:**

[https://scc.samaritan.com/custom/502/opp\\_search?sortByAttribute=date&sortPredicate=publishDateUtc&sortRecordType=slot&sortReverse=true&view=calendar](https://scc.samaritan.com/custom/502/opp_search?sortByAttribute=date&sortPredicate=publishDateUtc&sortRecordType=slot&sortReverse=true&view=calendar)

## **MEET YOUR 2024-2025 TTAG STUDENT BOARD**

**Caitlin Lien**





Hi everyone! My name is Caitlin and I'm a senior at Aragon High School. I attended the 2020 (cancelled) Tech Trek at what was supposed to be Stanford. Despite the unfortunate circumstances of that year, I was still able to connect with hundreds of girls my age who shared similar interests to me through TTAG. Having joined the TTAG board early last school year, I started as a communications coordinator and have since been made president. In addition to my work here, I am heavily involved with my school's robotics team, varsity lacrosse, harp, and environmental club. Looking forward to providing another year of amazing community events!

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**Callista Leung**



Hello everyone! My name is Callista, and I'm a sophomore at Balboa High School. I attended Tech Trek in 2022 at UC Davis. One of the most notable experiences I had during camp was the ability to meet other girls who were passionate about the same interests as me. I remember one of the days we had a workshop on how to spend our money and credit score using math. This was information I didn't know before however, I still use the knowledge to this day! TTAG has been nothing but beneficial and a fun way to interact with other individuals who have great ideas and get valuable resources through the newsletter to help pursue my interest in STEM. Some hobbies I do currently are dancing, swimming, and DJing! These are hobbies I am very passionate about, which help me be creative and find new ideas every day and are activities I love.

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**Elizabeth O'Shea**



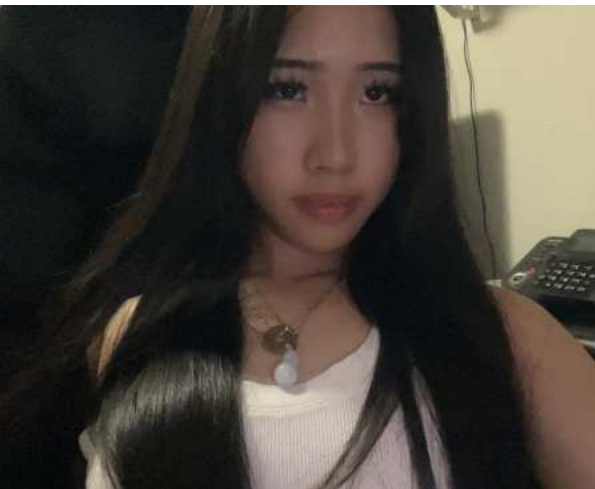
Hi my name is Elizabeth O'Shea and I am currently a freshman at Sacred Heart Cathedral. I'm super excited to start my first year on the TTAG student board! Being a part of this amazing community is really important to me because I get to inspire girls of all ages to pursue STEM.

I attended Tech Trek at Sonoma State college, 2023. It was such an incredible experience. Meeting other girls just like me made the week better than I could have ever imagined. I still remember my core class, robotics, and the lego machines we made. Before camp I never would have dreamed of making such complex robots. I can't wait to give more girls the same opportunity.

I currently run cross country and play the harp. These hobbies have inspired me to step out of my comfort zone and have taught me discipline in all areas of life.

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### **Sidney Huang**



Hello! My name is Sidney Huang, and I am currently a sophomore attending Lowell High School. I'm thrilled to be your TTAG Communication Coordinator, as I look forward to updating STEM-inspired girls with this monthly newspaper filled with various opportunities!

Attending Tech Trek was truly one of the greatest opportunities I've had, and I'm forever thankful for my experience at UC Davis in the summer of 2022. It was my first time being exposed so much to a college campus and scientific professionals. I think back to that week every summer. Tech Trek has taught me that STEM is far beyond the school classroom, and I never felt more inspired.

Some hobbies I have include volleyball (I volunteer to coach younger kids as well as play myself), trying new foods (love cooking too!), and listening to music. I've run track for 3 years and played violin in orchestra for 5 years throughout school, and volunteered at my local library for 3 summers.

## STEM SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now open for the annual Cards Against Humanity [Science Ambassador Scholarship](#). This year, we're offering five \$20,000 undergraduate tuition scholarships to women and non-binary students in science, technology, engineering or math. Applications close December 16, 2024.

## STEM READS

**This month's topic: General Knowledge**

**Writer:** James Brown & Richard Platt

**Title:** A World of Information

**Description:** How much do clouds weigh? Who invented the pencil? How many ways can you tie a knot? Discover the answers to these and many other questions in this elegant and absorbing miscellany of general knowledge. From music notation to Roman numerals and from the skeleton to the solar system, essential facts are brought to life by stylish infographics and fascinating commentary. Perfect for all ages, this book is sure to amuse and intrigue even the most curious minds.

**Link:** <https://www.amazon.com/World-Information-Richard-Platt/dp/0763693480>

## IF YOU MISSED TTAG EVENTS...

If you missed the COLLEGE PREP for 10th Graders, or are interested in past COLLEGE PREP or FINANCIAL AID workshops, please contact us for the presentation, the recordings or both at: [rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:rpcvalle.aauw@gmail.com)

## 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:

[elizabethgraceoshea@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethgraceoshea@gmail.com) (Elizabeth O'Shea)

[sidneyhuang.18@gmail.com](mailto:sidneyhuang.18@gmail.com) (Sidney Huang)