

TTAG NEWSLETTER - SEPT2025



TTAG ANNOUNCEMENTS

CA-TTAC Slack Community is **OPEN + Listen to Sonia Lee's Presentation**

Who: All Tech Trek Alumnae

How: To join, fill out this brief form: [Slack Interest Form!](#)

What: The Slack channel for all Tech Trek Alumnae from all over California is now open and will be accepting members. These resources will help high school and college students to connect, offer college guidance, advice and mentorship.

Questions? Contact: sonialeee3068@gmail.com

Presentation link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/fny83J5diJZAWd9VUIXXJCBZ6WI5w55YxoCaX_nG06xGekhSC31VZtdM53wgTgTf.ZBTkCOYJK_4gPVKs

GET TO KNOW THE 2025-2026 STUDENT BOARD



Hi my name is Elizabeth O'Shea and I am currently a sophomore at Sacred Heart Cathedral. I'm super excited to start my second year on the TTAG student board as one of the events coordinator! Being a part of this 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 do track, 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.

STEM ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Youth Conservation Photography Workshop

Who: Youth ages 13-18

What: In this workshop, you will join professional photographers Daniel Dietrich and Sarah Killingsworth who will teach you about the power of conservation photography. They will provide professional cameras for teens to use and lessons on basic photography.

Where: Bouverie Preserve, Glen Ellen, CA

When: September 6, 2025 10 AM - 1:30 PM

Apply/more info here:

bayareascience.org/calendar/link/index.php?tID=1&oID=38604

First Saturday: Free Tour of the Santa Cruz Arboretum

Who: Everyone

What: A free tour in the Santa Cruz Arboretum and Botanic Garden! You will see plants from New Zealand, South Africa, California, and Australia. Tour length varies depending on what's in bloom and what the participants request.

Where: Santa Cruz Arboretum & Botanic Garden

When: September 6, 2025 11 AM - 12:30 PM (Other dates include 10/04/25 and 11/01/25)

Apply/more info here:

<https://www.bayareascience.org/calendar/index.php?eID=37563>

World Shorebirds Day Bird Walk

Who: Everyone

What: Join in for a family-friendly bird outing in honor of World Shorebirds Day. They will be discussing the wildlife refuge and produce an introduction to shorebirds as well as a few identification tips.

Where: Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Center

When: September 6, 2025 10 AM - 11:30 AM

Apply/more info here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/world-shorebirds-day-bird-walk-tickets-1485627976269?aff=oddtcreator>

The Physics Show - Three Performances

Who: Everyone

What: The Physics Show is a fun science show for kids and their families. There will be multiple dates that families can attend in September, December, and January. In September, performances will be at 10:00, 1:00, and 3:30 each day during the two weekends of shows.

Where: Foothill College

When: September 13, 2025 10 AM - 5 PM (Other dates include 9/14/25, 9/20/25, 9/21/25)

Apply/more info here:

<https://www.bayareascience.org/calendar/index.php?eID=38620>

Kits Cubed 5th Annual STEM Fair

Who: Everyone

What: Get ready to explore the exciting world of STEM at the Kits Cubed STEM Fair 2025. Through interactive exhibits, hands-on activities and engaging workshops, you will have fun and learn!

Where: Oakland Technical Highschool

When: September 13, 2025 10 AM - 3 PM

Apply/more info here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kits-cubed-stem-fair-2025-tickets-1554666071069>

Avifauna of Hawaii: Birds on the Brink

Who: Everyone

What: Mandy Talpas, an Ecotourism operator, will be discussing Hawaii's rare endemic birds and share the threats they face. Additionally, she will highlight conservation initiatives that can help save them from the brink of extinction.

Where: Virtual

When: September 18, 2025 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Apply/more info here:

https://goldengatebirdalliance.org/speaker_series/avifauna-of-hawaii-birds-on-the-brink/

TTAG NEWS



Welcome back, Tech Trek Campers! Campers received their certificates for successfully completing the camp and engaged with the student board, who became their mentors. This made returning campers and TTAG mentors build connections and gain insights.





TTAG
CURRENTS
Exploring science and beyond

Right now I am really into web design. Being able to imagine some thing, and then code it is just so interesting to me. I love using HTML and CSS, and I am currently learning how to use Java Script. Coding has always been a fascination of mine, and I love this more creatively side of it.

– **Rose Larner, 8th Grade, James Denman Middle School**

Tech Trek Alumna, UC Santa Cruz 2025

I recently have been really into psychology and how people form thoughts. It started in my Health Class, where we learned about how our brain works and thoughts are formed. I started to really like the topic because it helps me make a sense of people and the way they think, especially myself. I find it very interesting to learn why people act the way they do and how our minds connect to our emotions and behaviors. I feel like I understand people on a deeper level now that I know how thoughts are made in the brain. I think this topic even made me more curious and empathetic because everyone has their own reasons behind what they do. I hope to learn and discover more information about this!

– **Kristy Wen, 9th Grade, Lowell High School**

Tech Trek Alumna, CSU Fresno 2024

What has piqued your interest recently? A film, a book, a fun fact, a field trip? Fill out the [TTAG Currents Feature Form](#) to share your STEM current in the next newsletter!

Contact Gina (gina.lucia2017@gmail.com) with any questions.

ONGOING / USEFUL LINKS

Watch the STEM Career Talks replay by Berkeley Lab

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

Link: <https://k12education.lbl.gov/programs/virtual/career-talks>

NASA Psyche Mission Innovation Toolkit

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

Link: <https://psyche.asu.edu/get-involved/innovation-toolkit/>

GuideX.Co

A (student-created) resource for high schoolers across the nation to find 500+ extra-curricular opportunities.

GuideX offers modules for students, employers/organizations, and educators:

- 1) High Schoolers and parents can search for opportunities
- 2) Employers/organizations can submit opportunities for high schoolers
- 3) Educators can use the tool to guide their students

Link: <https://guidex.co/>

Exploring Engineering at UC Berkeley

Are you interested in exploring different fields in engineering? Exploring Engineering at UC Berkeley, a 10 podcast series, takes listeners behind the scenes of different engineering majors. Hear from real students, faculty, and professionals as they share stories, challenges, and exciting career paths.

Link:

<https://engineering.berkeley.edu/students/resources/exploring-engineering-podcast/>

STEM READS

This Month's Topic: Artificial Intelligence

Title: Welcome to AI: What is Artificial Intelligence and how will it change our lives?

Writer: Matthiu Dugal, Owen Dave (Illustrator)

Description: This book is the most complete guide to AI, covering everything from Ancient Greece to ChatGPT. You will learn how technology is everywhere; from computers and cars to virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa. It's making decisions for us, for the better, but sometimes for the worst.

Link:

<https://www.amazon.com/Welcome-AI-Artificial-Intelligence-change/dp/0711293163>

IF YOU MISSED TTAG EVENTS...

If you missed an online event 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

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:



- kristywen10@gmail.com (Kristy Wen)