



Science: Go girls!

Saturday 14 November 2015, UniMail Genève



PRESS RELEASE

Geneva, 22 October 2015, For Immediate release

Expanding Your Horizons Geneva (Elargis Tes Horizons Genève) is pleased to announce its fourth science and technology conference for girls will take place at UniMail in Geneva on Saturday 14 November 2015, in collaboration with the *Université de Genève; le Département de l'instruction publique et du sport (DIP), le Bureau de la promotion de l'égalité entre femmes et hommes et de prévention des violence domestiques (BPEV) and La Ville de Genève.*

Schoolgirls aged 11 to 14 and living in the Geneva region can register for the conference through the website www.elargisteshorizons.ch. Participation is free. The event is predominantly in French, with some workshops run in English.

The EYH 2015 edition offers 420 girls the chance to conduct fascinating experiments with liquid nitrogen, build a solar car, programme their own video game, find a thief using DNA or even walk through a giant 3D brain courtesy of the "Human Brain project". In all, 26 workshops and a discovery fair with around 20 stands will be on offer, run by women scientists and role models from CERN, UNIGE, HES-SO, EPFL, SIG, Covance and other organisations.

Parents can take part in a panel discussion (English & French sessions run in the morning) with education specialists and women scientists, to help combat stereotypes and nurture their daughter's interest in science, technology, engineering and maths subjects. Parents can register on www.elargisteshorizons.ch

A guided VIP visit of the different workshops will be organised between 9h30 and 11h. Pre-registration is required.

Lorraine McDowell, President of EYH Geneva says: *"It's a fun day, and a great opportunity not only for girls to discover opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) but also help reinforce their motivation for these subjects at school."*

From 2016, Expanding Your Horizons will strengthen its collaboration with STEM organisations and education institutions in Suisse Romande to offer young girls the opportunity to take part in seminars, workshops and mentoring schemes throughout the year, notably Saturday mornings. The list of events will be included in www.elargisteshorizons.ch over the coming months. The aim of these initiatives is to encourage and support girls in their choice and help address the gender imbalance in many STEM professions. These aims fall within the objectives of the Swiss federal plan to promote diversity in the scientific and technical fields.

More information: Lorraine McDowell, President EYH: Tel 079 456 9910

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ABOUT EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS, GENEVA

Expanding Your Horizons has been active in Geneva since 2009 with the goal of encouraging girls in the Geneva region to explore STEM careers, and to continue with maths and science in school. The non-profit association runs the bi-annual EYH conference, which is supported by the *Département de l'Instruction Publique, de la culture et du sport de Genève, la Ville de Genève, l'Université de Genève, le bureau de la promotion de l'égalité entre femmes et hommes du canton, la HES-SO Genève* and local organisations. Thanks to this support, girls are able to attend the conference for free.

The Expanding Your Horizons network was originally created in California, USA in 1974 by women scientists who realised that girls had as much aptitude but fewer opportunities to take up STEM careers. Currently there are more than 100 EYH conferences worldwide – mainly in the USA, with some in Asia and Europe - with up to 25,000 girls attending each year.

PROGRAMME

Schedule

08:15 – 08:45 **Registration**
09:00 – 09:15 Welcome Address

Opening address by Lorraine McDowell, President, Expanding Your Horizons Geneva
Followed by Mme Brigitte Mantilleri, Directrice **Service égalité – UNIGE**
Mme Sandrine Salerno, Conseillère administrative, département des finances
Mme Anne Emery-Torracinta, Conseillère d'Etat, département de l'instruction publique, de la culture et du sport (to be confirmed)

09:30 – 11:00 **Workshop 1**
11:15 – 12:30 **Workshop 2**
12:30 - 13:30 Lunch
13:30 – 14:45 **Workshop 3**
14:45 – 15:15 Closing ceremony

Partners:

L'Université de Genève, le Département de l'instruction publique et du sport (DIP) Le Bureau de la promotion de l'égalité entre femmes et hommes et de prévention des violences domestiques (BPEV), La Ville de Genève, L'HES-SO Genève/Hepia .

Photos, the EYH logo, flyers and a workshop list are available to download from our site www.elargisteshorizons.ch (Media).

Thank you for your attention.

Kind regards
Committee, Expanding Your Horizons Geneva
www.elargisteshorizons.ch