

# IF/THEN® Champions Network Virtual Meetup

April 23, 2025

IF/THEN®

CHAMPIONS NETWORK



# Welcome!

**Share in the chat:** Your name, organization, and one thing you are excited for this summer!



# Agenda

- Introductions
- Champions Network Overview
- Opening Poll Questions
- Small Group Discussion & Share Out
- Network 'Shout-outs'
- Project Updates & Opportunities



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The vision of the National Girls Collaborative Project is to **support and create STEM experiences that are as diverse as the world we live in.**

## NGCP Resources:

- National Webinars
- Monthly Newsletter
- Website featuring research and statistics related to girls and women in STEM
- Partner Projects



The background is a solid teal color. It is decorated with abstract, light-colored lines (in shades of blue and green) that form various geometric shapes, including circles, arcs, and straight segments. Small dots of the same colors are placed at the intersections and endpoints of these lines, creating a network-like pattern.

# IF/THEN® Champions Network Overview

# IF/THEN® Champions Network Goals

Join a growing movement of institutions and individuals **committed to advancing gender equity within STEM fields** via the IF/THEN® Collection.

The network goals are to **activate and grow a network** of museums and individual members that will champion gender equity work, support the overall goals of the IF/THEN® initiative, provide mutual support, and act as institutional resources for others.





The **IF/THEN® Collection** is the largest free resource of its kind dedicated to increasing access to authentic and relatable images of real women in STEM.

The Collection is part of the [IF/THEN®](#) Initiative, a national effort sponsored by [Lyda Hill Philanthropies®](#) to inspire young girls to pursue STEM careers while creating a culture shift in how the world perceives women in STEM.





# Member Activities

## Webinars & Meetups

- Webinars: Feb, May, July, and Oct 2025
- Virtual meetups: May and Oct 2025

## Suite of Resources

- IF/THEN® Collection, Project Library, Gender Equity Toolkit
- Media Toolkit
- LinkedIn Group

## ASTC Annual Conference

- September 6-9, 2025, in San Francisco, CA
- Hosting a session, event, and booth (exact activities TBD)

## Email Communications

- Network updates
- IF/THEN® Collection highlights and updates
- Engagement opportunities





# Opening Poll Questions

# STEM and Equity Slido Poll

Use your phone or open a new tab in your browser!

- Scan this QU Code on your phone or visit [www.slido.com](https://www.slido.com) and **enter code: 5632759** to join our Slido poll.
- Answer 2 short questions via Slido – 1 at a time
- Your answers are anonymous but will populate in a word cloud
- Short words, initial ideas, and phrases are fine!



**Code: 5632759**



# Why Equity and STEM?

- Women and girls are capable and valuable to STEM.
- Women continue to be underrepresented in STEM studies and careers, especially in engineering, computer science, and physics.
- The STEM workforce needs diverse perspectives and ideas to drive innovation and address interconnected problems.
- Women in the STEM workforce make less on average than men and less likely to reach leadership positions in the STEM workforce.



# Barriers to Equity in STEM

- Lack of access to high-quality STEM opportunities
- Persistent stereotypes about STEM people and careers
- Curriculum that is not personally or culturally relevant
- Lack of exposure to relatable role models
- Lack of support networks/mentorship
- Gender norms, biases, discrimination, and harassment





# Small Group Discussion



# Small Group Discussion

- **Small groups of 3-4**
- **10 minutes for discussion**
- **Discussion prompts:**
  - How do you center girls and their interests in programming?
  - How do you learn from the girls you serve?
  - What identities (in addition to gender) do you highlight at your science center or organization?
  - What identities do you hope to integrate in the future?

The background is a solid teal color. It is decorated with various abstract geometric elements in a darker teal and a light olive green. These elements include straight lines, curved lines, and small circular dots. Some lines are horizontal or vertical, while others are curved at 90-degree angles. The dots are placed at the intersections or endpoints of these lines, creating a network-like pattern. The overall aesthetic is modern and minimalist.

# Network 'Shout-outs'



# Current Opportunities for Organizational Members

# Exhibit Kit 1: This is What a Scientist Looks Like Displays

- Free for all organizational members
- Created with input from you!
- You select the content themes and formats (ex. pop-up banners, metal prints, foam core posters)
  - Themes: Diving Deep (Marine Biology), Living Wild (Ecology), Reaching the Stars (Aerospace), Engineering New Paths (Engineering), and Powering the Planet (Planetary health)
- ASTC prints and ships directly to you
- Submit your request by **Summer 2025**. Requests processed and shipped within 3 - 4 weeks.



# Program & Events Stipends

- Organizational members can apply for **stipends of up to \$750**
- **Submit your application** during one of these open cycles:
  - *Cycle 1: Closed on April 15*
  - Cycle 2: April 16 - June 1, 2025
  - Cycle 3: June 2 - August 1, 2025
- Funds must be used to **showcase IF/THEN® Ambassadors or the IF/THEN® Collection through your programs, events, or spaces**
- Requests will be reviewed every 6-8 weeks



# Coming in May!

- **ASTC Conference Funding Opportunity**
  - Apply for conference registration funding, travel funding, or both!
- **Exhibit Kit 2: STEM Play Workshop**
  - Full, interactive exhibit kit featuring three Ambassadors
  - Ship free, some assembly required



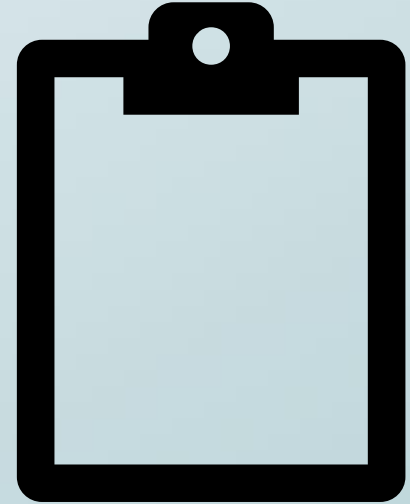




# Resources and Upcoming Activities

# Annual Survey

- Online survey to collect feedback from Network Members about your involvement in the Network, benefits and challenges, and additional resources that would be helpful to you
- Open now until Friday, May 16th, 2025
- Responses are anonymous unless you choose to provide identifying information
- We encourage everyone in the Network to complete the survey
- We appreciate your help!



# Resources

Access resources at: <https://ngcproject.org/ifthen-champions-network>

- Links to IF/THEN® Initiative and Collection resources
- Instructions for requesting and downloading assets
- Media and branding guide
- Link to join the LinkedIn Group
- Details about upcoming webinars and an archive of past webinar recordings
- Details about network communications and an archive of past email communications



The screenshot displays the IF/THEN Collection website and a promotional email for the IF/THEN Champions Network. The website header features the IF/THEN Collection logo. Below it, a section titled "Looking for resources to support gender equity in your classrooms and programs?" describes the IF/THEN Collection as a free digital library with photos, videos, posters, and more, featuring diverse women STEM innovators. A "HOW TO GET STARTED" section provides a quick overview of the site and recommends entry points to find plug-and-play resources. A list of resources includes Activity Sheets, Equity and Inclusion Assets, and an Educator Hub. The promotional email, titled "Thank you for being part of the IF/THEN Champions Network," introduces the network as a new network for individuals and ASTC-member organizations interested in championing the IF/THEN Collection. It also mentions new opportunities and resources available to network members, including the opportunity to engage with other members at the ASTC Annual Conference in September.

**IF/THEN® Collection**

**Looking for resources to support gender equity in your classrooms and programs?**

The IF/THEN® Collection is a free digital library with photos, videos, posters, and more, featuring diverse women STEM innovators – all available for educational and other non-commercial use. You'll find thousands of assets showcasing inspiring women whose jobs include training Olympic athletes, creating cosmetics, exploring space, working with animals, and designing everything from buildings and museum exhibits to prosthetics and medical equipment.

**HOW TO GET STARTED**

If you haven't already, please watch the IF/THEN Collection Video. It's a quick overview of the site and our favorite resources. For more information, we recommend these entry points to find plug-and-play resources:

- **Activity Sheets** ([www.ifthencollection.org/activity-sheets](http://www.ifthencollection.org/activity-sheets))  
A compilation of all the puzzles, games, and hands-on educator guides and student activity sheets
- **Equity and Inclusion Assets** ([www.ifthencollection.org/equity-inclusion](http://www.ifthencollection.org/equity-inclusion))  
A curated set of assets for afterschool and summer equity and inclusion
- **Educator Hub** ([www.ifthencollection.org/educator](http://www.ifthencollection.org/educator))  
A one-stop shop with ideas for using the Collection aligned with learning standards

**IF/THEN® CHAMPIONS NETWORK**

Thank you for being part of the IF/THEN® Champions Network, a new network for individuals and ASTC-member organizations interested in championing the IF/THEN® Collection, the largest free resource dedicated to disseminating authentic and reliable images of real women in STEM!

In this email, we are sharing new opportunities and resources available to Champions Network members, including the opportunity to engage with other members at the ASTC Annual Conference in September; details about upcoming webinars, and more!

**IF/THEN® CHAMPIONS NETWORK**

# Upcoming Activities

## ■ 2025 Network Webinar Schedule

- May 28, 2025: **Exploring the Journeys of Women in STEM Careers**
- July 16 and October 22, 2025 (topics TBD)
- All webinars are 11 AM PT / 12 PM MT / 1:00 PM CT / 2:00 PM ET

## ■ 2025 Virtual Meetups – informal networking

- October 1, 2025

## ■ 2025 Annual ASTC Conference: September 6-9, 2025, in the San Francisco Bay Area – mark your calendar now!



# Questions?

You can also email questions to  
Emily Early at [early@ngcproject.org](mailto:early@ngcproject.org)

