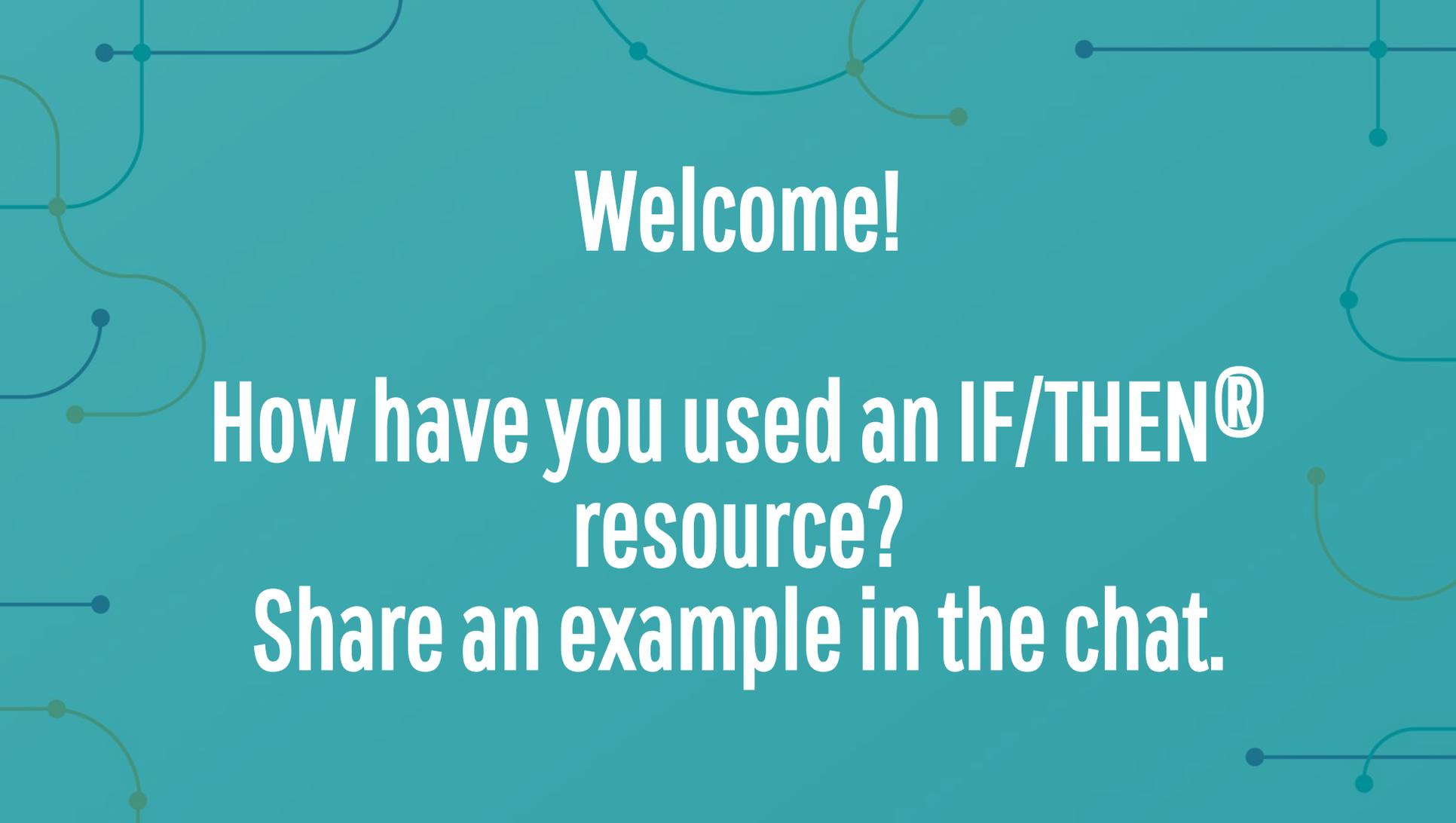


Stories of Impact: How Network Partners Are Leveraging IF/THEN[®] Resources

February 18, 2026

IF/THEN[®]

CHAMPIONS NETWORK

The background is a solid teal color with abstract line art patterns in shades of blue and green. These patterns consist of various geometric shapes like circles, lines, and dots, some of which are connected to form larger, more complex structures. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Welcome!

**How have you used an IF/THEN[®]
resource?**

Share an example in the chat.



Agenda

- Network Welcome & Goals
- Stories of Impact: How Network Partners Are Leveraging IF/THEN® Resources
- Q&A
- Network Sharing
- Upcoming Network Opportunities, Resources, and Activities

IF/THEN®

CHAMPIONS

NETWORK



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





ASTC **creates strategic opportunities, develops intellectual capital, and assembles resources** to support our members in realizing their missions and engaging their communities.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND POLICY MAKING

- Funding opportunities
- Annual conference and convenings
- Professional learning & development



The background is a solid teal color. It features several abstract, light-colored lines (in shades of blue and green) that form various shapes, including straight lines, curves, and loops. Small dots of the same colors are placed at the ends of these lines, suggesting a network or circuitry theme.

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.

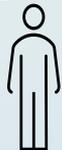


IF/THEN®

CHAMPIONS
NETWORK

Membership Levels

Individual



For **educators, exhibit developers, and others** who support the IF/THEN® initiative but may not be housed within an organization or who have not yet obtained an organizational commitment.

Individual members do not need to belong to an ASTC member organization or be in the United States to join.

Organizational



For **ASTC member organizations** in the US, including museums, science centers, and allied members.

Organizational members are required to complete the organizational commitment form. This is a high-level commitment that acknowledges the specific requirements that accompany organizational membership.

IF/THEN®

CHAMPIONS

NETWORK

The background is a solid teal color. It features several abstract, light-colored lines (in shades of blue and green) that form a network-like structure. These lines include straight segments, curves, and small circular nodes, suggesting a digital or interconnected theme.

Stories of Impact: How Network Partners Are Leveraging IF/THEN[®] Resources

Network Speakers



**Diane Fraser, Director
Emerald Coast Science
Center**



**Dr. Marina Philip,
STEAM Professional Liaison
Explora**



**Craig Lukatch, President
Lacawac Sanctuary
Foundation**



**Sue Cosgrove, Assistant
Director of Environmental
Education
Lacawac Sanctuary
Foundation**

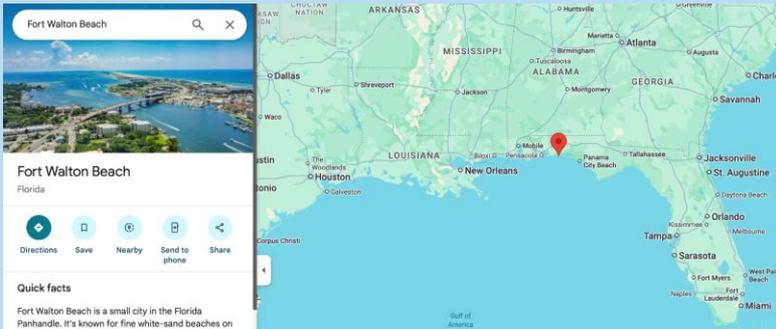
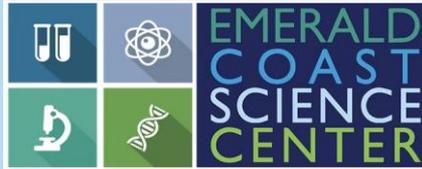
Women in



**Presenter: Diane Fraser, Executive Director at the
Emerald Coast Science Center**



About Us



Our Team



Our Programs



**women
in
SCIENCE
CONFERENCE**

PRESENTED BY



BAE SYSTEMS



**EMERALD COAST
SCIENCE
CENTER**

INTERESTED IN STEM?

The Women in Science Conference is a celebration of women in all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) professions. Hosted by the Emerald Coast Science Center and BAE Systems, the evening will consist of inspirational presentations from professional women in STEM careers followed by a panel discussion where the audience can engage with speakers and ask questions. Proceeds benefit the Girls Empowered with Math and Science (GEMS) Workshops, a free program the Emerald Coast Science Center provides at the Fort Walton Beach Library during the school year.

All ages are welcome, especially middle school and high school students looking to discover careers in STEM. Guests will have a chance to mingle with the speakers and other guest professionals. Light refreshments provided.

WHEN/WHERE

Tuesday, September 17, 2024
5:30-7:30 p.m.
The Place on Beal in Fort Walton Beach

TICKET INFO

bit.ly/2024womeninscience
Students: free, Adults: \$10
In person and virtual ticket options available

Students will still need to register for tickets in order for us to ensure we do not exceed the number of attendees our space can host.

SPONSORED BY



DOOLITTLE INSTITUTE



EGLIN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Eglin Federal Credit Union | Fun 4 Emerald Coast Kids



EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER PRESENTS



Girls Empowered with Math and Science

Second Saturday of the month • 10:30am-12pm
For girls ages 8 to 15

Free workshops hosted at the Fort Walton Beach Library.
Call the library to register: 850-833-9590.

TECH, TOOLS, & TRADE:

GEMS Workshops allow young women to explore the contribution of female scientists to STEM with fun, engaging lessons each month from October through May.

Program Sponsored by



MTSi
MODERN TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS, INC.

ecscience.org | 850-664-1261 | 31 SW Memorial Pkwy | Fort Walton Beach, FL



Women in Science 2024



 Emerald Coast Science Center
August 13, 2025

We're excited to announce the 9th Annual Women in Science Conference on September 30th, proudly presented by us alongside MTSI! ✨

Celebrate and empower women in STEM during this inspiring evening. Whether you're a STEM professional, an education advocate, or a student exploring STEM fields, this event welcomes you. All ages invited, with light refreshments to enjoy!

Get tickets today at <https://www.ecsscience.org/.../women-in-science-conference-4>

A huge thank you to our amazing sponsors: MTSI/MTSI, United Way Emerald Coast, Doolittle Institute, Beast Code, Eglin Federal Credit Union, Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), and Fun 4 Emerald Coast Kids!



INTERESTED IN STEM?
The Women in Science Conference is a celebration of women in all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) professions. Hosted by the Emerald Coast Science Center and Modern Technology Solutions Inc, the evening will consist of inspirational presentations from professional women in STEM careers followed by a panel discussion where the audience can engage with speakers and ask questions. Proceeds benefit the Girls Empowered with Health and Science (GEHS) Workshops, a free program at the Emerald Coast Science Center.

WHEN/WHERE
Tuesday, September 30, 2025
from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
The Place on Beal in Fort Walton Beach
100 Beal Parkway NW, FWB, FL 32548

TICKET INFO
Students: free*, Adults: \$10



GEMS

 Emerald Coast Science Center
October 11, 2025 · 🌐

Today and everyday, we celebrate every girl who dares to ask questions, explore boldly, and take up space! 💖

In today's GEMS workshop, the girls created their own glowing deep-sea circuit creatures and explored how ocean animals survive in the various zones of the ocean!

Join us for our next GEMS workshop, sponsored by [MTSI](#) at the [Fort Walton Beach Public Library](#) on November 8!



Dr. Aomawa Shields
GEMS 2025-2026

Dr. Aomawa Shields is an astronomer and astrobiologist who searches for life beyond Earth. She studies exoplanets—planets orbiting stars outside our solar system—and uses computer models to figure out which ones might have conditions that allow life to thrive. Her groundbreaking work blends astronomy, climate science, and astrobiology, bringing us closer to answering the age-old question: Are we alone in the universe? Dr. Shields is also passionate about mentoring young women in science, combining her love of the stars with her mission to make STEM fields more inclusive.



Family Science Night 2024/25



Galaxy Gateway Ribbon Cutting 2025



Exhibits



Reduce, Reuse, Refashion 2025



Contact Us



Emerald Coast Science Center
31 Memorial Pkwy SW, FWB FL 32548
ecscience.org • 850-664-1261



Adapted Activities for Programs and Outreach



Marina Philip, PhD

STEAM Professional Liaison
Explora Science Center and Children's Museum
Albuquerque, NM

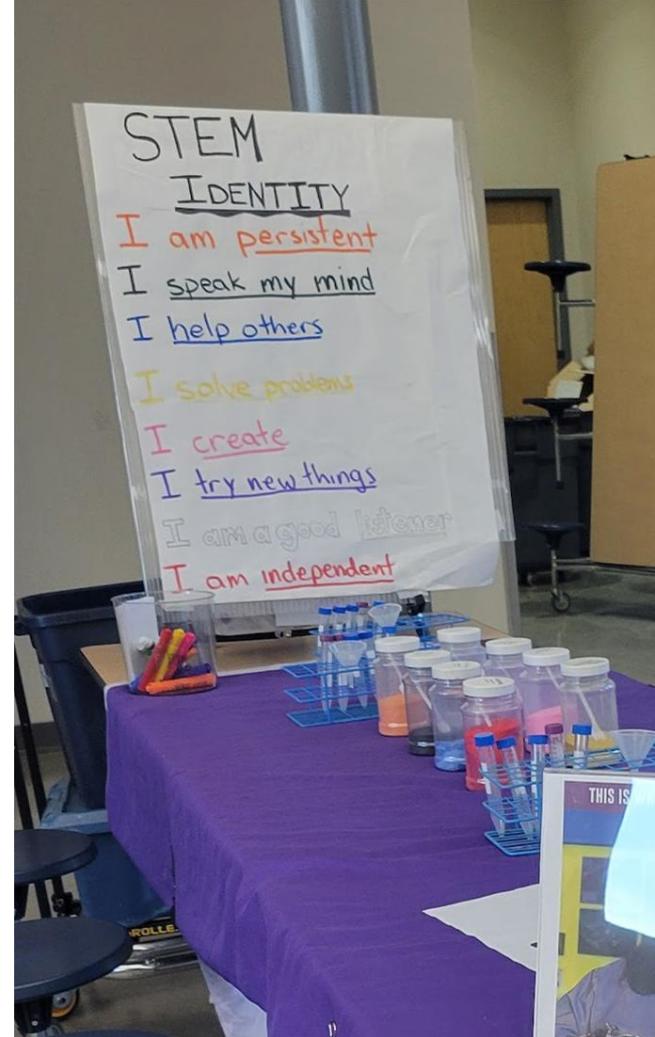
Identi-beads (Adapted!)

Middle School Audience

Instead of beads, we brainstormed a novel material and sensory experience that would draw students into the activity. We landed on layering colored sand in plastic centrifuge tubes. The tubes were a hit!

Drop-In, Outreach

Students were presented with a “menu” of color-coded statements, then asked to vote with a sticker which resonated with them the most. They then made their take-home tube.



Key Takeaways

Facilitation worked best among groups of friends

Students were eager to reflect on their friends' and siblings' best traits.

The activity took more time than expected (in a good way!)

Students helped one another and took extra time to have conversations about the topic.



Career Exploration and STEM Identity

Teen Science Cafe

Once a month we host STEM professionals to do hands-on activities with a group of 20-40 teens. Grant funding for buses to the museum has been key to the success of this program.



Career Exploration and STEM Identity

We designed our wrap-up discussion to encourage reflection and STEM identity growth, and it provides useful evaluation data!

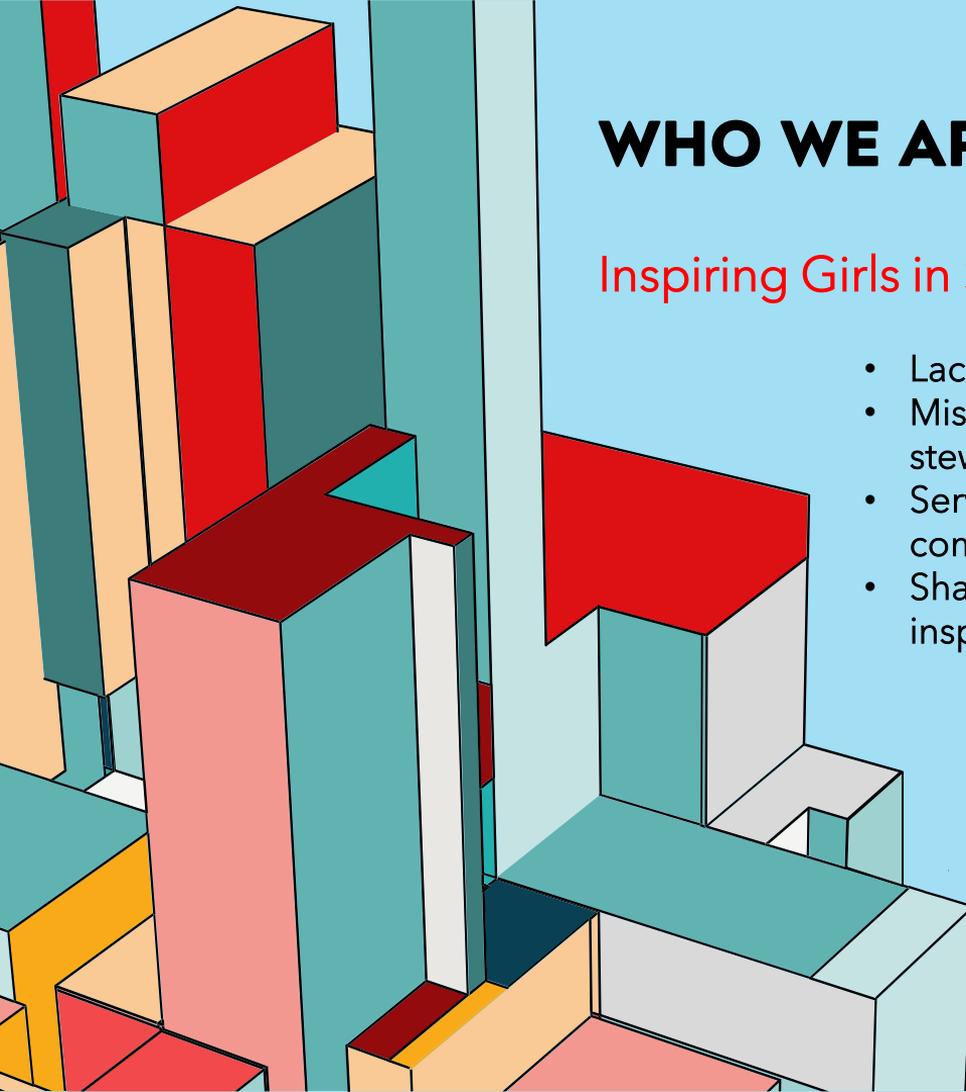
What traits (mental, personal, and physical) would benefit someone doing this work?

Answers are collected on the board. After students contribute, we ask the STEM Pros to reflect on the students' ideas and add their own.

Which of these traits do you see in yourself?

We give students 3 magnets to place next to 3 traits they see in themselves or that they aspire to.





WHO WE ARE & WHY IF/THEN® FITS

Inspiring Girls in STEM Through Place-Based Learning

- Lacawac Sanctuary (545-acre living laboratory)
- Mission: Research, education, and environmental stewardship
- Serving PreK-12 students, educators, families, and communities
- Shared goal with IF/THEN®: representation + inspiration = persistence in STEM



LACAWAC
SANCTUARY FOUNDATION



HOW WE USE IF/THEN® RESOURCES

Bringing IF/THEN® Role Models Into Our Programs

Integrated IF/THEN® assets into:

- School programs & field experiences
- Public events and family programs
- Girls-focused STEM initiatives

Used Assets to:

- Spark curiosity
- Normalize women in STEM careers
- Connect learning to real people and pathways





IMPACT ON GIRLS, EDUCATORS & COMMUNITY

From Exposure to Empowerment

- Increased engagement and confidence among girls in STEM activities
- Girls seeing themselves reflected in STEM careers
- Families engaging in STEM conversations beyond the program

"I didn't realize there were so many different kinds of scientists. Seeing women who actually do this work made me feel like I could do it too."

Reached 750+ girls annually through STEM education programs

IF/THEN® resources integrated into multiple school, public, and girls-focused initiatives

LESSONS LEARNED & WHAT'S NEXT



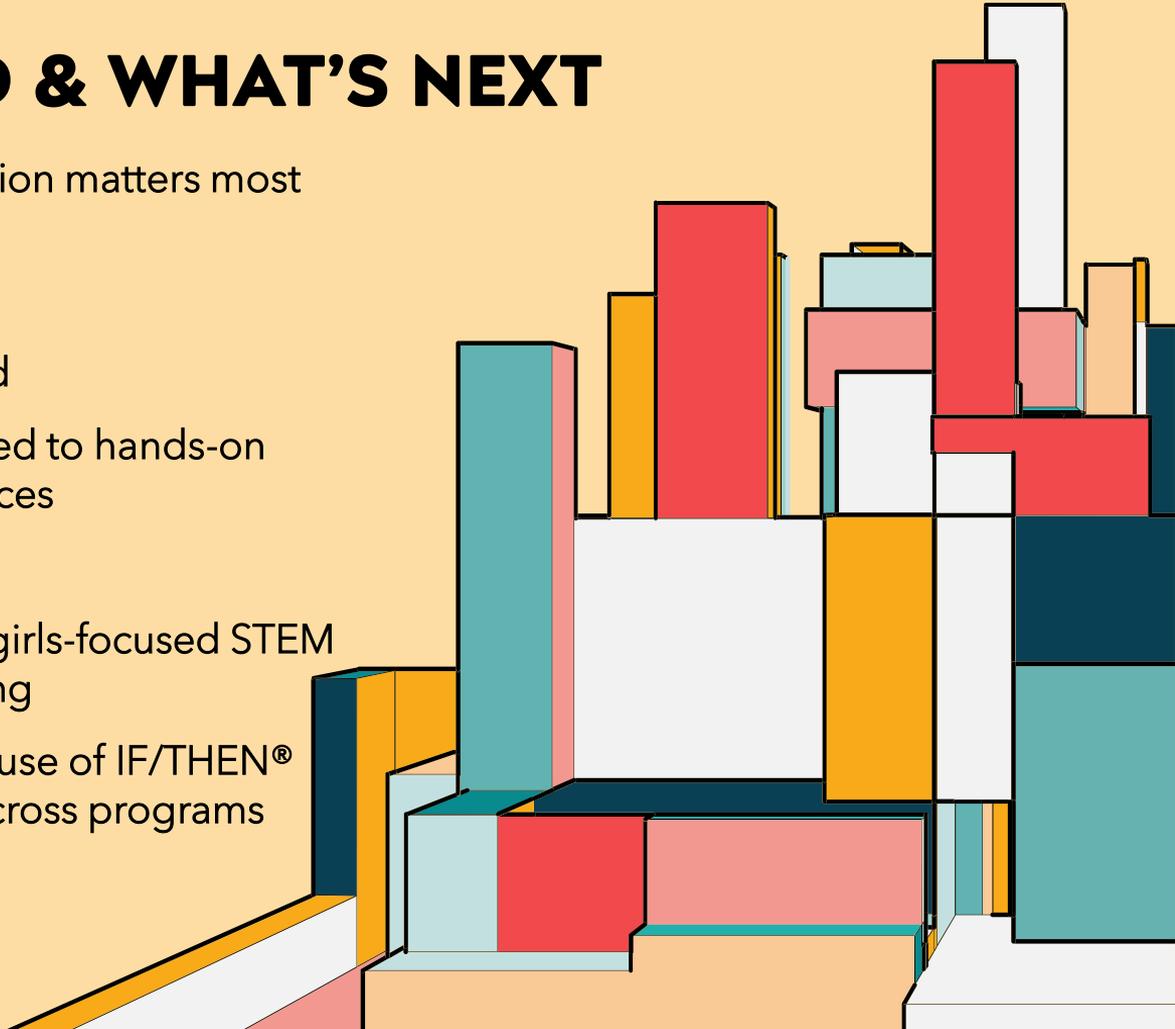
Representation matters most when it's:

- Visible
- Repeated
- Connected to hands-on experiences

Next steps:

Expanding girls-focused STEM programming

Deepening use of IF/THEN[®] resources across programs





Q & A

The background is a solid teal color. It is decorated with various abstract geometric patterns. These include thin lines in shades of blue and green, some of which are curved or form partial circles. Small solid dots in the same color palette are placed at various points along these lines, often at intersections or endpoints. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and technical.

Opportunities For Organizational Members

New Funding Opportunity: Small Awards

- Request up to \$5,000 for Organizational Members
- Use funds to showcase IF/THEN® Collection in a program, activity or display, or engage with IF/THEN® Ambassador(s) for an event
- **Submit your request by March 15**



IF/THEN®

CHAMPIONS

NETWORK

Opportunities for Organizational Members

Opportunity	Request by/Due
Welcome Kits	Anytime
Kit 1: This is What a Scientist Looks Like	Anytime
Organizational Planning Sessions	Anytime, registration required
Small Awards: Up to \$5,000	March 15

Reach out to ifthen@astc.org with questions!



The background is a solid teal color. It features several abstract white geometric patterns. These include horizontal and vertical lines, some with small circular dots at their ends. There are also curved lines, some forming arcs or partial circles, and some lines that curve and then straighten out. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and technical.

Resources and Upcoming Activities

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



**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)
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)
A curated set of assets for afterschool and summer camps
- **Educator Hub** (www.ifthencollection.org/educator-hub)
A one-stop shop with ideas for using the Collection aligned with learning standards

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 relatable images of real women in STEM!

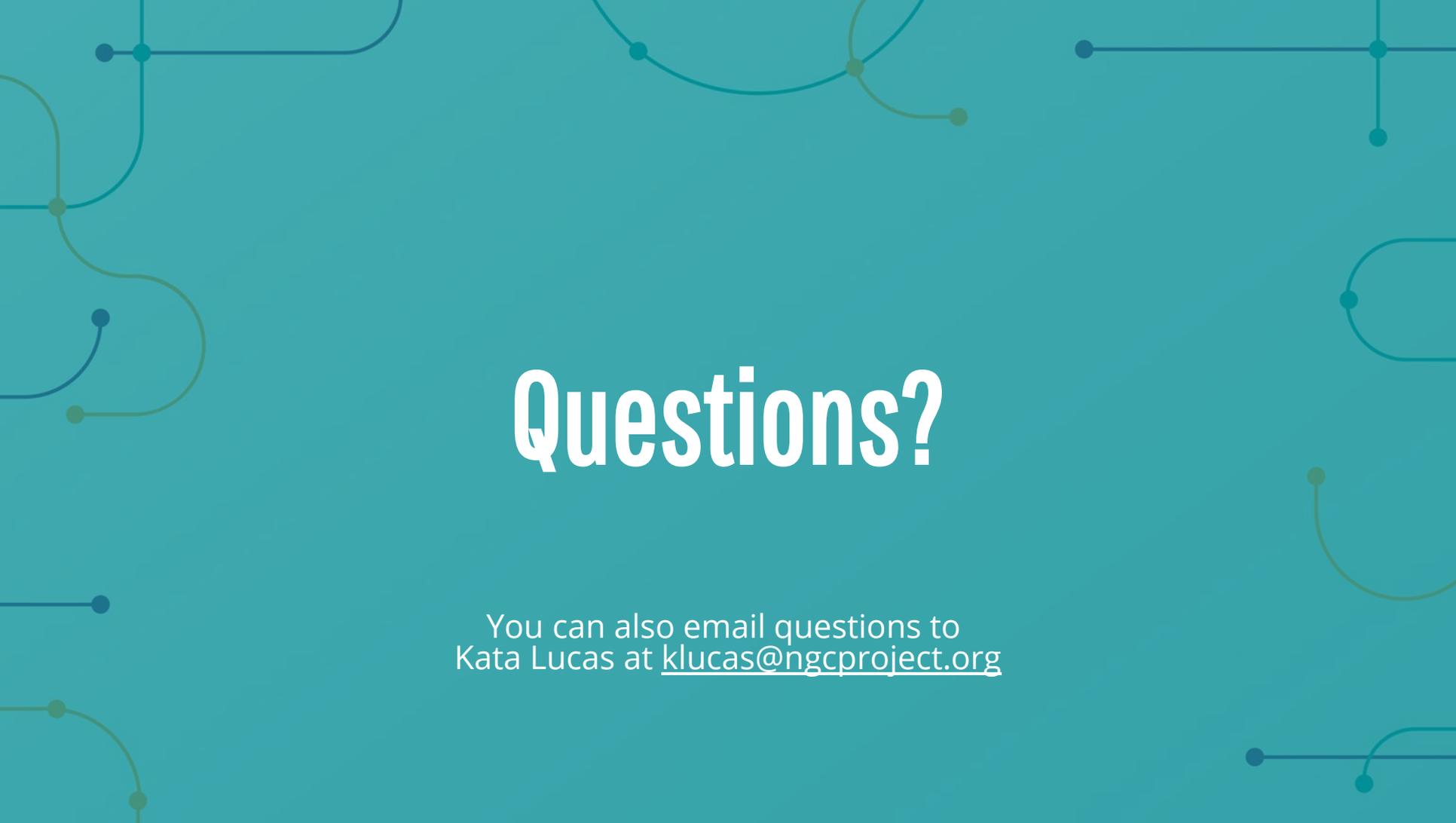
In this email, we are sharing **new opportunities and resources** available to Champions Network members, including the opportunity to engage with other members at the ASTC Annual Conference in September; details about upcoming webinars, and more!

**IF/THEN®
CHAMPIONS
NETWORK**

Upcoming Activities

- **2026 Network Webinars and Meetups:**
 - Meetup: April 1, 2026
 - Webinar: May 13, 2026
- **2026 Annual ASTC Conference:
September 16-19, 2026, in Phoenix,
AZ**





Questions?

You can also email questions to
Kata Lucas at kucas@ngcproject.org

