



**Upcoming Opportunities
and New Resources to
Increase Gender
Representation in STEM
Chat Transcript
August 19, 2026**

Brenda Britsch: Welcome everyone! This is Brenda Britsch with NGCP. A summer highlight for me was a family camping trip.

Meghan Toland: Hello from Sacramento! Meghan Toland, the Deputy Director of Sacramento Children's Museum. Personal highlight - seeing a sloth in the wild in Costa Rica, professional highlight - a STEM day with an IF/Then ambassador!

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Hello from Sacramento! Meghan Toland, the Deputy Director of Sacramento Children's Museum. Personal highlight - seeing a sloth in the wild in Costa Rica, professional highlight - a STEM day with an IF/Then ambassador!" with ❤️

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "Hello from Sacramento! Meghan Toland, the Deputy Director of Sacramento Children's Museum. Personal highlight - seeing a sloth in the wild in Costa Rica, professional highlight - a STEM day with an IF/Then ambassador!"

A sloth!

Hannah Eisla: Hi! I'm Hannah, and I'm the Director of Education at Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA. Summer highlight: we went to the Bahamas on the Disney Destiny this summer 🥰

Tamika Tretu: Hey hey from Dallas! Summer highlight: I drove to OKC and had fun at the new Okana Resort with my sons and nephews! I'm CPO at Techbridge Girls.

Samantha Mugica: Hi there from the Children's Science Center Lab in Fairfax, VA! Samantha, the school programs manager. We saw over 600 visitors across 7 library programs this summer!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: I went on a road trip through the South—Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Virginia

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Hi there from the Children's Science Center Lab! Samantha, the school programs manager. We saw over 600 visitors across 7 library programs this summer!" with ❤️

Amy Gramsey: Reacted to "Hi! I'm Hannah, a..." with 👍

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "I went on a road trip through the South—Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Virginia" with ❤️



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Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Hey hey from Dallas! Summer highlight: I drove to OKC and had fun at the new Okana Resort with my sons and nephews! I'm CPO at Techbridge Girls." with ❤️

Lakin Sheeder: Hi, Everyone! Lakin from Davenport, Iowa- Education Lead at the Putnam Museum and Science Center. It's been a fun and busy summer with our summer camps. Today we're hosting a Geek Squad Tech camp! Summer camp highlights: Zombie Survival Camp and Wizardry and Magical Beasts Camps!

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Hello from Sacramento! Meghan Toland, the Deputy Director of Sacramento Children's Museum. Personal highlight - seeing a sloth in the wild in Costa Rica, professional highlight - a STEM day with an IF/Then ambassador!" with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Welcome everyone! This is Brenda Britsch with NGCP. A summer highlight for me was a family camping trip." with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Hi, Everyone! Lakin from Davenport, Iowa- Education Lead at the Putnam Museum and Science Center. It's been a fun and busy summer with our summer camps. Today we're hosting a Geek Squad Tech camp! Summer camp highlights: Zombie Survival Camp and Wizardry and Magical Beasts Camps!" with ❤️

Diane Fraser: Greetings from the Emerald Coast Science Center in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. I got to take one of our snakes to our Children's Advocacy Center Safety Safari camp for children in their therapy program.

Cailee Smith: Hello, everyone! Cailee Smith in Seattle. Currently working independently. Highlight: Teaching my niece and nephew about horseshoe crabs and how to properly hold them on Cape Cod last month. I'm always encouraging them to explore and ask questions!

Karah Pena- KID Museum: Hi, Karah from KID Museum. We took a very early babymoon to Ireland this summer!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "Greetings from the Emerald Coast Science Center in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. I got to take one of our snakes to our Children's Advocacy Center Safety Safari camp for children in their therapy program." with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "Hello, everyone! Cailee Smith in Seattle. Currently working independently. Highlight: Teaching my niece and nephew



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about horseshoe crabs and how to properly hold them on Cape Cod last month. I'm always encouraging them to explore and ask questions!" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "Hi, Karah from KID Museum. We took an early babymoon to Ireland this summer!" with ❤️

Dale McCreedy: Replying to "I went on a road tri..."

Wow - did you happen to make it to NE TN - Johnson city?

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "Hi, Karah from KID Museum. We took an early babymoon to Ireland this summer!" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to "Hi, Karah from KID M..."

You mentioned Ireland but babymoon makes it even better!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "You mentioned Ireland but babymoon makes it even better!" with 🙌

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Hi there from the Children's Science Center Lab in Fairfax, VA! Samantha, the school programs manager. We saw over 600 visitors across 7 library programs this summer!" with ❤️

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Hi, Everyone! Lakin from Davenport, Iowa- Education Lead at the Putnam Museum and Science Center. It's been a fun and busy summer with our summer camps. Today we're hosting a Geek Squad Tech camp! Summer camp highlights: Zombie Survival Camp and Wizardry and Magical Beasts Camps!" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to "I went on a road tri..."

I thought about you and I wanted to visit but we wound up driving straight through the middle!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "Hello, everyone! Cailee Smith in Seattle. Currently working independently. Highlight: Teaching my niece and nephew about horseshoe crabs and how to properly hold them on Cape Cod last month. I'm always encouraging them to explore and ask questions!" with ❤️

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Hi, Karah from KID Museum. We took an early babymoon to Ireland this summer!" with ❤️



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Karah Pena- KID Museum: Reacted to "You mentioned Ireland but babymoon makes it even better!" with ❤️

Dale McCreedy: Replying to "I went on a road tri..."

Yes - nashville is understandably a huge draw - lived there before NE TN

Kata Lucas: Direct join link: <https://app.sli.do/event/d6r2r3adD2tixSLcUDyJj1>

Or, visit <https://www.slido.com> and enter code 3593205

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to "I went on a road tri..."

I'll have to tell you more about it—we didn't stop in Nashville either and instead stopped in rural areas 😊

Kate Fox: Reacted to "Greetings from the..." with ❤️

Dale McCreedy: Reacted to "I'll have to tell you more about it—we didn't stop in Nashville either and instead stopped in rural areas 😊" with ❤️

Kata Lucas: Padlet: <https://padlet.com/katarinalucas1/if-then-champions-network-webinars-meetups-brainstorm-w77icxib11rn8g6p>

Brenda Britsch: This is so helpful - thank you all for the ideas!

Brenda Britsch: Feel free to keep adding if you think of other ideas.

Hannah Eisla: We should definitely continue this discussion at conference next month

Karah Pena- KID Museum: Reacted to "We should definitely continue this discussion at conference next month" with ❤️

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "We should definitely continue this discussion at conference next month" with ❤️

Kata Lucas: Reacted to "We should definitely continue this discussion at conference next month" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Kit Options and Overview



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Hannah Eisla: We have used the pieces in multiple locations. The individual posters went in our education hallway and have been a good conversation starter with students. We have the pull up banners on display in our observatory, but the bases broke so I'm currently working on a solution to still have them on display.

Hannah Eisla: We have Reaching the Stars in our observatory

Cailee Smith: I LOVED the pop-up banners. They were reusable and could be used in different situations and were easy to move and store. I think they could be improved by having larger text and possibly be bilingual. I think the bottom images could be smaller to create space for it.

Hannah Eisla: LA28!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "I LOVED the pop-up banners. They were reusable and could be used in different situations and were easy to move and store. I think they could be improved by having larger text and possibly be bilingual. I think the bottom images could be smaller to create space for it." with 👍

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "We have used the pieces in multiple locations. The individual posters went in our education hallway and have been a good conversation starter with students. We have the pull up banners on display in our observatory, but the bases broke so I'm currently working on a solution to still have them on display."

Oh sorry to hear about the bases! Wondering if that happened for anyone else?

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "I LOVED the pop-up banners. They were reusable and could be used in different situations and were easy to move and store. I think they could be improved by having larger text and possibly be bilingual. I think the bottom images could be smaller to create space for it." with 👍

Alex Young: We use the popup banners when we travel to fairs or schools as well as temporary gallery fills! They are great! I absolutely second the request for bilingual content.

Cailee Smith: Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "LA28!" with ❤️



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Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: <https://www.ifthenshecan.org/game-changers/>

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "We use the popup banners when we travel to fairs or schools as well as temporary gallery fills! They are great! I absolutely second the request for bilingual content." with 👍

Lakin Sheeder: Reacted to "I LOVED the pop-up banners. They were reusable and could be used in different situations and were easy to move and store. I think they could be improved by having larger text and possibly be bilingual. I think the bottom images could be smaller to create space for it." with 👍

Dale McCreedy: We love and continue to use the 125 ambassador banner in presentation booths and in programs. I would like to offer this up to some community partners if that is a possibility.

The decals were unfortunately only useful once - they did not come off glass easily and needed to be tossed.

It might be nice to be able to assemble our own banner choices in stead of just themes as it is easier then to make relevant.

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Game Changers
assets: <https://www.ifthencollection.org/game-changers>

Hannah Eisla: We're planning a big sports push for the summer of 28 with the Olympics, so this is great

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible"

I agree @Cailee Smith!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible" with 👍

Lakin Sheeder: Reacted to "Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible" with 👍



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Kata Lucas: Reacted to "We have used the pieces in multiple locations. The individual posters went in our education hallway and have been a good conversation starter with students. We have the pull up banners on display in our observatory, but the bases broke so I'm currently working on a solution to still have them on display." with ❤️

Meghan Toland: Reacted to "Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: List of Game Changers

Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8l5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Women in sports is a GREAT connection! I'm so excited about that! There are a lot of surprising STEM connections that young girls might not realize that make STEM more accessible" with ❤️

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "We love and continue to use the 125 ambassador banner in presentation booths and in programs. I would like to offer this up to some community partners if that is a possibility."

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It might be nice to be able to assemble our own banner choices in stead of just themes as it is easier then to make relevant."

Good feedback - thank you!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "We're planning a big sports push for the summer of 28 with the Olympics, so this is great" with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: Replying to "We love and continue to use the 125 ambassador banner in presentation booths and in programs. I would like to offer this up to some community partners if that is a possibility.

The decals were unfortunatley only useful once - they did not come off glass easily and needed to be tossed.

It might be nice to be able to assemble our own banner choices in stead of just themes as it is easier then to make relevant."

We mounted our decals on hardback and have them up as posters!

Cailee Smith: Applied engineering

Dale McCreedy: Might like large poster format instead of decals

Meghan Toland: I love the pop up banners because we can move them around so easily.

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "Might like poster format instead of decals" with 👍

Cailee Smith: STEM on the field/pitch

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "We mounted our decals on hardback and have them up as posters!" with 👍

Hannah Eisla: Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8I5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

This is saying it has restricted access for me

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "STEM on the field/pitch" with ❤️



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Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to "List of Game Changer..."

Let me try to fix it!

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "I love the pop up banners because we can move them around so easily." with 👍

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "We love and continue to use the 125 ambassador banner in presentation booths and in programs. I would like to offer this up to some community partners if that is a possibility."

The decals were unfortunately only useful once - they did not come off glass easily and needed to be tossed.

It might be nice to be able to assemble our own banner choices in stead of just themes as it is easier then to make relevant." with 👍

Kata Lucas: Yes! Love that Meghan!

Alex Young: Reacted to "Yes! Love that Meg..." with 👍

Christy Roberts, MSDC (she/her): Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8I5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

It worked for me

Cailee Smith: Powered by STEM or STEM behind the scenes (coaches, therapists, dietitians, sports data analysts, executives)

Hannah Eisla: Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8I5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

I'm on my phone, so it may just be misbehaving

Dale McCreedy: Replying to "I love the pop up ba..."

Yes - me too - makes them flexible and useful in a strategic way.



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Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Powered by STEM or STEM behind the scenes (coaches, therapists, dietitians, sports data analysts, executives)" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Feel free to keep sharing more by emailing IfThen@astc.org

Cailee Smith: STEM is strong!

Renee Henry: We had to remove decals and they would not re-stick so we had to give up on them. The hard durable posters have held up great though lighting can reflect off them.

Dale McCreedy: The only thing that might be nice to add to the big poster with all 125 might be to find a way to insert some of the careers - not a lot of space I know!!

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "I agree @Cailee Smith!" with ❤️

Renee Henry: Pop ups probably wouldn't hold up in our environment.

Erin Graves: Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8l5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

This is random, but is Alba Lynnette Colón Rodriguez in Huntersville (not Huntsville) in NC? This makes more sense - and closer to us!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: MLMP website

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8l5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

@Hannah Eisla Let us know when you're able to try it later

Cailee Smith: I love this collaboration!

Alex Young: How cool!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "How cool!" with ❤️



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Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "I love this collaboration!" with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: I love this!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "I love this!" with ❤️

Cailee Smith: Do you have to currently be employed at a museum for these opportunities? For example, could you be an independent developer/outreach educator and partner with your local library?

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: We will be sharing a lot of applications!

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "We will be sharing a lot of applications!" with ❤️

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "Do you have to currently be employed at a museum for these opportunities? For example, could you be an independent developer/outreach educator and partner with your local library?"

This is a good question. We might have to get back to you unless @Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her can answer now.

Meghan Toland: Did you say when the game changers content is available? I might have missed it

Brenda Britsch: Replying to "List of Game Changers Ambassadors: https://assnscitechctrs.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/Common/IQDBpBos9K-VRar_B-jTMQrPAWITgpmwPoRgPdB7DvzHPs8?e=8m8I5b&or=WORD-WEB.BODY.NT&ct=1787150176668"

@Erin Graves I am not sure... we can find out

Alex Young: Love the Museum Lab collab :)

Brenda Britsch: Reacted to "Love the Museum Lab collab :)" with ❤️

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to "Love the Museum Lab ..."

I thought you would! Let me know if you want to talk more about it

Alex Young: Reacted to "I thought you woul..." with 👍



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Cailee Smith: It would be so great to create a monthly STEM career highlight corner featuring IF/THEN Ambassadors and paired with book recommendations and a self-guided activity. Maybe even a badge kids could earn for exploring different careers.

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to " It would be so great to create a monthly STEM career highlight corner featuring IF/THEN Ambassadors and paired with book recommendations and a self-guided activity. Maybe even a badge kids could earn for exploring different careers." with ❤️

Dale McCreedy: Congrats on continuing to get funding for these many efforts!!!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Replying to " It would be so g..."

Love that!

Shannon Sullivan | ASTC she/her: Reacted to "Congrats on continuing to get funding for these many efforts!!!" with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Congrats on continuing to get funding for these many efforts!!!" with ❤️

Renee Henry: Reacted to "Congrats on continuing to get funding for these many efforts!!!" with ❤️

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Love that!" with ❤️

Alex Young: Reacted to "Congrats on contin..." with ❤️

Kata Lucas: Statistics and Resources:

<https://ngcproject.org/statistics>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/exemplarypractices>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/state-girls-and-women-stem>

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Statistics and Resources:

<https://ngcproject.org/statistics>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/exemplarypractices>



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<https://ngcproject.org/resources/state-girls-and-women-stem>" with ❤️

Lakin Sheeder: Reacted to "Statistics and Resources:

<https://ngcproject.org/statistics>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/exemplarypractices>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/state-girls-and-women-stem>" with ❤️

Cailee Smith: Reacted to "Congrats on continuing to get funding for these many efforts!!!" with 🎉

Kata Lucas: Stereotypes Webinar: <https://ngcproject.org/resources/understanding-stem-stereotypes-look-newest-research-and-strategies>

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Statistics and Resources:

<https://ngcproject.org/statistics>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/exemplarypractices>

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/state-girls-and-women-stem>" with ❤️

Hannah Eisla: Reacted to "Stereotypes Webinar:
<https://ngcproject.org/resources/understanding-stem-stereotypes-look-newest-research-and-strategies>" with ❤️

Kata Lucas: <https://ngcproject.org/ifthen-champions-network>

Meghan Toland: Thank you!

Dale McCreedy: thanks all!

Tamika Tretu: tHANK YOU!

Samantha Mugica: Thank you!

Karah Pena- KID Museum: Thank you!!

Hannah Eisla: Thank you! See you in Phoenix!

Lakin Sheeder: You too! Thank you!