



# GRANT WOOD AEA OPENMINDS OPENDOORS

TO: School Contacts/Parents – Open Minds, Open Doors  
FROM: Susie Green, Student Programs Specialist  
DATE: Fall 2020  
RE: Registration Information

Thank you for your interest in the 2020 Open Minds, Open Doors STEM+ conference for girls! We are pleased to have the opportunity to, again, sponsor this event.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this year's conference event will be held virtually, offering the opportunity for girls to participate from school or from home. For full details, please review the information below. If you have any questions contact me at [sgreen@gwaea.org](mailto:sgreen@gwaea.org) or 319-399-6775. Thank you for your support of this event!

## General Information

Purpose: To introduce girls to careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).  
Audience: **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls only**  
Date: Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 8:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Location: Virtual  
Cost: \$10/student

## 2020 Anticipated Event Schedule (links to be provided for each segment)

8:45 Welcome  
8:55 College Experiment Challenge – Round 1  
9:45 Career Workshop Sessions & STEM Activity Sessions  
11:15 Virtual Workplace Tours  
11:45 College Experiment Challenge – Round 2  
1:00 UI Health Care - Case Based Learning Session  
1:30 Closing

## To Register

Understanding that the education landscape looks very different this year, registrations will be accepted from both school groups and from individual students. School Groups are defined as girls who are attending “in-person school”, and who will be led through the conference by a teacher/educator. Individual Students are defined as girls who are attending school remotely from home, and who will be self-guided through the conference (or perhaps joined by a parent). Below are the registration processes for each:

- **School Groups/Students Participating at School:**
  - Invite girls to register for the virtual event (see *Selection Guidance* on the next page)
  - Complete and submit this form: [Anticipated Registrations from Our School](#)
  - Girls register and submit payment\* at: [www.gwaea.org/educators/student-enrichment-opportunities](http://www.gwaea.org/educators/student-enrichment-opportunities)
- **Students Participating from Home:**
  - Complete the registration and submit payment\* at: [www.gwaea.org/educators/student-enrichment-opportunities](http://www.gwaea.org/educators/student-enrichment-opportunities)

***Spaces are limited. First come, First served.  
Registrations will be accepted until the program is full.***

## **Additional Details:**

### **Format**

Typically participating girls have had the opportunity to select their preferred career workshop sessions upon registration. Due to the virtual nature of the conference, as well as the limited number of presenters available in this format, workshop scheduling will be handled by the event administrators. If you have any questions, please let me know.

### **Requirements To Participate & Expectations**

The following is a checklist of requirements, needs and expectations for all participants:

- Computer or tablet with camera, microphone and internet connection to view linked sessions.
  - If participating as a School Group (at school), consider safely sharing devices. For instance, via projector in your media center or a classroom.
- Flat surface to participate in STEM activity sessions (desktop, kitchen table, floor, etc.)
- If you don't have a Zoom account, we recommend signing up for one now to ensure you are ready to go on the day of the conference. Click [here](#) to sign up for a free account.
  - If this will be your first time using Zoom, we recommend testing the link prior to the event to ensure everything works.
- It is possible some of our sessions will also utilize a Google platform instead of Zoom. We are still working out those details.
- Our presenters will have video on. We encourage and welcome participants to leave their video on, too, but it is up to you.
- Our presenters will have audio on. We ask that all participants begin each session in "mute", but there will likely be opportunities to interact through both the chat feature and the microphone feature when invited.

In addition, School Groups are encouraged to assign a teacher/educator to:

- Engage with students during their workshop sessions, and assist/intervene as needed.
- Remain with students during larger group sessions.
- Ensure appropriate behavior of students during the event.
- Assist with technology glitches.

### **Financial Need Scholarships\***

A limited number of financial need scholarships are available for participants who may have difficulties making payment. Scholarships may be requested when completing the online registration form or by entering the code **KKS2020**.

All scholarships are awarded in memory of Katherine Kittredge, an AAUW member and frequent *Open Minds, Open Doors* presenter.

### **Selection Guidance for Schools**

Please use the following guidance when selecting girls for this conference event:

- Girls of all colors
- Girls of all abilities
- Girls who would thrive in STEM if given the opportunity
- Girls who already like STEM
- Girls who need a "spark" in their lives
- Girls who already have the "spark"
- NO repeat attendees from previous years

### **Registration Confirmation**

Upon completion of the online registration form, participants will receive a confirmation email from Susie Green at Grant Wood AEA. A follow up email will be sent in early November with full conference details and Zoom/Google links.