

VOLUME VII // MAY 2021

THE 28 PERCENT

Women make up only 28% of the STEM workforce.
This newsletter aims to change that.



by Violet, 9th grade

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TEDxPCC

Written by Emma, 9th grade

On May 15th, nine inspiring people will speak at TEDxPCC.

Two of these speakers are Alex Dainis and 12-year-old Ishana Kumar, women of STEM themselves. Dainis is a geneticist who uses social media to give impactful updates on the virus and vaccines, and Kumar was recognized for the research she's done on imaginary colours. The virtual event will allow students, mainly in high school and college, to share thoughts and ideas on current topics and issues. During the event, students will be able to watch the speaker's talks, be a part of discussion groups with other students from different schools, and learn from workshops taught by PCC students and local experts. When a student registers for TEDxPCC, they will be granted access to safe, moderated TEDxPCC discord servers, where they can discuss monthly topics and participate in pre-event activities. They will also be able to have a chance at winning prizes from community challenges.

The standard admission price is \$11.00 per student, but there is a 20% discount for schools who register in groups of ten or more students. School groups can register through the event's school registration forms. Payment can be done through PayPal, Venmo, or Cash App (PayPal and Venmo: @TEDxPCC, Cash App: \$TEDxPCC), and groups can pay individually or collectively.

This event is here to inspire and motivate students who are interested in the world of STEM, and it is not often you get to hear the stories and advice from nine diverse people, especially in the midst of the pandemic! <https://linktr.ee/tedxpc>

"THE GENIUS OF THE CROWD"

WHAT IS TEDxPCC?

TEDxPCC is an independently organized online TED event that encourages creativity, collaboration, and community from the comfort of your home.

SPEAKERS

MANDY CHAN



BowForBold
CEO

ISHANA KUMAR



Young
Researcher

EDDIE GONZALES



NASA Diversity &
Inclusion Lead

TEDxPCC SCHEDULE

- 1st Session -
TEDx Talks:
10.00 am to 2.00 pm (PST)
- 2nd Session -
TEDx Workshops:
2.30 pm to 6.30 pm (PST)

ALEX DAINIS



Science
Communicator &
Video Producer

SASHA PEREZ



Mayor at City
of Alhambra

LIAH YOO



Entrepreneur &
Content Creator

**ENJOY 9
INTERNATIONAL
SPEAKERS,
5 WORLD-CLASS
WORKSHOPS,
NETWORKING EVENTS,
GIVEAWAYS AND MORE!**

Register on Instagram today! @tedxpcc_official

15 MAY 2021

TAMARA NU



Social
Entrepreneur

DAGOGO ALTRAIDE



YouTube
Educationist

More speakers to be announced soon!



LINK:
[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/
TEDXPCC](https://linktr.ee/tedxPCC)

TEDxPCC

x = independently organized TED event

Behind TEDxPCC: Lauren Lee

by Maddie, 9th grade



Lauren Lee is an outreach officer for TEDxPCC, a student in STEM at Pasadena City College, and just a cool woman! Maddie conducted a short interview with her to learn more about her experience as a woman in STEM.

What made you interested in STEM?

I've always been interested in learning and exploring the sciences behind what we feel and see. I love figuring out how and why certain things happen to our body as a response to a trigger or other causes like allergic reactions. Just a little fact about myself, I am allergic to squid— my skin would be so itchy moments after I consume it, and I would scratch my skin to the point where white blood cells come out. I found this particularly new at that time, and I did research on this because.. obviously I was curious. I love the fact that I can read sources that educate me about what is happening to me, thanks to the technology and discovery scientists have found.

For me, the fascinating outcome about exploring science is that we get to learn more about ourselves. You begin to question when you notice the acne on your forehead, your teeth yellowing, or your stomach hurting— and these all have a biological reason, and I am very much curious to find the answers. Funny thing, sometimes I just sit and wonder, 'hmm.. what are my cells doing right now?'. I might be sitting still calmly, but my millions of cells might be in a war fighting pathogens, parasites burrowing their way to enter my body... and I'm basically in danger internally. But I feel absolutely nothing.

The reason why I am interested in STEM, particularly the studies of microbiology and immunology is because I want to research more on allergies and the immune system. I want to know the mechanisms behind how our body resists the thousands of small particles in the air, and keep us healthy. I want to know the cause and effect from doing something to the point where we notice something is wrong with our body or the symptoms we feel. I am interested in working with diseases, viruses, and pathogens.

Behind TEDxPCC: Lauren Lee (continued)

Do you like STEM at PCC?

I do! I enjoy participating in my classes. I'd have to say that my favorite is Biology, mainly because the professors are really nice and supportive, even during these difficult times. Last semester, I took a biology class that required me to read lots of primary literature articles and write papers— true, it was very time consuming and challenging, but I never felt so proud completing a course feeling so 'well-trained'. That biology class gave me a sneak peek of what is to come for me as a researcher. Shoutout to Professor Valerie Foster who made me love biology more.

The STEM center at PCC provides a lot of opportunities like workshops, tutoring, faculty meet & greet, and transfer webinars to support their students. They currently just wrapped up an event, 'PCC Science and Engineering Festival week' yesterday, which was a great advantage for me to ask questions and further explore more about careers in science.

Honestly, for me, PCC offers a bunch of opportunities— it's never-ending. We have a STEM counselor too on campus! Despite the numerous opportunities, I was never left uninformed, because I got emails and newsletters regularly, also news on social media.

What made you want to join the Tedx Team?

I joined the TEDx talk organizing team because I love being a part of a team. I enjoy engaging in social activities like volunteering, leading, and reaching out to the community and beyond. TEDx is a platform where ordinary people with extraordinary ideas share their experiences and interesting voices to the community. I figured out that TEDx talks are impactful and motivational. It is a great opportunity for me to do something meaningful, where students and individuals interested in networking, gaining inspiration, and participating in a community event can take advantage of.

The last TEDxPCC event was back in 2013, which means that it is pretty rare to have such a platform in the community. We hope the upcoming TEDxPCC that is scheduled for May 15 will be a source of encouragement and joy where people can come together virtually— just from the safety of our homes.

What other topics will be presented at the TEDx event?

TEDxPCC has 8 speakers who will be talking about their experiences and ideas. These speakers came from unique backgrounds and ideas worth-spreading, and they truly have amazing voices to be presented at TEDxPCC.

To describe one of our speakers, Alex Dainis is a PhD geneticist from Stanford, and she is now a science communicator and content producer— she will be talking about science communication during a crisis, and the process of communicating science. Other than science-based topics, we have speakers who will inspire young people to start acting now, and how important it is to be bold - talk about how different people perceive what they see differently, and ties this to judgment and racism, talk about the importance of having young and diverse faces in local governments to improve the community's day to day life, talk about how to stay encouraged, know what matters, and the significance of love; justice; and compassion in raising generations, talk about proper and effective networking, talk about solving climate change (for beauty brands and consumers) by shifting how products are made and how consumers should consume products; remind consumers to enjoy signature and evergreen beauty products over the trendy ones.

***the girls that made this newsletter
possible:***

Emma, 9th Grade
Violet, 9th Grade
Jaidyn, 9th Grade
Celeste, 9th Grade
Madeleine, 9th Grade
Morgan, 9th Grade
Kira, 9th Grade
Ms.Orret, Advisor

& everyone else on the WIS newsletter team

Check out our website:

[https://msorret.wixsite.com/
onlineclassroom/women-in-stem-newsletter](https://msorret.wixsite.com/onlineclassroom/women-in-stem-newsletter)

***have a question? want to get involved?
want to be featured on next month's newsletter?***

Email Ms. Orret!

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