

Introduction

The Caltech Women in Chemistry board in collaboration with the Caltech Center for Teaching, Learning and Outreach is offering a scholarship opportunity for female-identifying students with an interest in science. This will be the first year (2020-2021 school year) of what we on the Women in Chemistry board hope will be an annual program. Selected students will create and present a 10-minute presentation on a topic related to climate change and/or sustainability at a Caltech-hosted virtual science night. Presentations will be graded by the board with the best presentation receiving a college scholarship of **\$750**, and two honorable mentions receiving **\$500**. All presenters will receive a certificate of program completion signed by the board, and a bag of science swag!

Eligibility

For the first round of applications we are requiring that students be

- female identifying
- a highschool senior
- attending a public school in the Pasadena Unified School District
- Intending to attend a 2 or 4 year institution the following year
- have an interest in science and/or science policy!

Dates*

***some dates may be subject to slight adjustment

November 8th, 2020- applications due

November 23rd, 2020- accepted students will be notified and paired with a Caltech graduate student project advisor. The advisor is simply a contact for participants who would like help and advice with their project.

January 23rd, 2021- all participants are recommended to join us in our virtual presentation, "How to give a Science Talk." Also due is an outline of your talk which we will reference and give feedback on during the seminar.

March 6th, 2021- whole group informal practice night! An opportunity to practice your presentation with your peers and receive feedback.

March 13th, 2021- Science Night

Application

A complete application should be emailed to the board at caltech.women.chem@gmail.com by midnight on November the 8th. Answers can be submitted via pdf, word document, a link to a google document or typed into the email's message. Any questions about the application or concerns about the program can be emailed to Hannah Szentkuti at hkszentkuti@gmail.com. Deadlines/dates will be updated our scholarship webpage: <https://wic.sites.caltech.edu/>

Personal Information Needed

1. full name
2. Contact information- email(s), phone number
3. highschool in attendance
4. 1-5 prospective colleges
5. how you heard about our scholarship
6. presentation topic (can be changed)

Example Topics: desalination of water, ocean acidification, drones that plant trees, hydrogen fuel, carbon removal from the atmosphere, enzymes/bacteria that decompose plastic, gaseous atmospheric pollutants, geoengineering- atmospheric sulfate

Questions

[each answer should be one to two paragraphs]

1. What has your experience with science been like up to this point? Feel free to discuss courses that engaged you or challenged you, your experience with science in media (shows, YouTube channels, video games), why you are interested in science.
2. How do you feel your experience and background gives you a unique perspective on science?
3. In what ways do you think this competition may benefit you?
4. If you were a member of our Women in Chemistry board here at Caltech and had a thousand dollars to spend on science outreach in your community, what would you do?
5. What is a topic in science that excites you and why?