

Press Release: Prestigious Science Symposium to be held for Canadian Students High School students from across Canada to attend astronomy workshop run by top scientists

Kingston, Ontario (17 February 2021) – This weekend, hundreds of high school students from across Canada will be participating in Let’s Talk Astrophysics, a free two-day symposium about astrophysics. The students will interact with award winning researchers and use data taken by scientific observatories to find signs of dark matter, one of the most elusive but important scientific mysteries today.

The symposium is jointly run by the Innovation, Diversity, Exploration & Advancement in Science (IDEAS) Initiative and Let’s Talk Science and will be hosted by Dr. Nathalie Ouliette, renowned scientist with the James Webb Space Telescope and the Canadian Space Agency. Although catered towards high school students, all members of the public are welcome to join on Saturday to listen to the scientific expertise and advice of top astronomers from around the world.

“It is important to show that science is fun and isn’t as hard as it may seem,” says Simran Nerval, Chief Organizer of Let’s Talk Astrophysics. “The students will interact closely with volunteer scientists that are diverse in both career stage and backgrounds. We want to normalize the idea that anybody can be a scientist.”

Anybody wishing to participate can register for free through <https://www.queensu.ca/physics/Ita>.

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About the Innovation, Diversity, Exploration & Advancement in Science (IDEAS) Initiative

The IDEAS Initiative is a national organization dedicated towards eliminating discrimination in STEM. The Initiative seeks to promote advancement of under-represented groups in STEM across all levels of education through an innovative intergenerational approach. The IDEAS Initiative is supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Queen’s University Department of Physics, Astronomy & Engineering Physics, the Arthur B. McDonald Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute, and SNOLAB.

About Let’s Talk Science

Let’s Talk Science is an award-winning, national, charitable organization that has been providing engaging Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) based programming to Canadian youth for over 25 years. With volunteer outreach sites at over 50 universities, colleges and research institutions, they are committed to developing the critical skills and interest needed for successful futures in STEM-based careers for youth across Canada.

For more information, or to arrange an interview with Simran Nerval, Chief Organizer of Let’s Talk Astrophysics, contact:

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