

Innovation,
Diversity
Exploration &
Advancement in
STEM



The IDEAS Initiative

Melissa Baiocchi

Queen's University

Land Acknowledgement

- Respectfully, we acknowledge that UNB stands on the unceded, unsurrendered, traditional territory of the Wolastoqey
- The lands of Wabanaki people are recognized in a series of Peace and Friendship Treaties to establish an ongoing relationship of peace friendship and mutual respect between nations
- Whose land are you on: <https://native-land.ca/>



More Land Acknowledging

- Wabanaki: People of the dawnland
- This alliance of four peoples predated its first reporting by Europeans in 1606
- See <https://wnnb.wolastoqey.ca/history/>



The problem

- There is a significant drop in interest girls in STEM at ages 9-13. Updated studies in this field increase the scope of the issue
- Many children love science but are unable to see themselves as scientists
- The decline in "believing you can be a scientist" begins in middle school and disproportionately affects underrepresented groups, including girls, members of some racial and ethnic minorities, and children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

The McGill Daily is located on unceded Kanien'kehá:ka territory.
EDITORIAL: [Airbnb Has No Home in Montreal](#)

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Physics named most misogynistic department

Mechanical Engineering outraged

by Commentary / October 18, 2012

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Fine men, sexist pigs

Calling out misogyny in Physics

by Shannon Palus / October 11, 2012

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Physics survey highlights sexism among students

Department recognizes need for "female role models"

by Lola Duffort and Farid Rener / February 11, 2013



IDEAS mission

- Addressing this issue at the root of the problem
- Promoting confidence in youth through adulthood in pursuing scientific learning and careers
- Creating a network of mentors and students across the country for under-represented minorities in science to foster connection

Timeline

(Rolling the calendar back to 2012)

Physics named most misogynistic department

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by Commentary / October 18, 2012

 Like 0

 Tweet

The McGall Physics department, which won the Golden Pig award last week, was recently named “McGall’s most misogynistic department” in an independent survey. This marks the first year the award was conferred onto a department other than Mechanical Engineering since the highly chauvinistic prize was established in 1992. Reactions in the Physics department have been mixed.

“We feel greatly honoured and humbled to have received this prestigious award,” Marcus Mitchel, president of the McGall Society of Physics Students (MSPS), said in an earlier phone interview. “We worked incredibly hard around the year not only to create and foster an environment hostile to women, but also to encourage the denigration and objectification of women, both inside and outside the classroom.”

Some have criticized the prize committee’s decision. Mario Curie, head of the McGall Association of Mechanical Engineers (MAME), said in an e-mail communication with The Twice-a-Weekly: “We are truly disappointed that the prize committee did not find us deserving of the Golden Pig this year. In Mechanical Engineering, we strive to deliver the worst possible experience to our female students. We don’t think we have ever fallen short of this goal and are chasing the women out of Mech-Eng, one sassy bitch at a time.”

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CANADIAN CONFERENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN IN PHYSICS

McGill University, January 10-12, 2014



PHOTO
YU
LTAIC
DIGITAL EYE LABORS

4 Years Later

Proposal for Diversity Initiative:
A Physics-based Summer Camp for Girls in
Kingston
v1.0



Erica Caden, Liz Fletcher, Benjamin Tam

December 6, 2018



- **G**irls
- **I**nnovation
- **R**esearch
- **L**eadership
- **S**cience

“Novel Intergenerational Approach”

GIRLS Camp

GIRLS Camp was 'out of this world'

Posted: August 19 2019

Summer Physics & Astronomy Camp for 11-13 year-old girls was volunteer-driven success.

Graduate students in Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy planned, promoted and ran the first Girls In Research, Leadership & Science (GIRLS) Summer Camp July 22-26. The fierce summer heat that lit Kingston paled in comparison to the blaze of activity as a flurry of girls could be seen dashing around Stirling Hall, learning and doing science. The girls, aged 11-13, spent the week participating in a series of laboratory experiments, projects, and activities that investigated some of the most elusive questions in



COVID Happened

What happened?

- The mission persisted
- Online Science Fair:
 - 45 Graduate student mentors
 - 72 Applicants
 - 38 Funded projects
- STEM Stories
- Let's Talk Astrophysics:
 - 3 Invited Speakers
 - 50 Volunteers (students & faculty)
 - Undergraduate Panel
 - 200 Workshop Attendees (Reached Capacity)

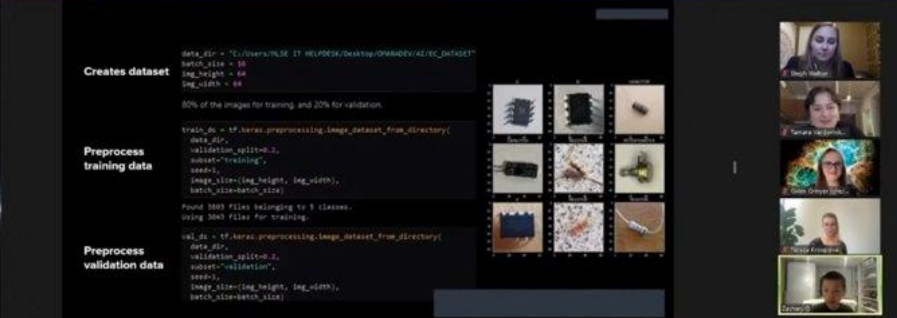
Canadian Online Science Fair



Registration is now closed!

Registration Deadline: April 20, 2020
Science Fair Date: June 5, 2020

Canadian Online Science Fair Finals



Judges:
Dr Gwen Grinyer (Nuclear Science)
Dr Tereza Kroupova (Particle Physics)
Dr Tamara Vardoms kaya (Linguistics)

Current Presenter:
Zachary (Grade 8)

Hosted by the IDEAS Initiative
Queens SH LAB
Primary Sponsors

let's talk **ASTROPHYSICS**

Please note that all times listed are in EST

	February 20	February 21
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Introduction 1:00 - 1:10	Sarah Gallagher Canadian Space Agency
1:30 - 2:00 pm	Galaxy Talk Dr. Karen Lee-Waddell ICRAR & CSIRO 1:10 - 1:40	Workshop 1
2:00 - 2:30 pm	Break 1:40 - 1:55	1:20 - 2:00 Break 2:00 - 2:15
2:30 - 3:00 pm	Dark Matter Talk Prof. Nassim Bozorgnia YorkU 1:55 - 2:25	Workshop 2
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Dark Energy Talk Prof. Celia Escamilla-Rivera ICN-UNAM 2:25 - 2:55	2:15 - 2:55 Break 2:55 - 3:10
3:30 - 4:00 pm	Panel 3:10 - 4:00	Workshop 3 3:10 - 3:50 Closing Remarks 3:50 - 4:00



22/02/2021

Let's Talk Astrophysics Symposium

Let's Talk Science coordinator Simran Nerval, IDEAS chairperson Ben Tam, and high school student Sarah Poulin sat down with CBC to chat Let's Talk Astrophysics 🤖🔭

Let's Talk Astrophysics Symposium Let's Talk Astrophysics Symposium with master's student and theoretical cosmologist Simran Nerval and grade 11 student Sarah Poulin.

Timeline Overview

- 2019: Getting to the Right IDEA
- 2020: Covid-19 had other IDEAS
- 2021: IDEAS is Born



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What are we doing now?

IDEAS Summer Camp 2023

- To be held at Queen's in August 2023
- Free to attend
- Ages 11-13
- Counselor training completed at SNOLAB
- Registration is now open

More events coming soon!



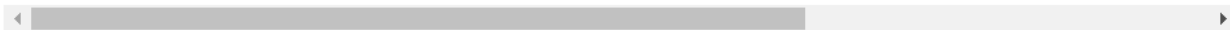
Registration for IDEAS CAMP 2023



Innovation, Diversity, Exploration & Advancement in STEM

Welcome to online registration for the 2023 IDEAS Summer Camp! The camp will be held from July 31 - August 4 at Queen's University.

As spots in the camp are very limited, **all applicants will initially be placed on the waitlist**. We will contact admitted applicants to complete registration. All applicants will hear back by **July 10th, 2023**.



Sign-in

E-mail

Password

Login

[Reset password](#)

New user sign-up

First Name

Last Name

E-mail

Password



Create account

By clicking the button, you agree to our [Terms](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).



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IDEAS 2023

SUMMER CAMP

JULY 31- AUGUST 4

The IDEAS Summer Camp is a science-themed day camp for kids aged 11-13 yrs interested in Astronomy, Physics, and learning more about the world around them!

IDEAS aims to foster community and a love for science in under-represented groups. We highly encourage gender minority, BIPOC, and disabled students to apply.

- **FREE TO ATTEND**
- **AGES 11 - 13 YRS**
- **9:00 AM - 4:30 PM**
- **AT STIRLING HALL, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY**

CONTACT:

physcamp@queensu.ca

LEARN MORE:

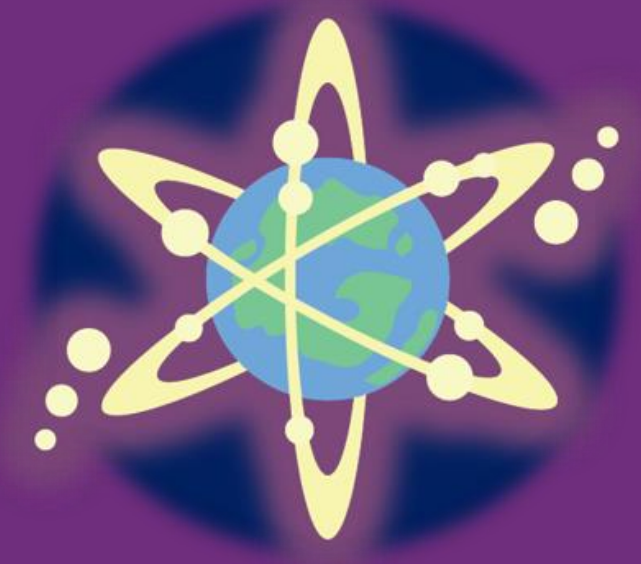
www.queensu.ca/physics/ideas-intiative



Arthur B. McDonald
Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute

Legacy

- It is not enough to inspire children and let them know ***"Anyone can love and do science!"***
- We already know and believe this
- It is more meaningful to tell children who love science, that not only can they find a fulfilling life and career within the sciences, but also that they will always be welcome in the field



What's next?

Future Initiative Goals

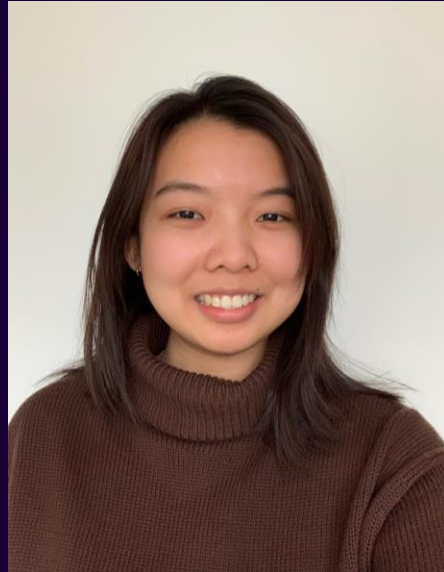
- Continue to grow the reach of the IDEAS message
- Bring back impactful events from previous years and develop new projects with current team
- Build initiative sustainability with a stronger transition structure from year to year

(We do not need to be credited to support independent initiatives with similar missions. We are happy to share our resources)

Our Team!



Melissa Baiocchi
Chairperson



Minya Bai
Vice Chairperson



Yilda Boukhtouchen
Co-Director



Akanksha Bij
Co-Director



Adele Gryba
Executive Director

Connect with us!

- Come talk to me!
- Check out our website: <https://www.queensu.ca/physics/ideas>
- Email us at physcamp@queensu.ca
- Social Media will be active again soon

Facebook: IDEAS Initiative

Instagram: @ideas_initiative

Thank You!



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