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X-STEM—a “TED-Style” Event for Kids by USA Science & Engineering Festival—Goes Virtual Starting May 13

Online Event Features Rockstar Scientists, including Dr. Fauci

WASHINGTON, DC (May 8, 2020)— The [USA Science & Engineering Festival](#) is offering its popular X-STEM Symposium in a virtual format, dubbed [X-STEM All Access](#). Presented by [AstraZeneca](#), the livestream event is an engaging, entertaining, educational, and interactive online STEM experience for kids. Traditionally, the X-STEM Symposium kicks off the biennial April Festival which was postponed due to COVID-19.

“We have adapted our X-STEM Symposium to this new reality by embracing virtual learning. Having top scientists and engineers take their talks online preserves the spirit of X-STEM and enables more youth to hear and learn from these amazing, gifted STEM leaders and innovators,” said Marc Schulman, Festival Executive Director.

“AstraZeneca is delighted to be presenting the innovative X-STEM All Access program. We believe that STEM education and outreach are critical components of our contribution to society, beyond the discovery and development of medicines, and we can’t wait to see what the next generation of scientists, explorers, and inventors will bring,” said José Baselga, MD PhD, EVP Oncology R&D at AstraZeneca.

X-STEM All Access provides a series of free daily livestream events on May 13-15 and May 18-19 from 1:00-2:00pm ET. Students will learn from an exclusive group of visionaries who aim to empower and inspire kids about careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Science educator and communicator [Justin Shaifer](#) is moderating the series which revolves around these topics: Shattering STEM Stereotypes; Ambassadors of Conservation & The Climate; Exploring Our Planet; Science that Saves Lives; and Life Beyond Our World. Speakers include:

- Christina H. Koch, NASA Astronaut
- Dr. Knatokie Ford, Biomedical Scientist
- Kim Swennen, Google Engineer
- Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Atmospheric Scientist
- Dr. Mireya Mayor, Primatologist
- Dr. David Gallo, Oceanographer
- Jill Heinerth, Underwater Cave Explorer
- Dr. Mika Sovak, Medical Oncologist & Drug Discoverer
- Dr. Greg Gage, Neuroscientist
- Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID Director and Infectious Disease Researcher
- Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director
- Bobak Ferdowsi, Aerospace Systems Engineer

Presentations will be geared toward a middle and high school level audience, but kids and adults of all ages are welcome. Educators are being encouraged to include X-STEM All Access into their distance

learning curriculum. Each event will feature speakers who share a similar STEM topic. Speakers will interact with each other and attendees through a lively Q&A session. Registration is free and attendees will receive a link to attend all five livestream events. To learn more and register, visit: <https://usasciencefestival.org/x-stem-all-access/>.

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