Science Quest

I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand

Sponsorship Package 2012
Science Quest

Science Quest is a non-profit summer camp and spring workshop program that reaches out to as many youth in grades 4 to 8 as possible and exposes them to basic scientific and engineering concepts. Our goal is to provide a realistic, hands-on environment to spark interests in science and promote a future education in science and engineering.

We believe that the only way to achieve this worthy goal is through innovative hands-on projects where participants learn by doing activities that seem too fun to be educational. Science Quest is dedicated to bringing this exceptional program to a wide range of children, regardless of ability, race, sex or income.

In 2011, we were able to deliver our programs to more than 4500 Canadian youth in Southern Ontario. Science Quest’s hands-on, relevant and innovative approach to education not only enhances kids’ interest in science and engineering; it also plays a vital role in fostering essential life-skills at a young age including self-confidence, teamwork, and creativity.

Science Quest is based at Queen’s University in the Integrated Learning Centre, an Engineering building. All our programs are developed and delivered by undergraduate engineering and science students. The delivery of our programs is made possible through our partnership with Queen’s, support from our national organization, Actua, and contributions from our local partners.

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History of Success

Founded in 1988 by two female engineering students, Science Quest was the first organization of its kind in Canada. Over the last 24 years, we have developed the resources and skills necessary to deliver programs that are innovative, relevant to Ontario curriculum and fun. As a member of Actua, we believe in making science programs accessible to all youth. We have a substantial bursary program and run free camps and workshops for Aboriginal and At-Risk youth. Science Quest has evolved from a small camp to an organization that reaches over 4500 children a year. With continued support, we will grow to meet the demands for high-quality, educational programs for all youth.

Part of a National Network

Science Quest is proud to be one of the founding members of Actua, which is now a well recognized, national organization that provides training, resources, and support to a growing national network of local science and engineering organizations all across Canada. Actua has a solid history of success and more than 16 years of experience in helping young Canadians develop awareness, interest and skills in science, engineering and technology. Actua provides the infrastructure and resources to ensure quality and sustainability at the local level and to promote synergy among the members – leveraging local innovation for national impact. Actua members reach over 200,000 youth per year in over 450 communities across the country. Additional information regarding Actua can be found on the web at www.actua.ca.
Objectives

Our dedicated and energetic staff is committed to achieving the following objectives:

- *Educate and spark an interest in the youth of Ontario about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.*

- *Provide positive role models for youth.*

- *Help youth build confidence in themselves and their abilities, in science and in life.*

- *Present university as a non-threatening environment to encourage youth to pursue post-secondary studies after high school.*
Our Programs

Local School Workshops

Workshops are delivered in the months of May and June, during which the enthusiastic Science Quest team travels to elementary school classrooms located in communities all across Ontario, from Oshawa to Cornwall. Instructors deliver high energy, hands-on, 90-minute workshops that are filled with projects and activities that are relevant to provincial science and technology curriculum. In 2011, Science Quest offered 5 different workshops, tailored specifically to the elementary school curriculum. Some experiments and projects youth are included in range from exciting liquid nitrogen demonstrations to static electric motors for students to build and take home. Over 160 in-class workshops were delivered to over 4,000 youth ranging in age from 8 to 13 as well as involvement in local science fairs and youth program showcases. With support from our sponsors, Science Quest hopes to further increase both the number and the diversity of students reached in 2012. We hope to offer more subsidized, or free, workshops, reach more communities and start a program with the Girl Guides of Canada.

Summer Day Camp

Our day camp is run throughout July and August. Science Quest offers around 45 camp sessions each summer on Queen’s University campus as well as a satellite camps in Brockville and Belleville.
Science Camp A camp focusing on all aspects of science and engineering that includes a myriad of hands-on educational projects and engaging tours of campus labs!

Computer Camp A camp focused on computers and technology that includes website design, game making and Lego robots that campers build and program to navigate a maze.

Girls Quest A non-intimidating environment for female campers taught by all female instructors. The girls engage fun projects covering all aspects of science and engineering while meeting female graduate students and professors. The camp is designed to empower girls in an all-girls’ setting with great role models!

Special Initiatives

Aboriginal and At-Risk Youth Outreach

Science Quest’s Aboriginal Outreach efforts are one of the most rewarding and valuable programs offered by the organization. Last summer, Science Quest travelled to Akwesasne and Tyendinaga to deliver week long, fully subsidized camps. Our Aboriginal programming was a mix of the best projects from Science Quest, Computer Quest, and workshops, mixed in with many active outdoor science activities and games. We are able to offer these camps free of charge by partnering with a local organization in the communities and through generous help from our sponsors and Actua. We hope to grow these initiatives to inspire more youth and make science education accessible.

Science Quest offered 20 workshops and a camp at the Boys and Girls Club in 2011, all fully subsidized. Through these initiatives, we reached over 250 youth and giving them access to science programs they would not otherwise be able to attend. Furthermore, through our bursary and subsidy program, we were able to subsidize completely or partially $6300 of camp registrations. Each year, we donate formative camp experiences to the Big Brothers Big Sisters program in Kingston to give the chance to go to science camp, make friends and be a kid!
Brainstorm and Impact

In 2008 Science Quest created Brainstorm, a week-long, all-girls science & engineering leadership conference. The next year, Impact, the version for boys was run concurrently. The campers take part in more in depth science activities and design initiatives, meet with several prestigious scientists and engineers as role models for their gender, and get to spend three days sleeping over in a university residence. Science Quest hopes to expand on these initiatives in the summer of 2012 since they have been very popular program with a large waiting list!
Our Impact

As part of our ongoing commitment to continuously improve our programs and as a member of Actua, Science Quest has participated in a national research project to formally evaluate the impact of our camps on the attitudes and future intentions of our participants. Actua coordinated this project and Dr. Gail Crombie of the University of Ottawa analyzed the results. The research involved thousands of youth across Canada and provides strong evidence that Actua is creating positive change in attitudes and behaviours toward science. Here are some of the key findings.

As a result of their camp experience:

- 83% felt that they were more confident in their ability to do science and technology;
- 84% felt that they would do better in technology and science at school;
- 82% stated that their knowledge of engineering had increased;
- 74% stated that they were more likely to study science in university.

Complete research results can be found at www.actua.ca.

On the Local level Science Quest continually gets very positive feedback:

“I think that Science Quest is a fun way for kids to learn new things and think about their futures.”
- Science Quest camper, age 11

“I want to come back to camp because it’s cool only having girls in my group. We get to do different stuff with science and the instructors are really nice!”
- Science Quest for Girls camper, age 12

“This is better than recess!”
- Student from Sir John A. Mac-Donald Public School

“Right from the beginning girls were encouraged to take an interest in science and engineering. Samina [an instructor] reminded us that we can ALL be engineers.”
- Teacher at Highview Public School

Science Quest rocks!!!!!!! It’s the best camp ever!!!!
- Computer Quest camper, age 9
Sponsorship Opportunities

Science Quest would like to partner with your company. We have developed a variety of opportunities to meet the objectives and needs of our potential partners. The options outlined below can be further tailored to reflect your business’ specific objectives.

As a Science Quest sponsor, your contribution will enable the continued development and growth of our workshop and camp program. This includes instructors and staff support, purchasing new materials, and increase bursaries funding that’s available to ensure the accessibility of all programs to anyone who wishes to partake. As a sponsor, your organization has the ability to choose what programming or specific initiative you wish to support!

**Platinum Level Sponsor - $5000+**

As a Platinum Sponsor your company will receive full recognition and access in every area of Science Quest Including:

- Monthly updates on our progress including pictures, feedback, and student quotes (should you wish to receive)
- Final Year-End report: with a special thank-you to your organization as a sponsor
- Logo or name in large print on our camp pamphlets, website and other promotional material and in our Final Report, a copy of which you will receive;
- Logo or name in large print on over 500 camper T-shirts;
- Direct name association with one of our programs (i.e. “The Company X Energy & Control workshop”)

**Gold Level Sponsor - $2000 to $4999**

As a Gold Sponsor your company will receive the following recognition:

- Final Year-End report: with a special thank-you to your organization as a sponsor
- Logo or name in medium print on our camp pamphlets, website and other promotional material and in our Final Report, which you will receive
- Logo or name in medium print on over 500 camper T-shirts.
**Silver Level Sponsor - $500 to $1999**

As a Silver Sponsor your company will receive the following recognition:

- Logo or name in small print over 500 camper T-shirts.
- Name in medium print on our camp pamphlets, website and other promotional material and in our Final Report, which you will receive.

**Participant Sponsor (multiples of $200)**

Every donation of $200 allows one child to attend a session of Science Quest, Computer Quest or Science Quest for girls on a full bursary. As a Participant Sponsor your organization will receive recognition in our camper bursary program.

**Material Donations**

Material donations for use in our programs allow us to improve the quality of our projects. All material sponsors are recognized according to the value of the materials donated.

Science Quest would love to have the opportunity to further educate your organization on our initiatives, visions, and goals. As stated, your help can take our program in a very positive direction. We hope you to find your support and that you will consider contributing to our success in science and engineering education for our diverse youth! Please feel free to contact Science Quest at by any means: e-mail, mail, phone, or interview. Our information can be found at the end of this package!

**Our Commitment to Partners**

Science Quest is committed to finding innovative ways to reach our audience. By reviewing the feedback given to us by our participants and by our partners, we have been able to build on our existing programs and launch new initiatives. Our promise is to maintain the quality of programs as we grow. Our future development depends greatly upon the support of the universities and colleges, the involvement of industry and the enthusiasm of the students who staff the program. We are determined to strengthen this foundation in order to have an even greater impact on the region’s youth for many years to come.

Thank you for taking the time to reading our sponsorship package. Science Quest cares deeply about the empowerment of Kingston and Ontario’s youth and will continue to develop and deliver high quality science, engineering and technology programming while making it accessible to all.
Contact Information

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Actua provides training, resources and support to a national network of local organizations offering science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education programs. Actua members reach over 200,000 youth per year. Please visit Actua on the web at www.actua.ca

2011 Local Supporters
Ontario Power Generation
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Campus Equipment Outfitters
Queen's University
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Department of Physics

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