

# STEM PARENT CONFERENCE - PROGRAM SCHEDULE

TIME	What is Happening
09:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION AND MORNING REFRESHMENTS/ MARKETPLACE & EXHIBITS
10:00 a.m. - 10:05 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
10:05 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.	Opening Address, Donna Quan, Director of Education, Toronto District School Board
10:10 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.	Key Note Speech, Dan Riskin, Biologist and Co-Host of Daily Planet, Discovery Channel
10:25 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Colin Ninvalle, Wadoka Academy

## WORKSHOPS

TIME	WORKSHOP OPTION 1	WORKSHOP OPTION 2	WORKSHOP OPTION 3	WORKSHOP OPTION 4
10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<b><u>A Guide for GTA Parents on Out-of-School Programs</u></b> Tom Chen-Project Lead KidsPrograms.ca Rm: 102	<b><u>Skills for Future Jobs</u></b> Otto Schmidt, Gifted Programming Consultant, Accent on Skills Consulting Rm: 103	<b><u>It is a Mathematical Universe</u></b> Trevor Brown, Associate Professor, York University Rm: 104	<b><u>"My Robotic Friend" Introduction to Coding</u></b> Science Exploration Cora Toner Rm: 105
	<b>WORKSHOP OPTION 5</b>	<b>WORKSHOP OPTION 6</b>	<b>WORKSHOP OPTION 7</b>	<b>WORKSHOP OPTION 8</b>
11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b><u>Technology Innovations Aiding Today's Learners</u></b> Brent Yacoback, STEAM Coordinator- APPLE CANADA Rm: 125	<b><u>The Secrets of Creativity</u></b> Otto Schmidt, Gifted Programming Consultant Rm: 103	<b><u>Imagine a World Where Kim Kardashian Loved Math</u></b> Vanessa Vakharia Rm: 112	<b><u>The Office at 33,000 Feet, Introduction to Aviation Career Development</u></b> Urban Pilots Network Rm: 114
12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>CREATIVE CORNER HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE/ MARKETPLACE &amp; EXHIBITS</b>			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"KIDZ ZONE! Creations"</li> <li>"Pre-historic Reconstructions Exhibit" Garfield Minott Founder of GGM CREATIONS Palaeontology/ Archaeology</li> <li>"Weird Science: Under the Microscope" Usha Kelley Maharaj, Science Program, Richview Collegiate Institute</li> <li>Examining our relatives</li> <li>"Robots Rule!", Bill Thorne, Westview Collegiate, Robotics Program</li> <li>"Take Flight!" Flight Aviation Consoles, Urban Pilots Network</li> <li>"Lego gears and pulleys" from SPECTRUM</li> </ol>			

12:30 P.M. - 01:15 P.M.

LUNCH

AFTERNOON SESSION	
01:15 p.m. - 01:40 p.m.	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION (3 min Introductions from Panel)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>Technology Responding to Human Needs</u></b>, Erica Lee Garcia, P.Eng. Engineers of Tomorrow Venture Lead, Engineers Without Borders Canada</li> <li><b><u>STEM programs K-12 grades</u></b> Antonio Santos, STEM, Central Coordinating Principal Teaching and Learning, Toronto District School Board</li> <li><b><u>Codemakers and the Importance of Digital Literacy</u></b> Tracy Ross, Director of Membership, Actua</li> <li><b><u>Youth in STEM</u></b> Susie Pan, Founder, Science Expo,</li> <li><b><u>Alternative Educational Pathways and Post-Secondary Education</u></b> Nathan Stern, Community Project Coordinator, York University,</li> </ul> MODERATED BY: NINA ANING
01:40 p.m. - 02:20 p.m.	<b>QUESTION PERIOD</b>
02:20 p.m. - 02:30 p.m.	<b>CLOSING REMARKS AND THANK YOU'S</b>



# 2015 STEM PARENT CONFERENCE - WORKSHOPS

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1. [A Guide for GTA Parents on Out-of-School Programs](#)

This Workshop provides an overview of the current state of out-of-school programs across GTA; discusses the importance, issues, challenges, opportunities, and resources; also shares practical guides on how to find programs (including special needs programs), assess quality, determine suitability, and afford the cost.

**FACILITATOR: Tom Chen- Project Lead, KidsPrograms.ca (Rm: 102)**

2. [Skills for Future Jobs](#)

Skills are vital for survival and competitiveness in the global marketplace. Why are skills becoming more important? What are the most useful skills to develop for future jobs? What jobs will disappear by the time young people enter the workforce? What new jobs will there be in the future? Learn how this applies to the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

**FACILITATOR: Otto Schmidt, Gifted Programming Consultant, Accent on Skills Consulting (Rm: 103)**

3. [It is a Mathematical Universe](#)

Mathematics is a study of patterns. In this session we will look at some of the reasons why this is an appropriate definition of the discipline. Many elementary examples will be given.

**FACILITATOR: Trevor Brown- Associate Professor, Tyndale College and York University (Rm: 104)**

4. [My Robotic Friend, Introduction to Coding](#)

Join us for a glimpse into the mind of a computer! Using computer logic to complete a simple task, participants will learn how to think like a computer. This workshop will be an introduction to coding.

**FACILITATOR: Cora Toner- Science Engagement Office- Faculty of Science at York University (Rm: 105)**

5. [Technology Innovations Aiding Today's Learners](#)

This workshop will highlight some of the existing, and newly emerging technological innovations that can be used in, and outside the classroom to help improve student achievement in Math, English, and Science. Some of the workshop time will be devoted towards providing parents with information on how they can leverage existing Mac OS, and iOS educational applications to help their children become better learners.

**FACILITATOR: Brent Yacoback, STEAM Coordinator- Science Teacher - West Ferris Intermediate & Secondary School (Rm: 125)**

6. [The Secrets of Creativity](#)

Ongoing advances and increasing globalization mean we compete against many more countries and people. One important thing that will greatly help in setting young people up for success in future jobs is enhance their creativity. Learn about the elements of creativity and how to think more "out of the box."

**FACILITATOR: Otto Schmidt, Gifted Programming Consultant, Accent on Skills Consulting (Rm: 103)**

7. [Math Makeover: Imagining a World Where Kim Kardashian Loves Math](#)

Could 'The Plastics' in *Mean Girls* be partially responsible for the fact that there are SO few female engineers? Well...maybe! During this presentation we will explore representations of math in the media, dissect the ways in which girls (and many teenagers in general) are bullied out of math, and come up with cool ways to instigate change!

**FACILITATOR: Vanessa Vakharia - Founder and Director of Learning and Inspiration, The Math Guru (Rm: 112)**

8. [The Office at 33,000 Feet](#), This workshop designed to be an introduction to aviation as a career. Participants will get excited about the field of aviation and utilize flight simulation consoles. **FACILITATOR: URBAN PILOTS NETWORK (Rm: 114)**