



# Speaker Invitation Package

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## Students in Engineering and Technology

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## Welcome

It is often said that youth are the leaders of tomorrow. At SET, we think it is unfortunate that age in today's society acts as a barrier for youth, that prevents them from reaching their full potential.

Youth are often sidelined or excluded from opportunities due to what is seen as a lack of experience and knowledge. At SET, we believe that inexperience should be seen as a starting point, as opposed to a barrier, from which students can grow. In reading this package, we hope you will be willing join us in our mission: inspiring youth to reach their full potential as leaders, innovators, and world-changers.

## Overview

Our mission statement is to create an active community that connects students to the technological aspects of the STEM world. SET is a non-profit, student-run organisation, founded by a group of high school students from Ottawa, Ontario.

Despite coming from a variety of different backgrounds, all of us share a common goal - to pursue a career in STEM. Events such as science fairs do exist, yet none truly seek what our conference does: to inspire, empower, and embolden students to take their first step in their technology careers. There is no event targeted towards our generation whose purpose is informing secondary-school students of the opportunities the digital age has uniquely provided them, within the context of engineering. If we are to be the leaders of tomorrow, how are we to envision our future without a clear picture of what it truly looks like?

As technologically literate students being born into a digital world, we are consumers, leaders, innovators, and have unique perspectives.

Our team is willing to invest large amounts of time and effort into creating the first platform to allow high school students to immerse themselves, in engineering and technology. However, doing so will be impossible without your help - as engineering professionals - to act as sources of inspiration and empowerment at our conference. By attending our conference as a speaker you could change the lives of talented students, by networking, sharing your story, and offering guidance.

## Educational Aspects

These statistics were collected over a demographic of a diverse, interwoven, high-school students across Ottawa.

- 90% of teachers report their students are interested in science and technology
- 80% of students go into science and technology related fields.
- 93% of students reportedly wished for more opportunities to learn more about science and technology.
- 89% of survey participants go to college.
  - Of these 89%, 51% took at least 1 engineering course.
  - 60% had at least one work experience that was science or technology related.
  - 41% selected an engineering field (7 times more likely than others)

## Specifications

The conference will take place on Saturday October 20th 2018. Our conference will feature a panel of speakers, comprising of engineering students, professors, and professionals, from a wide range of technological and engineering disciplines.

Throughout the day, participants will be able to network with other participants, talk to professionals, and immerse themselves in engineering. Networking with other professionals, being able to discuss experiences, and being able to get informed when deciding on their career path, is an important step for all students.

The conference will also have a set of concurrent workshops, each providing their own unique learning opportunities for students. Upon registration, students will have the opportunity to choose the workshop they are most interested in. At SET, we strongly value diversity, and we seek to be inclusive of the broad diverse disciplines of engineering. Workshops will include mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, materials engineering, as well as a workshop on entrepreneurship and marketing.

These different workshops will provide students the skills necessary for our competition. Students will be placed in groups of approximately eight, with each group possessing at least one person from each workshop, to solve the theme of the conference. Having a competition will truly allow participants to experience engineering design thinking, an industrial process used by engineers to design practical solutions to real-life problems. This will help truly engage students in the engineering process, including creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, and innovation. They will be given time to ideate a solution, build a prototype to demonstrate its function, and pitch the idea to a panel of judges, comprising of professionals in their field. They will be judged based off design, efficiency, and innovation. At SET, we believe hands-on experience is far more fulfilling than research or classroom lectures, and truly gives them the chance to determine whether or not they enjoy engineering.

Your experience would make you a perfect speaker at SET. Speakers would primarily act as networking resources and as a member on our panel. We are looking for nothing more than for you to discuss why engineering and technology is important in our everyday lives, what a career in engineering and technology looks like, ways students can take their first step towards their own careers in engineering and technology, and answer any questions students may have. You are also free to discuss anything else exciting that you think will resonate among our community.

As a speaker, you would be acting not only as a valuable networking resource, but also as role models. Not only would students be able to learn from their experiences, and gain valuable insights, they would also have an idea of the sheer potential one can achieve by pursuing a career in engineering and technology.

Our conference will give students the tools and experiences to empower them in making informed decisions in taking their first step into their futures. It is something many long for, yet never have the opportunity to experience. While we are engaging students with cool ideas, connections, and giving them the tools to pursue their careers in technology, we are also building them to be leaders. The skillset students leave with is invaluable, including problem-solving, teamwork, networking, conflict-resolution, and public speaking skills.

The emergence of STEM, and its importance in our everyday lives is emerging faster than ever before. To ensure its significance is recognized, we're building partnerships with our community, local industry and the University of Ottawa as we shift the perception of technology in our generation.

## Schedule (Tentative)

Our conference is scheduled to take place on Saturday October 20th.

Event	Duration
Student Arrival	8:00 - 8:30
Welcome Speech and Opening Remarks	8:30 - 9:00
Keynote	9:00 - 10:00
Concurrent Workshops	10:00 - 12:00
Competition Announcement and Engineering Design Process	12:00 - 12:30
Ideation and Prototype Building	12:30 - 3:30
Pitch Competition	3:30 - 4:30
Networking with Professionals and Judge Deliberation	4:30 - 5:30
Award/Closing Ceremony	5:30 - 6:00

## We need your help!

It is an honour for us to be contacting you with the request to be at our conference! Having you present will definitely make our conference more memorable, exciting, and overall more extraordinary.

## Benefits of being a speaker

Joining our community as a keynote speaker is beneficial in the following ways:

- Help build a technologically-literate workforce.
- Provide renewed inspiration among our community.
- Connect with young future leaders and help further their education
- Gain exposure to a wider audience
- With your permission, we will feature your name on our website

## There are several other ways to support SET!

- Provide mentoring and assistance in helping us create a high-quality conference
- Connect us with other organisations you think will improve our conference
- Connect us with engineering professionals who are willing to talk about their experiences

With your support, our goal of inspiring, educating and motivating students to head into their future engineering careers can be achieved.

## How to sponsor us!

Thank you for your interest in becoming an integral part of SET! If you would like to support SET, please contact our Director of Corporate Relations at [ottawa.set@gmail.com](mailto:ottawa.set@gmail.com).