



PARNTER INFORMATION PACKET

We are excited you are interested in joining us at sciencepalooza! this year! In this packet you will find some helpful information along with some suggestions, tips, and tricks we've gathered from years past.



APRIL 11, 2026

11am-3pm

@ SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Duncan Hall Courtyard &
Interdisciplinary Science Building**

sciencepalooza! is an exciting event for East Side Alliance families to explore facets and pathways to STEM at SJSU and beyond by engaging with local STEM professionals, students, and organizations with fun activities.





Before you arrive...

You will need to complete our registration form for your organization! Also, you will be asked to bring:

- All team members are required to complete a waiver and will be asked to complete a photo release. A copy of these forms can be found [here](#). Your team is invited to complete these in advance, they can be completed digitally and will be automatically uploaded to our secure drive.
- A fun, FREE STEM activity (and supplies)
- Any waivers for your team, printed and signed (if not completed in advance), more will be available on site for any last minute needs.
- Wear comfy shoes and any company swag OR wear what you would wear “on the job”. Lots of people are interested in what STEM professionals wear everyday.
- A raffle item, if your organization is providing one (no pressure)

OPTIONAL -

- Info/handouts about your organization and how people can engage further. (We request that these items are free of charge and do not contain politically affiliated content, just STEM!) Some ideas are:
 - Opportunities on how families can participate in your programs (if applicable)
 - Job shadows
 - Internships/mentorship opportunities
 - Campus/site tours
- Refillable water bottle. There are water refilling stations located in Duncan Hall for your convenience.



When you arrive...

(9am)

“Doors” will open at 9am for partners to arrive, setup, and get the lay of the land. We will have some volunteers on hand to help as well! Breakfast and coffee will be waiting for you.

Parking is free! Garage information and a map will be shared, closer to the date. If your team has any bulky, hard to carry items, we invite you to use the nearby loading dock but ask that once finished you relocate to the event parking garage.

When you arrive, we will have you check in to receive some helpful info for the day. We will be providing:

- a tote bag with some sciencepalooza! goodies
 - badges for your team with your organization’s logo
 - a sign with the name of your activity
 - power (if requested)
 - a stamp for Adventure Guides (see “During the event” on the next page for more info)
 - wristbands (so you can get lunch)
 - the number of tables you requested, tablecloths, requested chairs, and waters
- (Note: All tables are located in a shaded spot, but we will have sunscreen available!)



During the event...

(11am-3pm)

Community members will be invited in at 11am. There will be music and food in abundance!

Community members will have a sciencepalooza! tote (to hold any of the items you give them) and an Adventure Guide. This is designed to encourage families to explore different partner booths. When they engage with you, give them a stamp in your organization's box. The more stamps they collect, the more chances they have to win a raffle prize! Check out an example of what you will see below:



We will also have some SJSU student volunteers around the event. They will be helping to setup, run registration, and make sure things run smoothly. If we're really lucky, we may even be able to send one to your team to serve as a partner and touch point for community members to learn more about SJSU!



Be Social!

Tag @SynopsisOutreachFoundation on Instagram, Facebook, X, or LinkedIn
Use our hashtag #sciencepalooza



After the event...

(3pm-5pm)

After the event we will have volunteers to help with clearing things out. The loading dock will again be available for those with bulky, hard to carry items.



ACTIVITY INFORMATION



You will be asked to provide at least 1 FREE activity for community members to engage in. The more fun, the better! Below are some types of activities we have seen great success with, along with ideas for inspiration.

Activity Type	Difficulty Level	Examples & Inspiration
Exploration	Easy peasy	Microscopic observation of sugar vs salt
Make & Take	Takes a little work	Tie dying
Design Challenge	Takes some work	Tennis ball adaptivity challenge
A Day In The Life Of	Easy peasy	Tripod surveying, in hard hats & safety gear
Demonstration	Takes a little work	Liquid nitrogen ice cream making
Game	Takes some work	Cornhole and the physics of flight



Tips from a teacher!

- Highlight how the activity ties into STEM. (We will be highlighting how tie-dying is chemistry!)
- Bring visuals to detail directions or processes.
- Make sure you have enough supplies (kids tend to blow through things!). We are anticipating 600 community members of all age ranges.
- Practice if needed, co-workers can be great test subjects!
- Be aware of vocabulary, sometimes the words we use in our industry don't make sense to those on the outside (ie: acronyms, high level vocabulary)
- Kids love free swag - period.
- Bring in near peer mentors. Got anyone who went to SJSU? Grew up in East Side? Have interns or early career hires? Bring them!
- Refer to small students by career title @ the table! (ie: chemist)

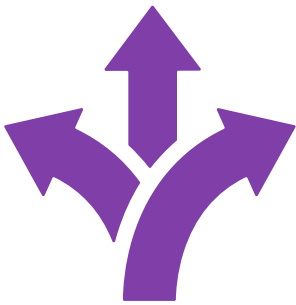


ATTENDEE INFO

We are planning for approximately 600 students, family members, and teachers. All of these students are from East San Jose and will be/are attending East Side Union High School District. You can expect a wide variety of ages, experiences, and languages. Learn more about the Spartan East Side Promise Program all of these students benefit from - [here](#)!

HOW TO PREPARE

Based on what brings you to sciencepalooza! we have some ideas to help you most effectively engage with youth no matter the goal you choose as your focus.



What is STEM?

For tables focused on engaging visitors in experiencing STEM, we suggest:

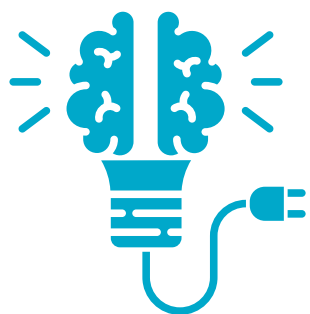
- Offering fun hands-on science or engineering activities
- Telling participants what career they might experience or learn about (“In this activity, you are an entomologist”)
- Be prepared to help connect participants’ interests to STEM. (“I notice you like to draw. Scientists sometimes need help representing what they are studying with drawings.”)
- Being ready to answer questions such as:
 - How does this work? What’s happening?
 - How would this help my family/community?
 - I’m interested in _____, what should I explore / learn more about?



Who does STEM?

For those focused on sharing information about STEM careers/being role models, we suggest:

- Sharing a work or school-related demo or artifact that visitors can observe, engage with and ask questions about (i.e. 3-D model, microscope, etc.)
- Include the kind of impact your career can have on society when introducing your career (“I’m a computer scientist working on ways to protect us from hackers.”)
- Being ready to tell short, personal stories as you answer questions such as:
 - What does a typical day as a [career] look like?
 - What’s the coolest project you have worked on?
 - What motivated you to pursue this career?
 - What challenges have you faced and what helped you work through those challenges?
 - (if applicable) What’s it like being a minority in a STEM field?
 - What other kinds of jobs are there in your organization?



How do I get involved in STEM?

For tables focused on sharing high school and postsecondary career information and guidance, we suggest:

- Having a demo or artifact that visitors can observe, engage with and ask questions about (i.e. school project, medical device etc.)
- Being ready to answer questions such as:
 - What advice do you have for someone interested in _____career?
 - What is important to study in high school? Why?
 - What can you tell me about career preparation programs that focus on _____?
 - What if I decide I don’t like a class/career program?
 - What if I can’t afford college? Are there less expensive postsecondary options available for STEM careers?
 - I’m not good at [math/subject], but I’m interested in STEM. What advice do you have for me?

**We are excited for you to join us and are here to support you in any way we can.
We are always looking to include more STEM partners and pathways to the event.**

Know a great fit?

REACH OUT!

