

Hello McKay!

Happy February! McKay has a lot to celebrate with Black History Month, Talayah Johnson receiving the prestigious MLK Community Involvement Recognition Award and another successful trip to ORS in Long Beach, CA with the addition of our undergraduate grant awardees!



Check out [A Guide to Black History Month 2024 in Philadelphia!](https://www.visitphilly.com/articles/philadelphia/black-history-month-in-philadelphia/)

<https://www.visitphilly.com/articles/philadelphia/black-history-month-in-philadelphia/>

Talayah Johnson Receives 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Recognition Award



Talayah Johnson was honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Recognition Award on January 25th. The award is presented by the University of Pennsylvania Social Change Executive Planning Committee to those “of the Philadelphia community whose local engagement and active service to others best exemplifies the ideals Dr. King espoused.” This award is a longstanding tradition and is presented annually since 1996 and is presented to Philadelphia locals and University of Pennsylvania faculty, staff, and students involved in community service or working for social justice. We are so proud of Talayah! Read more at: <https://aacr.upenn.edu/mlk/mlk-award-nominations>

Call for 2024 DEEPenn STEM Recruitment Event Trainee Volunteers

Penn Diversity Equity Engagement at Penn STEM
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Diversity Equity Engagement at Penn in STEM (DEEPenn STEM) is looking for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to join its organizing committee to plan the DEEPenn STEM weekend event on October 11-13, 2024.

Launching in 2022, DEEPenn STEM has aimed to encourage students, especially those from communities and backgrounds underrepresented in STEM to pursue graduate training by 1) highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of STEM graduate programs at the University of Pennsylvania, 2) incorporating opportunities to network and form mentoring relationships with current graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and faculty, and 3) providing access to resources for applying to graduate school.

Looking for volunteers for:

- Admissions
- Communications and Outreach
- Logistics
- Program Development
- Outcomes and Data

If interested, fill out this form by February 15th:
<https://bit.ly/DEEPennSTEM-volunteer>

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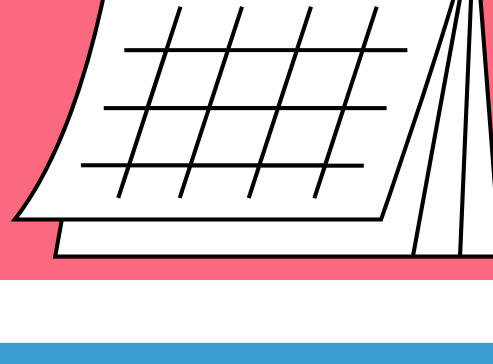
DEEPenn STEM is an university-wide event, co-organized by the CEMB, to encourage students, especially those from communities and backgrounds underrepresented in STEM to pursue graduate training by 1) highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of STEM graduate programs at the University of Pennsylvania, 2) incorporating opportunities to network and form mentoring relationships with current graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and faculty, and 3) providing access to resources for applying to graduate school. Volunteer at this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdyUzRyomjtuQVPmIpJZggeWoomkDUnA_3sKuC8CfPyCsgKw/viewform

McKay at ORS in Long Beach!



Many members of the McKay research community enjoyed a successful trip to Long Beach, California filled with interesting new science and fun! A special thanks to the Soslowsky lab and Gullbrand lab for adopting our undergraduate ORS grant awardees!

Mark your calendars! Upcoming McKay DEI Seminar



Tuesday March 12, 2024

12-1:30 pm

Location: TBA

Do you need support?

We'd like to remind our department that the past months has been very difficult for many members of our community. In these challenging times, we'd like to reiterate that Penn has an array of resources meant to support all members of our community.

If anyone in our community experiences an act of bias or discrimination, please report it through Penn's [Bias Incident Reporting process](#). If there is any threat to your physical safety, or you are being [harassed online](#), please contact our 24/7 PennComm Emergency Call Center at 215-573-3333 immediately. Additional information on University resources for safety and support can also be found on [Penn's website](#).

In addition, if there is anything the DEI committee can do to support you during this time, please let us know via this [Google form](#). (Your response will be anonymous unless you identify yourself.)

Opportunities



Office of DEI Opportunities Database

Penn's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion maintains a database of opportunities for members of our community at all levels, from undergraduates to postdocs. We encourage you to periodically take a look through their database for any opportunities that may be right for you! While you're there, scroll through the ODEI's other resources.

Graduate Emergency Fund

The Graduate Emergency Fund provides grants to assist currently enrolled graduate and professional students with urgent financial needs and acute financial hardship due to unanticipated one-time expenses. The fund is intended to support the continued academic progress and well-being of students experiencing short term financial hardship who cannot reasonably resolve their immediate financial needs through loans, aid programs, or personal resources.

What we're...



Reading: Crying in H Mart: A Memoir by Michelle Zauner

Reading: Medical Apartheid by Harriet A. Washington



Movie: Hidden Figures

The story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program.



Do you have something you're reading, watching, or listening to that you want to share with McKay? [Let us know](#), and we'll send it out with next month's newsletter!

Cheers,

Your McKay DEI Committee

[Read previous DEI newsletters loaded with relevant resources](#)