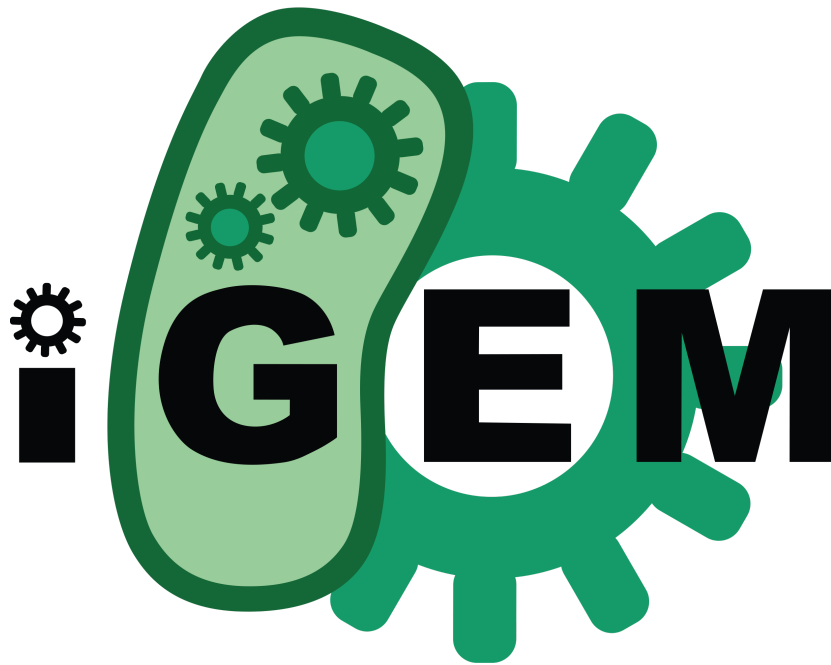


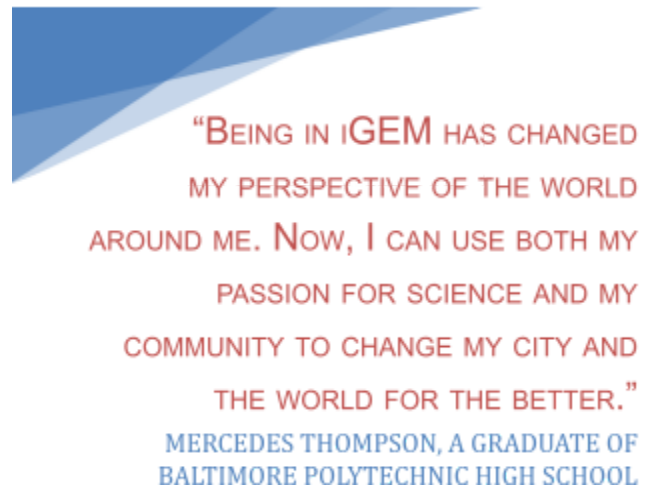
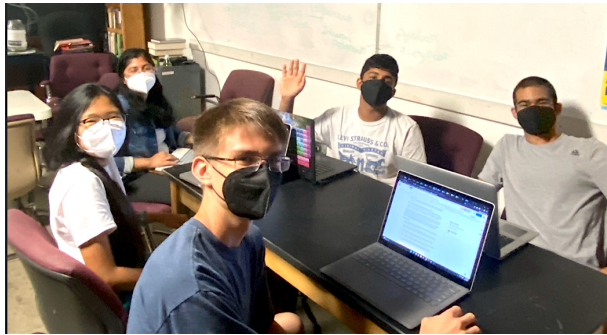
# The East Coast BioCrew



## Sponsorship Opportunities

# What is iGEM?

The International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition brings together students from around the world in a global competition for teams of high school, college, and overgrad students. There are over 300 teams from 45 countries in 6 continents, and each team solves a real-world problem or makes a discovery by using genetic engineering. For example, our team last year designed a biotic to combat depression. The team the year before that engineered bacteria to produce a snake venom protein that could be used as first-aid to treat catastrophic bleeding.



# Who are the East Coast BioCrew?

We're a joint iGEM team based out of two community labs located in Baltimore, Maryland and New York City. Due to our team's unique collaboration across state lines, our group is made up of students from high schools all over the east coast with concentrations in the Maryland and New York areas. Although we are from different schools, our team of 22 students comes together to design a project and carry out our work at Baltimore Underground Science Space (BUGSS) and Genspace, two community labs that are located in Highlandtown, Baltimore and Brooklyn, New York respectively. Every Saturday throughout the summer, we meet and collaborate to carry out the experiments to create the engineered bacteria. Our common goal is to use biology to improve the world.

# Our Project

PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, are man-made chemicals once used in oil, electrical equipment, plastics, and more. These chemicals are incredibly toxic, and when they enter humans, they can cause many forms of cancer. Though the usage of PCBs was banned in 1979, millions of tons of these chemicals can still be found in waterways across the globe, including major waterways in the United States. This is immensely dangerous for not only humans, but the environment as a whole. It is not only a global environmental and health issue, but a local one, since PCBs are the most common contaminant found in the Chesapeake Bay.

Since the presence of PCBs in the environment is a human synthesized issue, we believe the best way to combat it is through genetic engineering since the environment is not equipped to fight off man-made chemicals on its own. Our project [TBD name] seeks to create a modular biosensor to identify the presence of PCBs and to genetically engineer bacteria to degrade PCBs. We are doing this while in conversation with residents affected by PCB contamination, and environment experts and activists to ensure that our project is as useful and accurate as possible.

# Why is iGEM important?

East Coast BioCrew has been hosting iGEM teams since 2015. Each year, the team has won gold or bronze medals, and last year our team also won the award for Best Presentation. As part of iGEM, students learn many important skills like teamwork, problem-based knowledge, entrepreneurial thinking, collaboration, responsible science and engineering, safe lab work and project design, presentation skills, and scientific communication. Graduates of the East Coast BioCrew have gone on to Brown University, Stanford, the University of Pennsylvania, UNC-Chapel Hill, USC, and many other prestigious schools, often on full scholarships. iGEM is a life-changing experience.

# Our philosophy

Science is **FUN**

Science is **CREATIVE**

Science is **RELEVANT**

Science is a **TEAM SPORT**

Science is **DIVERSE**



# The iGEM Jamboree

The iGEM Jamboree allows teams to travel to an international convention in October of every year to present their work to judges and meet other teams from all over the world. Last year's BioCrew won a silver medal, and this year we're shooting for a gold medal and awards for Best Presentation, Best Wiki, and Best Math Modeling! The Jamboree is an amazing experience that allows us to collaborate with other teams and showcase the work of inner-city high schools students at an international level.



## Why you should donate

This year, the iGEM Grand Jamboree will be held in Paris, France. While this is very exciting since the convention has historically taken place in Boston, it means that we'll need even more help to have our team attend. Our team needs around \$32,000 to send all 22 students to the event this fall. This includes \$17,000 for travel, \$3,300 for hotels and meals, \$11,000 for individual registrations to the



Jamboree, and \$700 for printing team T-shirts and posters. At the Jamboree, we'll present our project, compete for awards, and connect with other iGEM teams. Last year, we won a bronze medal and the Best Presentation award.

Without going to the Jamboree, we won't be able to compete for those prizes.

THE iGEM JAMBOREE IS AN INTERNATIONAL GATHERING WITH OVER 3,000 STUDENTS, RESEARCH PROFESSIONALS, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, AND JOURNALISTS. THIS EVENT GENERATES HIGH VISIBILITY AND OPPORTUNITIES TO REACH A WIDE AUDIENCE.



# Sponsorship Levels

We're offering incentives for different levels of donations. Organizations that donate over \$500 will be considered Bronze Medal sponsors, \$2,000 and up will qualify for a Silver medal sponsorship, and \$5,000 and above will be Gold Medal sponsors.



## Bronze Medal Sponsor: \$500 and above

Company logo displayed on the team wiki, the team poster, and the team oral presentation.



## Silver Medal Sponsor: \$2,000 and above

All of the benefits above, plus display of company logo on the BioCrew's team T-shirt (worn at the Jamboree and available to the public for purchase) and publication on all of BUGSS' social media channels at least 3 times.



## Gold Medal Sponsor: \$5,000 and above

All of the benefits above plus mention of company sponsorship in a press release announcing the BioCrew's awards from the Jamboree

## Thanks to our previous sponsors!

