

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

A Publication of the Chemical Society of Washington Section of the American Chemical Society

February 24th CSW Meeting: College Chemistry Achievement Awards and Featured Speaker Dr. Jeanita Pritchett, NIST

Schedule of Events:

5:00 - 5:30pm: Presentation of the 2021 College Chemistry Achievement Awards

5:30 - 6:30pm: Presentation by Dr. Jeanita Pritchett, "Balance Your R.E.A.C.T.I.O.N.: Strategies for Advancing Your Chemistry Career," followed by Q&A

Registration

This will be a Zoom meeting. There is no charge to attend, but you must register in advance. Please register using this link: https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/join/zoomurl/tZEtduuupz0oHdzubzfAV3bGkMgrsj9T_HZ1

Jeanita S. Pritchett, Ph.D.

Leadership Coach | STEM Educator | Chemist | Speaker |
DE&I Champion

This meeting features a presentation of the College Chemistry Achievement Awards and includes a presentation on "Balance Your R.E.A.C.T.I.O.N.: Strategies for Advancing Your Chemistry Career" by Dr. Jeanita Pritchett. Dr. Pritchett is a Senior Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Strategist at the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) in the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The College Chemistry Achievement Awards are presented annually by the Chemical Society of Washington to outstanding seniors majoring in chemistry and biochemistry from each of the area colleges and universities. View the collegiate honorees here: https://capitalchemist.org/college_chemistry_achievement_awardees/

Speaker Biography

Dr. Jeanita Pritchett is a Senior Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Strategist at the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) in the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She began her tenure at NIST as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow working on several forensics-related projects. Her work at NIST has led to peer-reviewed publications in *Analytical Chemistry*, *Analyst*, *Journal of Analytical Toxicology*, and NIST Special Publications. Dr. Pritchett has a deep-rooted passion for helping to build up the next generation of STEM professionals. She has served as a research mentor for the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program and the Montgomery College Internship Program at NIST. Furthermore,

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Inside this issue:

- Register for the February CSW meeting
- Learn about Carissa Hunter, one of our CSW Volunteers
- Sign up for the Chemistry Olympiad
- Volunteer to judge a local science fair
- Apply for a BCCE travel grant



Dr. Pritchett created a career coaching program for postdocs to help them gain clarity about the next steps in their careers. During her spare time, she also does outreach and demos at local schools and churches. Additionally, Dr. Pritchett has worked as an Adjunct Lecturer at Montgomery College teaching General Chemistry since 2012 (overall teaching experience since 2005). She teaches by the philosophy, “Each one, teach one!” and strives to make her classroom a positive learning experience for students who often fear chemistry.

Outside of her 9 to 5, Dr. Pritchett founded JSP Coaching and Consulting, LLC, a firm that provides leadership coaching resources for STEM professionals and organizations. Additionally, she founded STEAM Forward! Academy with a mission to encourage youth to pursue STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) subjects with confidence, curiosity, enthusiasm, and a genuine sense of belonging. Further, she co-founded Facilitate 2 Motivate (F2M), LLC, a consulting firm focused on helping STEM professionals achieve success on their own terms. From inspiring youth, to empowering leaders, Dr. Pritchett strives to help others find their place in STEM.

Throughout her career, Dr. Pritchett has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Most recently, she received two group NIST DEI and Equal Employment Opportunity Awards for her work with outreach to promote academic affairs programs to underserved communities and her involvement in the NIST Women in STEM (WiSTEM) employee group. Additionally, Dr. Pritchett had the distinct honor of having her painting, *See it. Believe it. BECOME IT!*, featured on the cover of the prestigious research journal *Analytical Chemistry* (<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/acs.analchem.1c00038>). Dr. Pritchett obtained her B.S. in Professional Chemistry from Tennessee State University in 2005 and her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2011. Additionally, she obtained an Executive Certificate in Leadership Coaching from Georgetown University in 2019 and an Executive Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University in 2020.

Websites: www.jeanitapritchett.com | www.steamforwardacademy.com | www.facilitate2motivate.com

IG: @drjeanitapritchett; @steamforwardacademy

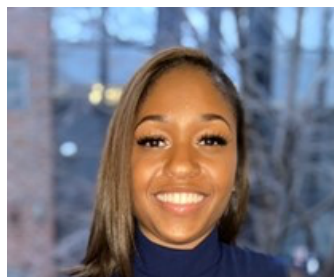
Twitter: @drjeanita

Tiktok: @drjeanita; @steamforwardacademy; @genchemwithdrj

Linkedin: Jeanita Pritchett, Ph.D.

Email: jp@jeanitapritchett.com

Volunteer Spotlight: Carissa Hunter



Professional Experience: Academic and Student Affairs Coordinator, College of Science, George Mason University

Education: Ph.D. Student at George Mason University

Volunteer Activities: I have volunteered with the Committee of Minority Affairs for a year now. I have also volunteered with the Younger Chemist Committee. For the Committee on Minority Affairs, we have put on a panel with chemists from local universities as well as had a book review with an esteemed author. My most

favorite volunteer activity was getting to be the face for CSW at the Spooky Halloween Event, where I was able to show them how to make “snow” as well as being able to teach them about the ACS.

Why did you become a member of CSW? With working with the Younger Chemist Committee (YCC), I realized I wanted to get more involved with the ACS. An email was sent by CSW to join the Minority Affairs Committee and it piqued my interest as I am a double minority. I wanted to be able to be more of a voice. I also wanted to share the skills learned while working with the YCC with the Minority Affairs Committee. I am still really excited to see how far the Minority Affairs committee can grow and all the upcoming activities.



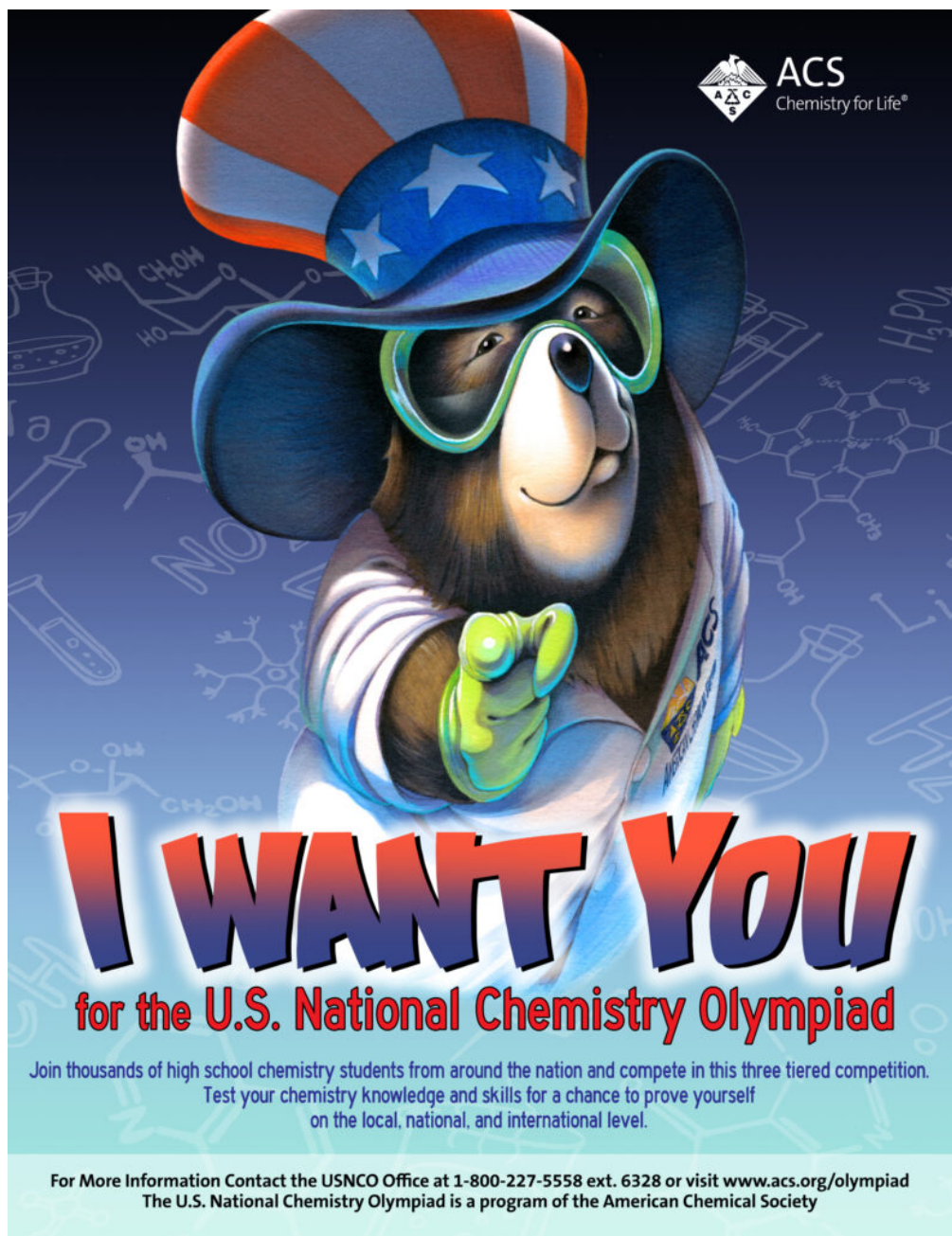
U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Registration Now Open

Registration for the Local Section Exam of the 2022 USNCO is now open. Once again, we are offering the exam digitally through the ACS Learning Environment with multiple options for proctoring.

The test will be administered on March 19 beginning at 10am in various locations throughout the region.

Teachers, students, and volunteers can all sign up via Google form: <https://forms.gle/JT5Ezd5Kws31w3o18>.

Please email the coordinators at cswolympiad@gmail.com for more information.



ACS
Chemistry for Life®

I WANT YOU

for the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

Join thousands of high school chemistry students from around the nation and compete in this three tiered competition.
Test your chemistry knowledge and skills for a chance to prove yourself
on the local, national, and international level.

For More Information Contact the USNCO Office at 1-800-227-5558 ext. 6328 or visit www.acs.org/olympiad
The U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad is a program of the American Chemical Society

Volunteer Opportunity: Science Fair Judges Needed

The National Capital Section of Optica (formerly OSA) sends judges to our regional science fairs to select outstanding exhibits with a general interest in the fields of optics and photonics. This year, as in the past two virus-affected years, judging will be done virtually with students' projects accessible online. The science fair season has already begun with the Montgomery Blair Magnet Program's 30th Annual Research Convention. Because the judging is done virtually, it can be done from your own home, at a time that is convenient for you.

Please contact Jim Heaney (James.b.heaney@nasa.gov) for details.

27th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE) - CSW High School Teacher Travel Grant: Application Deadline: February 14, 2022

The Chemical Society of Washington is pleased to support up to \$1200 in travel expenses for the 27th BCCE Conference. Of the applicants, two high school teachers will be selected for the CSW High School Teacher Travel Grant each cycle.

The goal of this award is to encourage the professional development of local high school teachers and enhance their chemistry instruction. If selected, the awardee agrees to give a presentation or conduct a workshop at the ACS headquarters in Washington, DC during fall 2022 (exact date will be determined). The purpose of the presentation/workshop is to share the new knowledge gained at the conference with peers from other schools within the CSW area. The awardee, or the awardee's academic institution, is strongly encouraged to invite other science teachers to the aforementioned event.

CSW encourages that high schools in the CSW region nominate one high school teacher per school and send an application to CSW for consideration.

The BCCE Conference provides chemistry educators with opportunities for interacting with colleagues at all levels in both formal and informal settings. Instructors who are new to chemistry education and those who have years of teaching experience will find this conference to be an excellent source of materials, techniques, and chemistry content.

High school teachers interested in obtaining a travel grant to attend the 27th BCCE at Purdue University, IN, July 31-Aug. 4, 2022, need to complete an application **by February 14, 2022** and submit it to csw@acs.org with the subject "BCCE Teacher Travel Grant". You can download a copy of the application at https://capitalchemist.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/revised_-27th-BCCE-high-school-teacher-travel-grant-2022-Purdue-University-FILLABLE-FORM.docx.

Teachers will be notified of their award status by March 21, 2022.

NCW Illustrated Poem Contest - 2021 Winning Entries

Each year as part of National Chemistry Week (NCW) activities, the American Chemical Society (ACS) sponsors an illustrated poem contest for students in kindergarten – 12th grades. CSW sponsors a local NCW Illustrated Poem contest.

This year's contest focused on chemistry associated with glues and adhesives with the theme, "Fast or Slow ... Chemistry Makes It Go!" Additional information on the contest, as well as NCW, is available on the ACS web site (www.acs.org/ncw). Below are the 2021 winning entries:

REACTION

Chemical Reactions

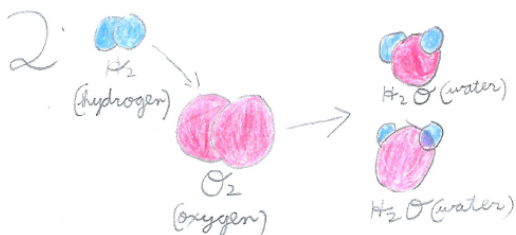
Reactions occur when two molecules interact
and some atoms lose contact.

Bonds are broken to form new molecules
It's difficult to see this without special tools

BOND

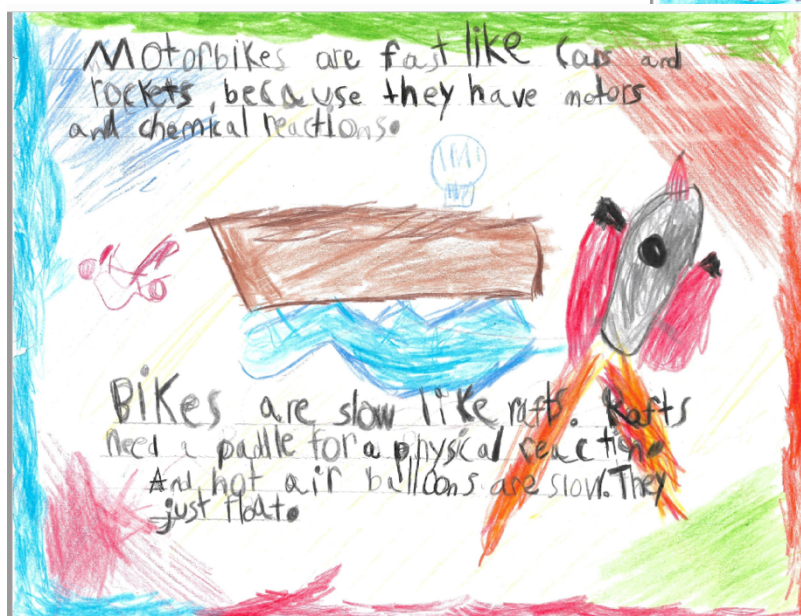
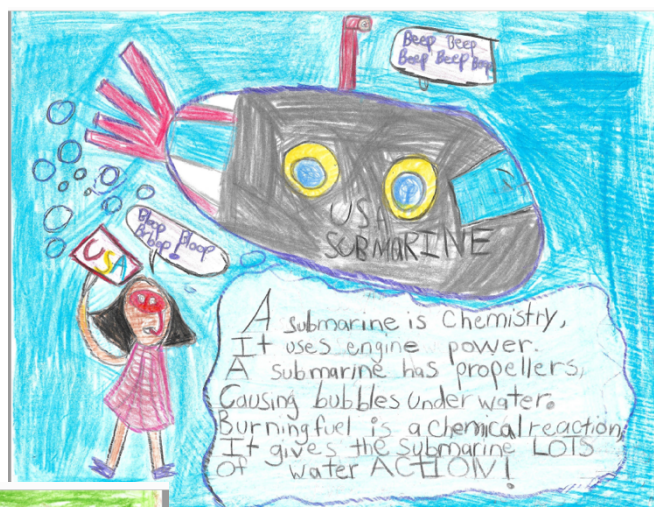
MOLECULE

There are things that increase the rate of reaction
Like temperature, pressure and concentration.



Arthur Jones (left)
7th Grade, PGCPs Online Campus

Evelyn Colbert (below)
3rd Grade, Maryland International Day
School



Elvis Colbert (left)
1st Grade, Maryland International
Day School



NEW MEMBER PACKAGES FOR 2022

The **Premium Package** provides member access to all benefits included with the Standard Package, plus:

- Weekly Issues of *Chemical & Engineering News* (C&EN)
- ACS Publications and Author Benefits
- Discounts on ACS Meeting Registration
- CAS SciFinder® Benefit
- Special member pricing on select ACS Journals
- Access to the ACS Webinars® Library
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The **Standard Package** includes many of the most popular ACS benefits:

- Weekly Issues of *Chemical & Engineering News* (C&EN)
- Quarterly ACS Discovery Reports
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- Affinity Benefits & ACS Insurance
- And more!

Go to www.acs.org/membership to learn more about the new ACS membership packages.

**The benefits listed above are meant to be representative of each package, but are not completely inclusive of all benefits*

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Capital Chemist Staff

Voice: 202-659-2650

Email: thecapitalchemist@gmail.com

Twitter: @CapitalChemist

Chair, Publications

Sara Orski

Editor, Business Manager

Jessica L. Rasmussen

Publisher

Chemical Society of Washington

CSW Correspondence

CSW, 1155 16th Street, NW, O-218

Washington, DC 20036

202-659-2650 voice

email: csw@acs.org

www.capitalchemist.org

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CSW Calendar of Events

February 14: Deadline to apply for BCCE Teacher Travel Grant

February 24: Virtual CSW Meeting