

STEM, LGBTQ & YOU 2026

Friday 27st February – 09:30–17:00

9:30 Sign in opens

10:00 Welcome to STEM, LGBTQ & You 2026
Avery Cunningham (Chair) & Rebekah Roebuck (Vice Chair)

10:15 ThermoFisher Scientific Introduction
Alex Mao-Cook

10:30 Namkeen Peshawri
Talk: STEM, Inclusion, and Trans Visibility

10:30 Dr. Dominic Galliano
Workshop: Bring ALL of You into Your Talks

11:00 Dr. Evan Wroe
Talk: Many Hands: Co-creating Queer Science through a community zine

11:30 Break

11:45 Dr. Evan Wroe
Workshop: A thousand queer science zines!

12:00 Rue Ball
Talk: Doing science for the LGBTQ community

12:30 Keynote Speaker: Poggy Murray Whitham
Talk: Engineering Equity: The Power of Inclusion Moments

13:30 Lunch Break

14:30 Michael Armstrong
Talk: Monitoring the Quality of TV Subtitles

14:30 Dr. Katherine Holmes
Workshop: Yass, and... STEM-Improv!

15:00 Aneurin Hooper
Talk: Transitioning at Work: Navigating the Journey in Industry

15:30 Break

15:45 Eve Armstrong
Workshop: Exploring LGBTQ+ Identities Through the Natural World

16:00 Dr. Robin Hayward
Talk: Bringing identity to science and engagement

16:30 oSTEM and Closing Session
Avery Cunningham (Chair) & Rebekah Roebuck (Vice Chair)

End of Conference & Social – The Physician, Birmingham B15 3DH

TALKS



STEM, LGBTQ & YOU 2026

DR EVAN WROE

HE/THEY

*Talk: Many Hands: Co-creating
Queer Science through a
community zine*



Evan (he/they) is a
biophotoelectrochemist, folk musician

solarpunk writer. He spends his days looking at cyanobacteria under the microscope, trying to understand how and why they share electricity, and his nights thinking about what else we could learn from them about how to live together well. Recently they've been wondering what queer science could be, making zines and digging in seedlings at the local community farm.

Inspired by a previous STEM, LGBTQ and You conference, me and my friend/colleague comrade Robin Scullion began thinking about what Queer Science meant... Was it just Queer People Doing Science? Or was there something more to it? We had loads of ideas, and it turns out so did our queer friends and colleagues in and around science. So we did what any self-respecting queer with a big question and no clear way to answer it would do: we made a zine. Here we analyse the zine in form and content, and identify themes, common threads, synergies and frictions that arose from contributions to the zine. We find that respondents hold diverse, complementary and contradictory ideas about what Queer Science could be.

WORKSHOPS





STEM, LGBTQ & YOU 2026

DR KATHERINE HOLMES
THEY/THEM

***Workshop: Yass, and... STEM-
Improv!***

Katherine is a maths and science communicator, trainer, founder of the STEM-Improv Network and an LGBTQIA+ rights activist. Katherine's facilitation specialises in techniques from improv drama, both for community-building efforts within LGBTQ+ networks and for science communication training. Katherine identifies as Asexual, Aromantic, Agender and Genderfluid and focuses on raising visibility and leading inclusion initiatives for the asexual, aromantic, and agender communities both within and outside of STEM. Their collaborations include various organisations such as the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology, Imperial College London's IQ and I600 networks, the Proud Science Alliance, Pride in STEM, oSTEM, QED and many more.

katherineholmespublic.wordpress.com

[Linkedin: linkedin.com/in/dr-katherine-h-592380223](https://linkedin.com/in/dr-katherine-h-592380223)



Welcome to an introductory improv workshop where we will play games inspired by you and your STEM passions! Together, we will build confidence and science communication skills while having fun in a supportive, safe space.

No experience required! This session covers the basics of improv and safety tools to get you started.

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Minerals & Mining**