

wRiting, Engineering, Arts, Communication, and Health

REACH  
SYMPOSIUM FOR KIDS

February 10, 2018

Sponsored by

USC Viterbi School of Engineering Grad and Professional Programs  
USC Keck School of Medicine, Master of Science in Global Medicine  
USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
USC Dornsife Joint Educational Project  
USC Office of the Provost  
USC Emeriti Center  
PressFriends at USC Club  
PressFriends Inc.

with a special performance by The SoCal VoCals

**PROGRAM FOR MENTORS  
AND VOLUNTEERS**



# REACH AGENDA

## **wRiting, Engineering, Arts, Communication, and Health**

- 8:45 a.m. Student volunteers sign in. South Bay volunteers greet buses.
- 9:00 a.m. Program Launch in SGM 123  
Presentation by USC PressFriends (Luke Southwell, Jessica Pedersen, Leah Palacios) and PressFriends Inc. (Nick Jung, Alec Berry)
- 9:10 a.m. Presentation by USC Viterbi School of Engineering Graduate and Professional Programs (Kelly Goulis, Binh Tran), USC Keck Global Health Program (Elahe Nezami), and USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism (Jaime Carias)
- 9:30 a.m. Group picture
- 9:35 a.m. Students and mentors go to their assigned classroom.
- 9:45 a.m. Session I
- 10:25 a.m. Speakers switch classrooms; students do not switch rooms
- 10:30 a.m. Session II
- 11:10 a.m. Speakers switch classrooms; volunteers handout snacks
- 11:15 a.m. Session III
- 11:55 a.m. Students head to Epstein Family Plaza for lunch (SGM 123/124 if the weather is inclement)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 12:40 p.m. The SoCal VoCals perform
- 1:00 p.m. Students can interview The SoCal VoCals
- 1:20 p.m. Students leave Epstein Plaza and return to their classrooms
- 1:30 p.m. Students begin writing articles
- 2:15 p.m. Mentors start editing articles with students
- 2:30 p.m. Students leave—USC mentors walk students to buses; South Bay mentors organize articles

# REACH SYMPOSIUM TOPICS

## USC VITERBI SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- Lauren Crawford..... Desalination and Water Reuse
- Ashok Deb .....Sentiment Analysis for Cyber Security
- Daniel Depew ..... Molecular Simulations of Advanced Rocket Fuels
- Samantha McBirney ..... Malaria Diagnostic

## USC ANNENBERG SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION AND JOURNALISM

- Ashley Hawn ..... Communication. Globalization. Fandom
- Alyssa Lyon ..... Journalism Ethics in the Social Media Age
- Roberto Romero..... Skills needed to work in Tech and Media
- Gabby Fernandez..... Ethics and Emerging Technologies in Journalism

## USC KECK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE WITH WORLDMED

- Aili Vinson and Elizabeth Dunn..... Why Smoking and Vaping is bad
- Avanti Baronía and Hason Khan ..... Water Access and Hygiene
- Heather Lemaster..... Vaccines
- Roujin Khorrami-savoji ..... The Environment and Us: Staying  
and Nathalia Gochicoa Healthy and Helping the Environment
- Sammy Cohen and Nathan Dhablania..... I Want to be a Doctor!
- Lekha Chirala and Grace Ryu..... Go Away Germs!
- Fatima Al-Sarakbi Hernandez ..... Oral Health
- Allen Huang..... Eating Healthy and Being Active

# REACH SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



**Avanti Baronía** is a UC Davis graduate who majored in International Relations and is currently a Master's of Science in Global Medicine student at USC. She was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area before moving to Los Angeles for school. In the past, she has worked in India with underserved communities and has a lot of experience teaching children about access to health. She aims to empower and give a voice to children in the future by advocating for their health rights. She is excited to discuss access to water with these children!

**Lekha Chirala** is originally from Morgan Hill, CA and now lives in Los Angeles. She is currently finishing her junior year at USC. Her major is Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with a pre-medical emphasis. Her main passion is to go to medical school and become a doctor so that she can help those in need. She is currently an undergraduate researcher in the Kanoski Lab, which focuses on behavioral neuroscience. She aims to pursue her work in the hopes that she can bring about a greater understanding of the neurological and endocrinological processes related to dietary problems. Along with her research, she is a part of on-campus organizations whose main goals focus on feminism and major global medical issues.



**Lauren Crawford** was born in San Diego, CA, but spent the majority of her childhood in Mexico City, Mexico. She was first introduced to engineering through her father who is a structural engineer and architect. He taught her to think critically about the world and showed her how engineering can help solve problems. As an undergraduate student at Widener University in Chester, PA, she studied Civil Engineering. After taking a few classes in water engineering and traveling to Honduras with her school to work on environmental projects, she decided to pursue a PhD in Environmental Engineering. Lauren graduated in May 2015 from Widener University with a BS in Civil Engineering and began her PhD in Environmental Engineering in August 2015 at the University of Southern California. She hopes to become a professor one day to share her passion for engineering and the environment.

**Sammy Cohen** is currently a senior at the University of Southern California. Originally from Chicago, he chose to attend USC because of the clinical and philanthropic opportunities offered by the Keck School of Medicine undergraduate programs. Sammy aspires to one day become a team physician for a professional sports organization. He has dreamed of becoming a physician since he was a young boy, and he would love to combine his passion for medicine with his passion for sports in his everyday work. In his spare time, Sammy has tutored students at 32nd Street School and is thrilled to work with Pressfriends in order to educate the next generation of scholars.



# REACH SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



**Ashok Deb** was born in Germany and grew up in Clarksville, TN. He has been in the Army for over 16 years and has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Europe and Central America. In the Army he has worked with computers, phones and the Internet to help Soldiers communicate. He is currently a first year PhD student in Computer Science which will prepare his next Army assignment in cyber security to help keep America safe.

**Daniel Depew** is a third year Ph.D. student in Astronautical Engineering from Wichita, Kansas. He is a Trojan for life as he has gone to USC for both undergraduate and graduate school. He has always been interested in space since a young age. Ever since going to space camp for the first time in 2nd grade and learning about the space program, he knew he wanted a career in rocket science.



**Nathan Dhablania** is currently a senior at the University of Southern California. Coming from a mixed ethnic background (Korean/Indian), he chose to major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention due to its diverse and holistic approach to medicine. Nathan aspires to become a Neurosurgeon and plans to practice medicine aboard at some point in his career. Outside of class, he is an undergraduate research in the McMahon Stem Cell Lab on the USC Health Science Campus and actively volunteers with LA's homeless population. He is excited to work with PressFriends and talk about the various professions within healthcare!

**Elizabeth (Liz) Dunn** is a native of San Diego, California and attended college at Rice University in Houston, Texas. She graduated with a major in Biology and a minor in Global Health. Upon graduating, Liz joined the U.S. Peace Corps and moved to Dreketi, Fiji where she lived and worked for more than 2 years. She is now working towards her degree as a Master of Science in Global Medicine, from Keck School of Medicine, and looks forward to attending medical school one day and furthering her career in global medicine.



**Gabriela Fernandez** is a senior in Broadcast & Digital Journalism and Narrative Studies in USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. She is President of the USC Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

# REACH SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



**Nathalia Gochicoa** completed her Bachelor's degree at the University of San Diego in Biology with minors in Chemistry and Sociology. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Global Medicine and plans on applying to medical school this upcoming rotation. Once she attains her medical degree, she plans on being an active member of her local and global community through community outreach and public health programs.

**Ashley Hawn** is a second-year Global Communication Master's student in USC's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. As a dual degree student, Ashley spent her first year in London at The London School of Economics and Political Science. Before attending the global program, she lived in Washington, DC and spent time on Capitol Hill and at a then boutique, now mid-size public relations firm. A graduate of The Johns Hopkins University, she brings over five years of political communications, media relations, and public relations experience and is interested in perceived communication industry norms, like media "spin" and the role of social media influencers. Ashley grew up in the San Fernando Valley and enjoys traveling, running, and attending USC football games – fight on!



**Fatima Al-Sarakbi Hernandez** is a USC undergraduate student majoring in Biology. She was born in Damascus, Syria but raised in Redondo Beach. She plans to graduate USC in the fall of 2019, move on to medical school, and eventually specialize in pathology. She is determined to make health education as captivating as possible for children because she believes education nourishes empowerment for a better future. She is thrilled to work alongside PressFriends to discuss about dental hygiene with these children.

**Allen Huang** is a junior studying Human Biology from Corvallis, Oregon. His career aspiration is to become a doctor, though he hasn't decided what he would like to specialize in. Outside of class, he is a registered EMT who works at various on-campus events. He also is a member of Trojan Knights and Troy Camp, and is the SI leader for general chemistry. He is thrilled to work alongside PressFriends to discuss ways to avoid junk food and eat a balanced diet with these children.



# REACH SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



**Hason Khan** is currently a Masters of Science (Global Medicine) student at the Keck School of Medicine. In 2015 and 2016 Hason travelled to Rwanda and funded the construction of eight water tanks and over one hundred fruit/vegetable gardens in communities around the country. Having studied public health as an undergraduate student, he understands the necessity for access to clean water and how important it is for communities.

**Roujin Khorrami-savoji** completed her Bachelors degree at the University of Southern California, Santa Barbara in Biological Anthropology. Since then, she has been working towards her dream of becoming an orthodontist through volunteer work, becoming an orthodontic assistant, and working on completing her Masters of Science in Global Medicine at USC.



**Heather Lemaster** is originally from Martinsburg, West Virginia, but for the past 5 years has found a new home at USC. She earned a Bachelor's of Science in Biology from USC in 2017 and is a 2018 candidate for a Master's degree in Global Medicine. She is committed to developing a global perspective and has traveled with USC programs to four countries: Australia, Guatemala, India, and Uganda. Heather dreams of becoming a surgeon, but is also passionate about global health and has found a joy for teaching in the time she has spent tutoring on USC campus. She is enthralled to be working alongside PressFriends because she believes children are the hope for a better future and that education is the tool to empower them.

**Alyssa Lyon** is a studying for her Master of Science in Journalism in the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies from Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA. She is a Santa Barbara, California native who is passionate about uncovering the common threads that unite the globe. She strongly believes that what effects one person impacts every person and that the best way to understand oneself is to learn from the ideas of others. She is dedicated to creating a platform that shares diverse opinions.



# REACH SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



**Samantha McBirney** is originally from the SF Bay Area and is studying biomedical engineering here at USC. After graduating from high school early, she started her undergrad in chemical engineering at Caltech and then transferred to UC Berkeley, where she finished her degree in bioengineering. She chose engineering many years ago because she enjoys solving problems, and that's what engineering is about –finding and creating solutions to complex problems! In her spare time, you'll find her running and spending copious amounts of time with her husband and their three pets.

**Roberto Romero** is a master's student at USC in communication informatics and communication management. Before moving to California, he earned a B.S. in business economics at the University of Mannheim in Germany and studied abroad in Japan. Throughout his undergraduate career, he was an undergraduate research assistant at the University of Mannheim Business School. He has experience working in revenue management for Lufthansa German Airlines in Frankfurt and in the film production company Makina Films. In summer 2017 he gained experience working at Apple Inc. in Cupertino, California as a project manager for the launch of iOS 11. He is passionate about tech, media and aviation, and has a great interest in the convergence space between Hollywood and Silicon Valley. Roberto has lived in four different continents and speaks five languages. Roberto was born and raised in Santa Cruz, Bolivia in the heart of South America.



**Grace Ryu** is currently a sophomore at USC majoring in Cognitive Science and minoring in Dance. While she is studying as a pre-medical track, she is also a part of the collegiate Competitive Cheer Team. Growing up as a third-culture kid, she aspires to become an OB/GYN and/or a fetal surgeon to raise international awareness of women's health. She is extremely excited to participate in this PressFriends to teach about germs and how to avoid them!

**Aili Vinson** is from South Carolina and graduated from College of Charleston in Charleston, SC. She currently attends the University of Southern California's Master of Science in Global Medicine program. She would like to attend medical school to become a physician after she earn her master's degree. She has a passion for helping those in need and has the dream of working with Doctors Without Borders. Aili has been a camp counselor, a tour guide, an assistant in a medical office, and a teaching assistant. Although these jobs are different from each other, they have all contributed to her desire to serve the community and continue to learn and teach.



# USC KIDS NEWS WOULD LIKE TO THANK

All of the student speakers

## **The SoCal VoCals**

### **USC Viterbi School of Engineering Graduate and Professional Programs**

Senior Associate Dean Kelly Goulis

Associate Dean Binh Tran

Director Jennifer Gerson

### **USC Keck School of Medicine, Master of Science in Global Medicine**

Senior Associate Dean Elahe Nezami

Academic Advisor Farah Zeheri

WorldMed President, Nathan Dhablania

### **USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism**

Senior Associate Dean Margaret McLaughlin

Civic Engagement Coordinator Jaime Carias

Academic Program Manager Annie Mateen

Special Events Program Coordinator Jasmine Torres

### **USC Dornsife Joint Educational Project**

Executive Director Tammara Anderson

### **USC Office of the Provost**

Vice Provost for Academic Operations Mark Todd

### **USC Emeriti Center**

Assistant Vice Provost Janette Brown

### **PressFriends at USC Club**

Co-Presidents Luke Southwell-Chan and Jessica Pedersen

President-Elect Leah Palacios

### **PressFriends Inc.**

Co-Presidents Nick Jung and Alec Berry

FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH THE  
REACH SYMPOSIUM FOR KIDS

# REACH SYMPOSIUM PERFORMANCE BY The SoCal VoCals



Founded in 1996, The SoCal VoCals is USC's premiere a cappella group.

Previous generations of VoCals have made their mark at venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Lincoln Center, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Rose Bowl, the Los Angeles House of Blues, the Getty Center, and the Staples Center.

VoCal alumni have been featured on NBC's *The Sing-Off*, made their Broadway debuts, and gone on to win multiple Grammy awards. In the last three years, the group has sung for President Obama and First Lady, toured Hong Kong and London, released their ninth studio album *VoCabulary*, and claimed their fourth Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) championship title. The VoCals is the first a cappella group to win four titles in the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella, which it accomplished in 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2015.

Above all, the VoCals are all about making music and having a good time!



# PRESSFRIENDS

## SYMPOSIUM NOTES

SPEAKER #1 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers—Please also take notes so that you can help the elementary students being mentored if their notes are incomplete or inaccurate.

### DESCRIPTION:

What was the subject? What points did he/she raise? Why did he/she think this topic is important? What is the current status of the subject? What changes are being made? What changes does the speaker propose?

**PRESSFRIENDS**  
**SYMPOSIUM NOTES**

# PRESSFRIENDS

## SYMPOSIUM NOTES

SPEAKER #2 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers—Please also take notes so that you can help the elementary students being mentored if their notes are incomplete or inaccurate.

### DESCRIPTION:

What was the subject? What points did he/she raise? Why did he/she think this topic is important? What is the current status of the subject? What changes are being made? What changes does the speaker propose?

**PRESSFRIENDS**  
**SYMPOSIUM NOTES**

# PRESSFRIENDS

## SYMPOSIUM NOTES

SPEAKER #3 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers—Please also take notes so that you can help the elementary students being mentored if their notes are incomplete or inaccurate.

**DESCRIPTION:**

What was the subject? What points did he/she raise? Why did he/she think this topic is important? What is the current status of the subject? What changes are being made? What changes does the speaker propose?

**PRESSFRIENDS**  
**SYMPOSIUM NOTES**

# PRESSFRIENDS

## SYMPOSIUM NOTES

### The SoCal VoCals

Volunteers—try to find the students you are mentoring and take notes when they are asking questions—as they may not be taking complete notes themselves.

NAME OF PERSON(S) INTERVIEWED by the students you mentored:

#### SAMPLE QUESTIONS

WHEN DID YOU START SINGING?

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SINGING A CAPPELLA?

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT BEING IN SOCAL VOCALS?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SONG THAT YOU SING WITH SOCAL VOCALS?

DO YOU SING SOLO TOO?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SONG?

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE SINGER?

HOW MUCH DO YOU PRACTICE?

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO GET INTO SOCAL VOCALS?

WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING AT USC?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GRADUATE?

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO WHEN YOU AREN'T SINGING OR STUDYING?

WHAT ADVICE TO YOU HAVE TO SINGERS ABOUT VOCAL HEALTH?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY BEING IN SOCAL VOCALS?

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SOCAL VOCAL PERFORMANCE?

WHO PICKS THE SONGS THAT SOCAL VOCALS SING?

HOW MANY PERFORMANCES DO YOU DO EVERY YEAR?

**PRESSFRIENDS**  
**SYMPOSIUM NOTES**



# PRESSFRIENDS

*Do the WRITE Thing!*

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## **Deciding on the Topic**

Reporters need to decide what type of article they want to write:

- **News Article** about the REACH Symposium? Reporters should go to page 15 of their Editorial Guidelines
- **Informational Article** about one of the Topics? Reporters should go to page 21 of their Editorial Guidelines
- **Profile of a Speaker?** Reporters should go to page 23 of their Editorial Guidelines
- **Opinion on a Topic** (e.g., Climate Change is Good/Bad)? Reporters should go to page 27 of their Editorial Guidelines

## **Storyboarding their Articles**

After the reporters decide what type of article they want to write, mentors should sit down with the reporters in his/her group for five or ten minutes, and each reporter can discuss what he/she is interested in.

Each reporter should have a brief outline including at least three reasons/examples supporting his/her article before writing begins. The reporters can help each other out with ideas.



### NEWS ARTICLES

News article report facts about an event or incident.

1. **DO NOT use the word, “I.”** News articles are written in third person.
2. **DO NOT start the article with—”Hi, I am Mary Smith, and I’m I go to ABC school ...”**
3. **Any interviews are by “USC Kids News” and you are credited as the reporter but are not named in the body of the article.**



#### GENERAL INFORMATION:

- **Interview at least three people.** Try to interview at least three people. For this event, you can interview the speaker, your teacher, and your fellow reporters. Please interview at least one student reporter from ANOTHER school. If you are writing for your own school or program newspaper and are writing on a campus event for the whole school, interview the teacher who organized the event and/or kids from different grades (both boys and girls). If it is a campus event/field trip for one grade, then make sure to interview kids out of different classes and both boys and girls; you can also interview teachers.
- **Use a Catchy Headline.** Use a Headline that will catch the readers attention.
- **Use a Good Lead-In Sentence.** Peak your readers’ interest so they will want to read the article. This means NOT starting off the sentence with, “Hi, USC Kids News readers.”
- **Use a Good Closing Sentence.**
- **Cover Who, What, Where, When, and Why.** Include the most important information in the first sentence and in the beginning of the article.
- **Keep Your Sentences and Paragraphs Short.** Newspaper paragraphs may only have one or two sentences.
- **Keep Your Article Short.** For this event, try to write 100-200 words. If you need more space, talk to your PressFriends mentor.

### INFORMATIONAL ARTICLES

Informational articles give unbiased information and if there are multiple opinions involved, it is important to give all the different opinions—provided that they are age-appropriate (check with your mentor if you have any questions).

Many informational articles require research, but at this workshop, you'll just be reporting on what you learn in the workshop. If you want to find out about the speaker's research, and what competing research there is in the field, be sure to ask the speaker in the Question and Answer segment.

When you are writing an informational article, here are some general rules to follow:

- **Try to Limit or ELIMINATE the Use of the Word "I."**
- **Include the Information You Learned.** Include the most important information in the first sentence and in the beginning of the article.
- **Use a Catchy Headline.** Use a headline that catch your readers' attention.
- **Ask the Speaker About his/her Research and Cite any sources that he/she mentions.** If you were doing the research yourself, never rely on just one source, especially if it is an Internet source and you would have to cite your sources.
- **Write in Your Own Words.** Do not write down what the speaker said unless it is exactly what he/she said, and then use quotations.
- **Link Your Article to Your School.** Tell students why the article is important to them.
- **Cover Who, What, When, Where, Why and How.** Include the most important information in the first sentence and in the beginning of the article.
- **Keep Your Article Short.** Try to keep your article between 100– 150 words.



### PROFILES



A profile article is a lot of fun. It's a great chance to find out more about your favorite speaker at the REACH Symposium for Kids. If you are writing for a school or program newspaper, you might also want to profile your favorite teacher, your principal, a person in an interesting job, or a person with a unique or different experience.

- **DO NOT USE THE WORD "I."** The interviewer will be the USC Kids News, but credit will be given to the editor/reporter in a byline.
- **Use a Catchy Headline.** Use a headline that catches the readers attention.
- **Keep It Short.** Keep this workshop profile to 150 words, but it is easy to have a longer article. Just let your faculty advisor and PressFriends mentor know if it is going to be longer than 150 words.
- **Offer to Give the Draft Article to the Person Interviewed to Review for Accuracy.**
- **Correct Spelling of Names and Places.** Ask for the correct spelling of the person's name, business/school, and other important details.
- **Keep a Record of the Person's Contact Information.** Keep a record of the person's address, phone number and email for questions and to email a courtesy copy (or ask your faculty advisor or PressFriends to email a copy).

### OPINION ARTICLES

In an opinion article, you can state your opinion and tell others why you reached that opinion. An opinion article is also a persuasive essay, in which you try to persuade the reader to agree with your opinion.

In an opinion article you CAN use the word “I” and write in the First Person. You are telling your opinion and your reasons for reaching that position.

#### PERSUASIVE ESSAY OUTLINE ([www.time4writing.com](http://www.time4writing.com))

##### Introductory Paragraph

- Grab the reader’s attention by using a “hook”
- Give an overview of the argument
- Close with a thesis statement that reveals the position to be argued

##### Body Paragraphs

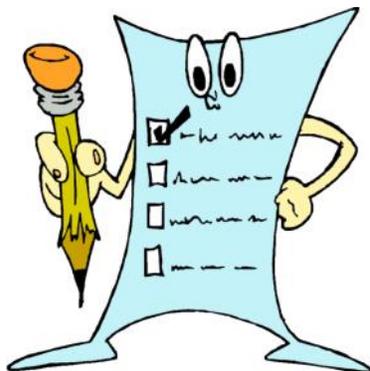
- Each paragraph should focus on one piece of evidence
- Within each paragraph, provide sufficient supporting detail

##### Opposing View Paragraph

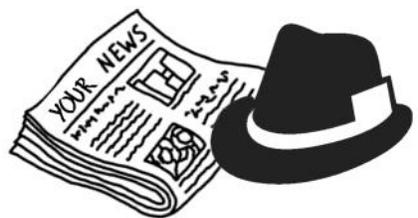
- Describe and then refute the key points of the opposing view

##### Concluding Paragraph

- Restate and reinforce the thesis and supporting evidence







**PressFriends**