

STUDENT LEARNING CONFERENCE PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

This year will mark the 17th annual Howard County Gifted and Talented Student Learning Conference, a day-long conference at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Kossiakoff Center in Laurel at which students in the Intern/Mentor and Independent Research Programs have an opportunity to present the results of their research and creative investigations with audiences of students and adults in the Howard County Public School System. There will be several successive sessions occurring simultaneously, which will include 25-minute oral presentations and 10-minute visual display presentations. Attendees will register their first, second, and third choice of presentation to attend for every session. The conference will also include a performing arts session at which current students in either the Intern/Mentor or Independent Research Program demonstrate their talents in music, creative writing, dance, film, and other lively arts. Not all applicants' proposals to present will be accepted. The G/T Resource Teachers, as a committee, review applications and build a program that will include examples of outstanding student work and also enough variety so that sessions will offer something of interest to all attendees.

Presenting at an academic or professional conference is considered an honor. Being selected to present can be extremely competitive. When adults update their resumes, they include all the conference presentations they have made in order to demonstrate that they are influential leaders in their fields. Having your name published in a conference program adds to your professional reputation, and the program, itself, can be included as an impressive artifact in your portfolio.

Before you submit your proposal to your teacher, check your date book to determine if you are free to present on **April 24** and to attend the rehearsal on **April 20 from 2:15 – 3:30 p.m.** On the date of the conference, you will be expected to arrive by car before the conference begins and to attend the conference until it ends (shortly before schools dismiss.) **Only those students who sign in the box below will be considered as possible speakers.** Presenting at a countywide conference involves a serious commitment, as students have registered for your session and your name has been printed in the program. Once again, please do not submit a proposal unless you are committed to presenting!

(Please check one) **Independent Research Student** **Intern/Mentor Student**

Presentation Preference: **Visual Display** **Oral Presentation**

Presenter _____ **School** _____

Home Phone _____ **Topic** _____

Email _____

Presentation Category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Applied Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Mass Communication
<input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Performing Arts
<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Language/Humanities	<input type="checkbox"/> Science Research
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Medicine

Submission Checklist:

- ✓ *Completed cover sheet*
- ✓ *A typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font final copy of your proposal*
- ✓ *A typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font biography*
- ✓ *Send an electronic copy of both documents to your G/T Resource teacher saved as lastname.firstname.school (Example: kelly.natalie.atholton)*

*** If selected, I will attend the Student Learning Conference on April 24 from 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 pm. and the rehearsal on April 20 from 2:15 – 3:30 p.m.**

Student Signature

Conference Proposal Planning Sheet

As you complete this planning sheet, refer to the models provided on the following pages to write a clear, concise and grammatically correct proposal to attach to the first sheet.

Consider the following when finalizing the proposal:

- **The proposal should contain 4-5 sentences.**
- **Each sentence beginning should vary in structure.**
- **The sentences should vary in length.**

Step 1: The Title

A great title should be catchy **and** informative.

Step 2: The Beginning

Option #1

Start your conference description with a statement that expresses your research problem or question.

Option #2

Start your conference description with an interesting fact or statistic based on your topic.

Option #3

Start your conference description with a definition stated in a creative way. (Do not start with according to Webster’s Dictionary...)

Option #4

Start your conference description with a rhetorical question that entices attendees to want to learn more about your topic.

Step 3: The Body

In 2-3 sentences discuss 2-3 interesting points/facts related to your research topic.

Step 4: The Conclusion

Conclusions can take many forms but should sum up the essence of the presentation and let the audience know what they will learn by attending.

The following prompts may assist you:

- This presentation will...
- A call to action
- This journey of...
- Under the guidance of the student’s mentor...
- To share his/her expertise the student will...

Step 5: The Biography

Using the following examples as a model, write a short biography that may be read by a host to introduce you at the Student Learning Conference. Information may include accomplishments, how your research interest developed, information on your mentor/advisor and any life experiences that have contributed to your project.

Model Proposals for the Student Learning Conference
--

Proposal Example #1:***Money Can't Buy Happiness, But It Does Buy Everything Else!*****Student Name****Name of School**

According to a recent study by the Jump Start Coalition for Financial Literacy, only 6% of high school seniors in America are financially literate. Participants in this session will have an opportunity to assess their own financial literacy, learn how to invest for significant profits, and recognize the best way to guarantee secure, personal futures. Armed with strong financial information and investment strategies, students may want to form an investment club of their own.

Proposal Example #2:***Mediation and Law: Creating a Better World through Mediation*****Student Name****Name of School**

Why are nations still taking disputes to the International Court of Justice when mediation provides a cost-efficient and expedient way to resolve international conflict? What should world leaders know in order to promote the growth of International Mediation? International Mediation is the attempt to create a peaceful settlement between disputing nations or international parties by the help of another power. In the international arena, mediation plays a major role in resolving ethnic conflicts, business and personal claims. After reviewing examples of effective mediation methods and their application in modern day conflicts, this session will explain how mediation is more effective than alternative methods.

Proposal Example #3:***Need to Know: Chronic Lung Disease and Smoking*****Student Name****Name of School**

Many cases of lung disease are showing up in the ER of Howard County General Hospital, and the victims seem surprised. How can we so grossly misunderstand the implications of secondhand smoke, the connection between bronchitis and emphysema, and the relationship between inefficient lungs and heart disease or cancer? The incidence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in large populations is high, and treatment in the later stages of this disease cannot be as effective as early diagnosis and treatment. How can we help? Understand the implications, demographics, and pathology of COPD, and how informed citizens can prevent fatal results.

Model Biographies for the Student Learning Conference
--

Biography Example #1:*Title of the Presentation***Student Name****Name of School**

Student name is a senior at Hammond High School. She has focused her year of research on architecture under the direction of Carl Lostritto, a graduate student, in Architecture and Mechanical Drawing classes offered at Hammond. She also took Architecture 150 in College Park's young Scholars Program this summer. In *student's* sophomore year, she won third place in Howard County's Architecture Design Challenge.

Biography Example #2:*Title of the Presentation***Student Name****Name of School**

Student name is a senior at Reservoir High School. He has been playing various instruments, singing, and writing songs for over five years. He has performed in many local venues by himself and as a member of several bands. As a result of two years' study in Independent Research, *student* will release his first album in June. He hopes that access to file sharing technologies will enable a large audience to enjoy his music.

Biography Example #3:*Title of the Presentation***Student Name****Name of School**

Student name is a senior at Long Reach High School. She is an intern at the Johns Hopkins Children Center's Child Life Department under the direction of two Child Life Specialists, Mary Devon McWilliams and Christine Bennet. She plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in Biology next fall and a minor in Psychology. Eventually, she plans to attend medical school and become a pediatrician.