

Engagement Day 2023

Engaging with diverse young people
29 November | #EngagementDay2023

10:00 - 10:30

Registration and refreshments

10:30 - 10:40

Welcome

10:40 - 11:30

In conversation with our youth partners

11:30 - 11:45

Break

11:45 - 12:45

Keynote and Q&A

12:45 - 13:00

Opportunities for engaging
with young people at Imperial

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch and networking

14:00 - 15:00

Deep dive discussions

15:00 - 15:20

Break

15:20 - 16:15

Lightning talks

16:15 - 16:30

Closing remarks

Today's speakers

Hosts

Prof Maggie Dallman

Having joined Imperial in 1994 as a lecturer in the Department of Biology, Maggie is now Vice President (International) and Associate Provost (Academic Partnerships) – academic lead on the College's International Relations and Societal Engagement Strategies. She is passionate about giving young people the opportunity to reach their potential, believing that education and engagement is central in achieving this goal. Through Imperial's Public and Community Engagement teams, as well as widening participation and outreach work, Maggie's division provides opportunities in STEM education and research to underserved and underrepresented youth. Still involved in research, Maggie's scientific lab studies inflammation and immunology.

Vicky Brightman

As Director of Public Engagement, Vicky has a remit to embed a culture of public engagement across Imperial. This includes developing ways to enable public engagement to enrich academic thinking and research, and implementing institutional structures for support and recognition for engagement. Vicky also leads on a range of public engagement programmes connecting our internal and external audiences, including the Great Exhibition Road Festival, Imperial Lates and community engagement programmes at White City and increasingly around our other campuses. Prior to joining Imperial in 2015, Vicky was the Head of Engagement and Interpretation at Kew Gardens, Head of Learning at the Horniman Museum and Gardens in London, and Head of Learning Programmes at Thinktank, Birmingham's Science Museum.

Dr Amy Seakins

As Deputy Head of Public Engagement (Capacity Building and Evaluation) at Imperial, Amy and her team provide training and support for staff and students to develop their public engagement skills and ideas. This includes engagement masterclasses, seed funding, awards, and guidance around evaluation of engagement activities. Amy works with colleagues across the College to embed public engagement into research strategy, impact, knowledge exchange and funding. Previous roles before joining Imperial included at the Wellcome Trust, supporting researchers in their public engagement activities, as a social science researcher looking into science capital and equity in STEM, and as an evaluation consultant collaborating with organisations including the Natural History Museum and ZSL London Zoo.

In Conversation with our Youth Partners

Charlotte Coales

As Engagement Manager (Capacity Building), Charlotte leads on providing training and support for Imperial staff and students to develop their public engagement skills and ideas. With a BSc (Hons) in Ecology and Environmental Biology and an MSc in Science Communication, Charlotte has a wealth of experience from working in the museum and zoo sectors. Before joining Imperial, Charlotte was the Public Engagement Manager within the Institute of Zoology (part of the Zoological Society of London) and led on a range of engagement activities and training. Prior to that, she was a senior Science Communicator at the Natural History Museum, London. Charlotte is co-chair of the London Public Engagement Network.

Selma Shafi

Selma is a first-year Speech and Language Therapy student at the University of Greenwich. She enjoys reading books, socialising with people and learning new topics. Throughout the Young Producers programme, Selma developed her skills in teamwork and communication whilst working alongside the other young producers, artist and researchers. She found it insightful to hear their perspectives and creative ideas as they worked together on an installation for the Great Exhibition Road Festival. Selma found the Young Producers programme to be very engaging and appreciated learning different topics such as antimicrobial resistance whilst also including elements of art. Recently, Selma has had more of an interest in science after the Young Producers programme and enjoys researching and learning new scientific facts in her free time.

Hala Zein

Hala is a 25 year-old legally educated disabled young woman of colour, with a passion for disability rights, cats and chicken-keeping. She will be speaking on accessibility in education, research, and careers, and hopes that through advocacy and meaningful collaborations, the voices and concerns of individuals from marginalised communities are heard and those previously underrepresented feel they belong and are valued in such spaces. Hala sits as a youth advisor on various organisation boards and panels to champion inclusion, accessibility, and engagement. These include ZSL, The British Museum, UCL Pharmacy PPI, and reverse-mentoring a council member. Hala has been invited to speak at The Prince's Trust, The Wellcome Collection, Snap Lens Lab, the parliamentary Children's Rights Inquiry, and the Commonwealth reception at Buckingham Palace and is currently training to become a solicitor.

Isra Sulevani

Isra is a Kurdish second-year medical student studying at Imperial College. Isra has been involved as a research participant in a two-year long study, been a part of research advisory groups and a co-researcher in multiple studies, all whilst being homeless. What makes Isra's perspective different when engaging with research is that she was brought up in areas with high rates of deprivation as well as being homeless before starting her first year of university.

Keynote Speaker

Prof Louise Archer

Louise holds the Karl Mannheim Chair in Sociology of Education at UCL. Her research seeks to understand why some young people see science as 'for them' and participate in STEM throughout education and beyond, and why some do not. Her work looks at patterns in identities and inequalities, particularly in relation to gender, social class and race/ethnicity. She has authored over 100 academic publications and has directed numerous large-scale national and international research studies, including the 14 year ASPIRES project, examining what shapes the trajectories of young people from age 10 – 22. Louise is particularly interested in participatory approaches, working with teachers, professionals and young people to change policies and practice. The impact of her research has been recognised through numerous prizes and she was made a Fellow of the British Academy in 2023.

Opportunities to Engage at Imperial

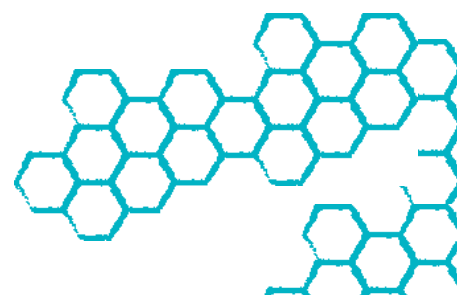
Lara Mistry

Lara is an experienced leader in public and community programming, festival, events and team management. Lara has 20+ years' experience delivering exciting programmes and projects in a variety of challenging locations, targeting a wide range of audiences, previously within local authorities, visitor attractions and festivals including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the London Design Festival. At Imperial, Lara leads the Public Engagement Programme Team, her role is key to driving a step-change in increasing the diversity, quality and quantity of the engagement opportunities we provide for staff, students and a diverse range of audiences. Lara is responsible for the strategic planning of the public programmes, seeking to involve new perspectives, ideas and skills to achieve our ambition to create more two-way engagement programmes using creative, collaborative and multidisciplinary approaches. Programmes include the Great Exhibition Road Festival, Imperial Lates, a Youth programme working with young people and youth workers, and programming at our White City campus focused on local underserved and underrepresented families.

Dr Mel Bottrill

Mel is the Head of Outreach Programmes at the College, and has worked in outreach and access for over 15 years. She has an MSci and PhD in Chemistry from Imperial, and discovered the world of engagement during her PhD studies. During her time as a postdoctoral researcher, she quickly realised that she enjoyed talking about science a lot more than being a scientist! She has held a number of roles in the Outreach team, taking on the responsibility for leading the programmes and the team in 2022. Mel has been one of the designated safeguarding leads for the Outreach team since 2014.

(Also presenting in Deep Dive: Safeguarding and Ethics)



Deep Dive: Safeguarding and Ethics

Kate Mulcahy

Kate is the manager of the Dangoor Reach Out Makerspace in White City. Before joining the College in 2017 she worked at the Royal Institution on the Christmas Lectures and setting up their Science in Schools Programme. She also worked as a science programmer at the Science Museum and previously as a secondary school teacher in the UK and Ireland. As well as this Kate has worked as a freelance TV presenter, particularly on the Impossible Engineering show and brought science shows to students in many countries including Indonesia and Singapore.

Dr Jenny Cooke

Jenny is the Mentoring and Tutoring Programmes manager in the Imperial Outreach Team. Jenny has worked in Outreach for around ten years with previous roles in the central Education Office and a postgraduate degree in the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial. She oversees a variety of outreach programmes and activities and enjoys supporting students to communicate effectively with younger audiences. Jenny has been one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads within the Outreach team since 2021.

Deep Dive: Reaching Young People

Justin Baptiste

Justin is the SEND Project Lead at Fit For Life Youth, managing projects for the youth SEND (special educational needs and disability) community from inception to completion. Experienced in client facing roles, creating interest and engaging with new and existing prospects has been key throughout his career. Justin currently runs three youth sessions in the community a week, so attracting new youths, meeting their expectations and keeping them engaged is a constant challenge he relishes.

Philippa Skett

Philippa is Imperial's Social Media Manager, overseeing the College's main channels that engage with student audiences. She also has experience running outreach and engagement social media campaigns to encourage young people to get more involved with STEM.

Deep Dive: Art and Activism

Karla Rosales García

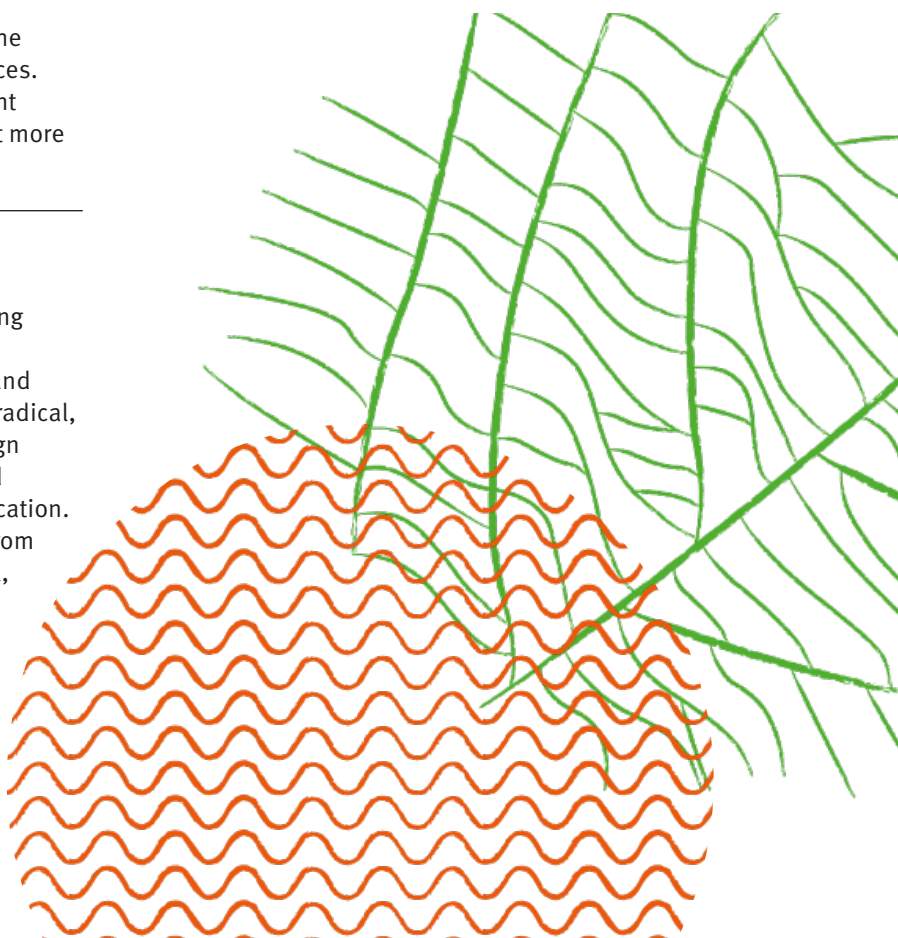
Karla is a Mexican designer, researcher and maker exploring the intersection between culture and sustainability. Karla describes colour as her language - working with children and young people, imagining the extraordinary and depicting radical, greener futures. Karla has a background in industrial design with a Master's degree in Design for Social Innovation and Sustainable Futures from the London College of Communication. Karla's design projects have been recognised by awards from institutions like the James Dyson Award, Valencia City Hall, Grupo Expansión, UNAM and the Mexican Embassy in London.

Linsey Wynton

Linsey project manages the Grantham Climate Art Prize, a biennial award that invites 11 – 25-year-olds to draw attention to the climate crisis by creating designs for outdoor public murals. In 2023 four public murals are being painted in Glasgow, Coventry, West Norwood and Nine Elms, while three winning designs and six runner-up designs will be displayed on billboards across London including on the public transport network. Linsey's background is in print and broadcast journalism, PR and media relations and she's run outreach projects with young people on storytelling. She also organises the Grantham Institute's award-winning Climate-Friendly Pop-Up Kitchen, which aims to inform the public about eating better for you and the planet. Linsey believes it's vital that young people, whose futures will be most affected by the climate crisis, should have their voices heard.

Mahamood Mubarak

Mahamood graduated from Imperial College London with a BSc in Biotechnology with Business Management, exploring global sustainability issues. He then joined FGV Holdings Berhad, a conglomerate based in Malaysia, with a key role in developing the company's climate action plan. Pursuing a Master's in Public Policy at Universiti Malaya broadened his interest in multilevel environmental governance and economic system change, leading him to return to Imperial for an MSc in Environmental Technology to specialise in environmental assessment and management. He is actively engaged in climate change workshops in the UK, and has contributed opinion pieces to newspapers on environmental protection and public issues in Malaysia.



Lightning Talks

Dr Lindsay Dewa

Lindsay is an Advanced Research Fellow in Mental Health within the School of Public Health and the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College. She is a mixed-methods researcher who embeds co-production and participatory methods in all her work, including public engagement activities. She works across the clinical and public mental health interface, and leads projects examining patient safety in mental health, particularly in young people. Her work primarily focuses on preventing and detecting youth mental health deterioration using digital devices and lifestyle factors such as sleep and social connection. She is the winner of the President's Medal for Societal Engagement in 2023, and winner of the EVCOM film awards for best health and wellbeing film for her co-produced film drama NEXUS about young people's mental health during COVID-19.

Jenny Lawrence

Jenny is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Infectious Disease, working on antimicrobial resistance. Jenny's work focuses on developing new technologies that could be incorporated into a point of care device and used in clinical settings.

Ellen Stadler

Ellen is a PhD student working on optimising antimicrobial dosing using novel biosensor technologies. Before coming to Imperial, she completed her Master's Degree in Bioengineering at ETH Zurich and did an internship at a company specialised in developing sensors for environmental gases.

Shafina Vohra

Shafina is a PhD student at the Dyson School of Design Engineering at Imperial College, an A-Level teacher, and a LEGO innovation lead. Shafina uses LEGO as a teaching tool to support creativity, ideation and design thinking within the young people she works with. From developing a new curriculum at her inner-London school, to delivering summer school workshops with Imperial's Outreach team, she encourages students and children to learn about the real world by designing solutions to challenges. Shafina describes her life goal as to change how we teach and what we teach in order to better prepare young people for their next step in life - she is a passionate advocate for the role of creativity and hands-on learning in education. Her innovative approach has inspired many around the world, and she is one of the top ten finalists of the Global Teacher Prize 2023.

Nicole Curtis

Nicole is a Research Assistant for the SCAMP Study within the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Imperial. She completed an MSc in Psychology and Neuroscience of Mental Health from King's College London. Her previous research focused on young people's mental health and the implementation of mental well-being practices within educational settings. She has worked as a Mental Health Worker for the NHS, within colleges and third sector organisations across London. In 2020, Nicole co-founded an educational charity, Off the Curriculum, dedicated to improving opportunities and wellbeing for adolescents from underprivileged backgrounds.

Dr Rachel Smith

Rachel is the Mohn Research Fellow in Population Child Health. She is an epidemiologist with extensive experience in local, national and international health research projects and cohort studies spanning both environmental epidemiology and reproductive, perinatal, child and adolescent health research. This includes research on exposures to air pollution, noise and disinfection by-products during pregnancy and adverse birth outcomes; research into the impacts of wireless and digital technologies on reproductive health, and physical and mental health and cognition in both adolescent and adult populations; and systematic reviewing to provide up-to-date robust evidence to policymakers. Rachel is involved in innovative community and young person engagement and involvement, ensuring that young people's voices influence our research in the Mohn Centre.

Andrew Brooks

Andrew leads on developing and delivering the public engagement programme at The Invention Rooms at Imperial's White City campus. Andrew has a wealth of experience developing and delivering engaging sessions for families around STEM from working at the Science Museum as an Explainer, and later at the Natural History Museum writing science workshops and shows in the learning team. Since joining Imperial in 2019 he started the family programme at White City, and has established the Saturday Science Club, holiday programmes and overseen the creation of almost 10,000 free science packs for local families.

Stay in touch with the Public Engagement team

societal_engagement@imperial.ac.uk

Sign up to our newsletter to be the first to know about opportunities and more at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/societal-engagement

Let us know what you thought!

Share your comments through our evaluation forms, email us or tweet with #EngagementDay2023.

Use the QR code below and complete our evaluation.

