

## Community Activities

Submitted by Kristine Smetana, Chair

Last year we had a pretty successful set of Activities. As always, CCEW and NCW activities were run at the Science Museum. We had a good number of volunteers from Industry, areas colleges/Universities, and students ranging from Graduate Students to middle schoolers. In addition to the two main events we have during the year, we also had some success growing the ACS Webinar-in-a-Box program and trying to help Virginia Colleges get more involved in the free programming for students. The Community Activities helped fund a pre-ice cream social prior to the event at Longwood, and pizza at the event at Reynolds.

NCW—Chemistry is Out of this World! We had a really good number of volunteers and some new activities. We touched on every aspect of the Atmosphere from Space and Rockets to gumdrop molecules of Greenhouse gases. The event would have been more successful if the Science Museum did not have an event that same weekend with 1400 guests. We also need to publicize more. However, channel 6 did come and interview us for the event which was great.

CCEW—the first year that CCED became CCE “Week”. Dive into Marine Chemistry was a hit!! We ran our event on Sunday hoping to bring in more visitors to the Science Museum. We had many different activities that were hands-on as well as demonstrations and some activities for kids to take home. We also had activities for teachers. We looked at various new activities such as different salts from parts of the world due to their mineral components, seaweed snacks, turtle dichotomy, and many other activities.

Webinar-in-a box. Voyage to Mars and “Opioids: Fighting Addiction with Chemistry” were big hits at many campuses including Reynolds Community College, VCU-(YCC), Longwood, JMU and William and Mary (YCC). I believe Reynolds had the highest number of students attending with 135 and Longwood was second with 92 for the Opioids.

We took the Award home with us for NCW—“The most Creative and Innovative use for NCW” for our event with Chemistry Rocks from 2017!

The 2019 looking very exciting for the Community Activities. Earth Day will be run by a different person this year and a new strategy will be used to bring in area colleges and industrial companies to each run an activity. The theme is Paper!

For NCW, I will still be running this exciting year! It is the international year of the Periodic Table! I have the event planned out and it will have a large focus on Teachers Materials and a workshop in addition to our activities in the Rotunda! We could use LOTS of volunteers so mark NCW down for your calendars!