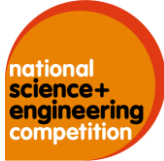




The Big Bang



# Inspiring the scientists and engineers of the future

## The Big Bang Near Me UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fairs taking place across the UK

The Big Bang brings together an unprecedented and unparalleled partnership between Government, education, industry and the wider science and engineering communities. Together we provide the introduction that inspires many young people to follow a rewarding career in science or engineering. Together we are winning hearts and changing minds.

The Big Bang Near Me, a significant part of **The Big Bang Programme \***, features a series of nation-wide events incorporating the heats of the National Science & Engineering Competition. A celebration of young people's achievements, the initiative aims to encourage more young people to take part in science, technology, engineering and maths initiatives.

During June and July this year, The Big Bang Near Me events will take place across the UK, reaching in excess of 20,000 thousand young people, their teachers and parents. Visitors are inspired to learn more about the science, technology, engineering and mathematics around them; to understand the importance of studying science and maths; and the wealth of opportunities available to them in education and beyond, into the world of work.

\*The Big Bang Programme includes The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair, an annual event featuring the finals of the National Science & Engineering Competition and The Big Bang Near Me, a series of nation-wide industry supported and smaller, community run events. The programme is under constant development.

- Scotland 12 June**  
Perth Concert Hall
- Northern Ireland 19<sup>th</sup> June**  
Odyssey Centre
- West Midlands 26<sup>th</sup> June**  
ThinkTank, Birmingham
- Wales 28<sup>th</sup> June**  
Liberty Stadium, Swansea
- South West 28<sup>th</sup> June**  
Exeter University
- East Midlands 28<sup>th</sup> June**  
Nottingham Conference
- North East 04 July**  
Newcastle University
- East of England 04<sup>th</sup> July**  
RAF Duxford
- Yorks & Humber 05<sup>th</sup> July**  
Yorkshire Air Museum
- South East 05<sup>th</sup> July**  
The Hawth, Crawley
- North West 10<sup>th</sup> July**  
Liverpool World Museum Centre
- London 11<sup>th</sup> July**  
Westminster Kingsway College

### The Big Bang Near Me in numbers;

- More than **20,000** visitors
- Over **300** workshops, activity stands, shows and displays
- 12** events across the UK, hosting the National Science & Engineering Heat
- Over **1,000** student science, technology and engineering projects showcased
- 150+** organisations across the science, technology and mathematics community



## The Big Bang makes a difference

An evaluation of visitors at The Big Bang Fair 2011 produced the following key findings:

### What did they learn?

95% of visitors aged 12-19 agreed that they had 'learned something new about science at The Big Bang Fair' (29% learned a little and 66% learned 'a lot'). 85% agreed that they had 'learned something new about engineering at The Big Bang Fair'. (32 a little or or 53% a lot)

### The Big Bang Fair had a positive impact on how likely children are to want to become an engineer

61% of boys aged 12-19 and 58% of girls interviewed at The Big Bang Fair said that their visit had made them either 'a little more' or 'much more' likely to want to become an engineer.

### The Big Bang had a positive impact on how children view engineering

74% of boys aged 12-19 and 81% of girls of the same age said that the visit to The Big Bang Fair had changed their view of engineering either 'slightly more' or 'much more'



"They have really enjoyed getting involved with people in a practical way and relating it to themselves."

Charlotte Jackson, Teacher,  
Springfield School, Portsmouth

"The Big Bang was absolutely outstanding, fantastic... words can't explain".

A pupil from Ferry Lane Primary School, Tottenham, London.

# Why get involved?



**Supporting the Big Bang Near Me programme of events is an unique opportunity** to put something back into the local community and make a positive difference to our next generation of employees. Being associated with such a success and being acknowledged as a sponsor or supporter of The Big Bang will help raise the profile of your organisation within the region, throughout the UK and help us to raise public awareness of the contribution that science, engineering and technology makes to our society and the local community.

It will make a positive difference to you business too!

- **Help to promote your organisation to the best engineers and scientist of the future**
- **Build closer links with your local schools, universities, colleges, their teachers and students**
- **Reignite the passion within your team**

## How to get involved

There are many ways to get involved; here are just some of them;

- Join the show floor with an interactive exhibit
- Run an activity or workshop
- Sponsor an activity, workshop or show
- Provide volunteers to act as school guides or careers advisers
- Provide prizes (experience prizes are particularly popular)
- Provide resources for teacher and students
- Provide services and equipment

Sponsorship packages are available from as little as £1,000. To find out more, please contact Sarah Devonport on [sdevonport@enineeringuk.com](mailto:sdevonport@enineeringuk.com)

"I can truly say it was an event that was well worth being involved in. With thousands of engineers worldwide, we need to encourage young people into science and engineering to ensure our own survival, the survival of our customers and society. It was truly inspiring to see so many young and enthusiastic people not only participating but showing a level of problem solving, intelligence and curiosity that gave me real optimism for the future of engineering in the UK. Being part of The Fair was an experience we will remember fondly for many years to come."  
Nigel Dawson, Project Maganer, Festo

"From whatever background people are from, we are trying to attract them in and we're trying to help them to get on because... our customers aren't one type of people, our customers are from all over the world. We need to communicate what science and engineering jobs today really involve, and the types of people suited to these careers. The best way to do this is to give young people, their parents and teachers firsthand experience of the variety of interesting careers involved. The Big Bang: UK Young Scientists' and Engineers' Fair does exactly that. Shell has been a lead sponsor of this Fair for three years and we encourage many of our young engineers to get involved and show what they do."  
Sally Gold, Shell.

# Supported by



### Led by

EngineeringUK

### In partnership with

British Science Association  
The Institute of Physics  
The Science Council  
The Royal Academy of Engineering  
Young Engineers

### Supported by

Department of Business, Innovation and Skills  
Department for Education  
The Lloyd's Register Education Trust  
Wellcome Trust  
Institution of Civil Engineers  
Institution of Mechanical Engineers

The Institution of Engineering and Technology  
The Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851  
Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers  
Institution of Highway Engineers  
Institution of Water  
Institution of Railway Signal Engineers  
Institution of Structural Engineers  
Nuclear Institute  
Society for General Microbiology  
Society of Operations Engineers  
Transport Employers Skills Forum  
The Energy Institute  
The Institute of Healthcare  
Engineering & Estate Management  
The Goldsmiths' Company

"The next generation of scientists and engineers will play a fundamental role in tackling the global challenges we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These include the issues of climate change and the management of essential natural resources, and dealing with the threats to our world from diseases, floods, volcanoes and earthquakes. That's why this competition is so important – it inspires the scientists and engineers of tomorrow and is a great example of the exceptional young talent we have in the UK."  
Government Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir John Beddington.

[Thebigbangfair.co.uk/nearme](http://Thebigbangfair.co.uk/nearme)

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