

## The Big Bang Competition Finals 2018 Volunteer Judge

<b>Where:</b> <a href="#">The NEC, Birmingham</a> <b>Date:</b> 14 March 2018 <b>Time:</b> 8am-4pm	<b>Role:</b> Volunteer Judge <b>Contact:</b> Elena, Volunteer Manager <a href="mailto:EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com">EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com</a>
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### Overview

[The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Competition](#) aims to recognise and reward young people's achievements in all areas of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and provide them with the opportunity to build their skills and confidence in project-based work.

The Big Bang Competition offers opportunities for more young people than ever to showcase their STEM projects and recognise and reward their achievements. It's open to all UK residents in full-time education or training (year group 7-13 and Scottish/NI equivalent).

The Big Bang Competition Finals will take place at [The Big Bang Fair](#). Finalists will compete for a number of exciting prizes, including top and runner up prizes in the Junior, Intermediate & Senior categories for Science and Engineering, as well as the coveted title of GSK UK Young Scientist(s) and UK Young Engineer(s) of the Year 2018.

### Why do we need you?

As a Big Bang Competition Judge you will celebrate and assess the Big Bang Competition finalist projects in your area of STEM expertise. The entries are submitted by schools from across the country and are an important part of the wider Big Bang UK Young Scientist & Engineers Fair.

The Big Bang Team needs you to share your time and expertise to assess projects against agreed criteria and shortlist candidates for UK Young Scientist/Engineer of the Year. Having grown from 6,500 visitors in its first year (2009) to over 70,000 in 2017, we simply couldn't do it without the support of our amazing volunteers. We need around **400 volunteers for next year's Fair**.

### What activities will you be involved in?

- **Supporting students** to present their project helping them to feel comfortable.
- **Assessing projects** against agreed criteria such as project concept, process, outcomes and personal skills.
- Working together with a team of judges and the moderator to **deliberate on their findings**.

### What skills and abilities are we looking for?

Our volunteers play a vital role in making The Big Bang Competition a massive success. We are looking for volunteers who are **friendly, reliable and enjoy working with young people**.

We are looking for volunteers with a strong **STEM background** and:

- Ability to communicate and interact positively with young people.
- Excellent interpersonal skills to encourage students in a friendly manner.
- Ability to work as a part of a team and learn from others.

- Impartiality and analytical skills to assess the STEM-based projects.

### What can you gain from this opportunity?

- Having a **rewarding experience** making a difference to young people and inspiring them.
- Playing an integral role in a **prestigious competition** that recognises and rewards the UK's young science and engineering talent.
- Extensive **networking** opportunities, joining an enthusiastic team of people.
- Developing communication and interpersonal skills.
- Developing **analytical and evaluation skills**.
- Opportunity to progress and become a Team Leader Volunteer.

It is a terrific opportunity for people interested in STEM to celebrate and encourage the next generation of scientists and engineers.

And most importantly, you will have a fun day!

### Is there an induction and learning and development?

We aim to give all our volunteers a unique experience at the Big Bang Fair and the Competition. We will provide you with training and support throughout your volunteering role:

- **Interactive induction webinar** for new volunteers (45 mins, online).
- **Specific training webinar** for all Volunteers Judges (45 mins, online).
- Volunteer **Handbook** and briefing documents.
- On-site **briefing** on the day (30 mins, face to face). Arrival 8 am for a prompt start at 8.15 am. If you are volunteering more than one day you don't need to attend the briefing on following day.
- On-site **support and supervision** from the Volunteer Manager, The Competitions Team and Team Leaders Volunteers.

### Who should you contact? What are the next steps?

You will need to complete an application form, available online. For more information about the roles, please contact **Elena Laguna (Volunteer Manager)** on [EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com](mailto:EMartin-Laguna@engineeringuk.com) or 07934295509.

New applicants will have to attend an **Induction webinar (online)**. Volunteers who have not attend the Fair before will have the opportunity to find out more about this unique experience, and ask any questions that they may have.

