

@WORK NEXT GEN STEM

The gender gap in the STEM field isn't unfounded: As early as elementary school, girls don't get the same opportunities in science and math as their male peers. Lyda Hill Philanthropies is on a mission to change that: With their IF/THEN program, they are making STEM education for young girls more accessible and exciting than ever. Here, 14 IF/THEN ambassadors prove that your future is yours to own.

GREETCHEN DÍAZ THE ROLE MODEL

"When I was a child, I didn't have many opportunities or access to science and scientific role models," says Greetchen Díaz, who grew up in a community in Puerto Rico with very limited resources. "I work to change that reality for others."

As leader of the Science Education Program at Ciencia Puerto Rico (a non-profit organization that advocates for science education in Puerto Rico), Díaz can use her STEM knowledge (she studied molecular, cellular and developmental biology, the first of her five siblings to obtain a doctorate degree) to transform the lives of young students.

IF we give visibility to a woman in STEM, THEN she has the power to transform lives.



EARYN MCGEE THE TEACHER

She may be a Ph.D. student, but at her core, Earyn McGee is a teacher. Her research focuses on lizards and their diets; In addition, she heads the popular Twitter and Instagram game #FindThatLizard, which encourages players (nearly 40,000) to spot a camouflaged lizard in a photo. With each game, she also posts fun facts. For McGee, sharing her passion for ecological science is one of the best parts of the job. She's also a voice for people of color in the field. "I am committed to diversity and inclusion," she says. After graduating, she wants to start a non profit that provides field experiences to young black children.

IF you can see it, feel it, believe it, THEN you can do it.



ALLIE MILLER THE FORWARD THINKER

"I have the best job in the world," says Allie Miller, U.S. Head of AI Growth for Startups and Venture Capital at Amazon. She's not kidding. In her role, she scouts and supports the buzziest up-and-coming AI companies that focus on everything from climate change to space exploration. Naturally, every day is different. "One minute, I'm talking about the anatomy of a neuron and the next I'm wondering if robots should blink," she says. She doesn't mind the bustle, the ever-moving dial into the future—in fact, she revels in it.

"There's just nothing better than knowing you have an impact on the biggest, most innovative ideas in the world."

IF the world of AI is diverse, THEN then we all win.