

## **Genes in Space Program Lead**

At miniPCR bio, our mission is to foster a scientifically literate society. We broaden access to DNA analysis technologies and expand possibilities in STEM education. Our tools and programs create opportunities for everyone to engage in scientific discovery and experimentation.

### Overview

We are seeking a talented science educator to spearhead growth of the Genes in Space STEM program ([www.genesinspace.org](http://www.genesinspace.org)). The contest invites middle and high school students to design pioneering DNA analysis experiments for the International Space Station (ISS). Students develop authentic research projects to solve real world problems, and the winning experiments are carried out by astronauts aboard the ISS using miniPCR® genetic technologies.

Genes in Space is in its ninth annual cycle in the United States, and has conducted five student-led missions aboard the ISS that have expanded molecular biology capabilities in space. Our interdisciplinary team spans miniPCR bio and implementation partner Boeing. We pride ourselves in the program's impact to date:

- Over 8,600 US student participants
- 6 student-led peer-reviewed publications
- Alumni pursuing STEM careers at major US colleges

### Opportunity

This is an opportunity to lead Genes in Space implementation and growth by:

- Managing the 2023 Genes in Space national STEM competition
- Spearheading new curriculum initiatives of high educational value
- Contributing to pioneering biology experiments on the International Space Station
- Working directly with miniPCR's leadership team and program sponsors (Boeing, New England Biolabs, and ISS National Lab)

This is a unique chance to engage and inspire youth while working in a mission-driven, entrepreneurial environment.

### Duties

- Manage and update website
- Manage monthly e-newsletter and presence on social media platforms
- Coordinate with communications, outreach and science implementation personnel at sponsor organizations
- Lead full-day in-person professional development workshops introducing teachers to Genes in Space
- Lead and manage virtual workshops
- Represent Genes in Space and miniPCR at teacher conferences
- Launch and manage contest application
- Coordinate application review and finalist selection
- Coordinate awardee selection and distribution of prizes
- Recruit and manage volunteer crew of scientific mentors
- Work with Boeing staff to manage Genes in Space presence at ISS Research & Development Conference
- Direct science integration process in preparation for launch of experiment

- Coordinate preparation and publication of scientific manuscripts
- Oversee Lab in a Box biotechnology loan program (a free opportunity for up to 30 US schools/year)
- Collect program impact data and summarize reports for program supporters

#### Skills and qualifications

This role requires a strong science background, experience in science education, ability to operate in entrepreneurial mode, strong communication, and project management skills.

The ideal candidate:

- Has program/project management experience and is highly organized
- Is highly motivated to engage and inspire youth in STEM
- Has teaching and science outreach experience, at high school or middle school levels.
- Has experience developing and implementing innovative biology curriculum.
- Is an engaging public speaker
- Possesses a mature science background, preferably at the PhD level.

#### Requirements

This is a full-time role in Arlington, MA. There will be national travel to science conferences and workshops, as well as to rocket launches.

#### How to apply

Qualified candidates should email their resume and cover letter to miniPCR Outreach and Communications Lead Katy Martin ([katy@minipcr.com](mailto:katy@minipcr.com)).

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