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## PRESS RELEASE

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## High School STEM Students Tour Mason

George Mason University hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Environmental Action Showcase April 9 at the Center for the Arts. This event opened the way for high school students on track for STEM majors to tour Mason.

Amanda Sills, a graduate environment and policy student, led 36 students and teachers through the school with the help of Nick Stasiak, a Mason Ambassador, and Rachel Kenderdine, an intern at the Office of Admissions. The high school students were taken to the Green House where Monica Marcelli, the Green House Manager, showed them the several biology and chemistry experiments conducted by current students.

"Doing this tour gives [the high schools students] an examples to what they could be looking for when applying to Mason" said Kenderdine.

Students were then taken to a panel composed of Joel Mota, Jesi Hessong, Mimi Fuerst, students in the field of Environmental and Sustainability studies; and Lisa Des Jardins the Admissions Coordinator Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation and Academic Advisor for Environmental and Sustainability Studies. They told the prospective students about Mason, and the benefits it provided for them.

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Brianna Frontato a student at Fairfax High School said, "I really loved touring the Green House, because I thought it was really cool how a lot of the things that they had growing in there were being taken care of by students...I also enjoyed the various opportunities that Mason has to offer for STEM students."

For more information please contact <u>info@novaoutside.org</u> or call (703)228-6427.

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High school students on tour at Research Hall. Courtesy of Carlos Zavala.