

An Open Letter to CEOs

There are far too many girls who at this very moment are questioning whether they belong in STEM.

I can still remember the feeling of walking into engineering class during my freshman year of high school. I was one of only five girls in a class of 25. I really struggled that year, and I was scared to ask my classmates for help out of fear that they'd reject me.

It wasn't until my internship at Abbott the following year that this fear began to subside. I got to work with female engineers and learn about the life-changing work they do. I remember a woman in leadership telling us about all the incredible things she'd accomplished - and she did it all in a bright pink suit. I suddenly had a completely different view of what women in STEM could achieve.

As a CEO, you have the power to give more girls the eye-opening opportunities that I've had. STEM internships aren't easy to find, but it's impossible to overstate the difference they make. With your help, girls in STEM will one day see that they belong.

Sincerely,

Anushka A., Age 18
Gurnee, IL