

Workshop and Open House Offerings

An Introduction to Glass Blowing

Facilitator: Students taking Tracy Drier's class

Time: 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM

Room 3201

(Adults or 7th-12th grade, but minors need to have a parent with them. 1 hour)

Join the staff and students of UW-Chemistry Glass Blowing Shop for a tour of the current equipment and techniques available for making scientific glassware. Participants have the option of creating their own special glass-blown artwork.

Chemistry around the House

Facilitator: Students and staff of Bassam Shakashiri

Time: 9-11 AM

Room 2331

(5-8th grade but fun for parents, too! 2 hours)

Everything around us is made of chemicals, so our homes are filled with a great variety of chemicals. We use many of these chemicals every day, but we don't often see some of their more unusual properties. Here, you'll investigate some of the colorful properties of common household chemicals.

Energy Makes It All Happen

Facilitator: Students and staff of Bassam Shakhshiri

Time: 11 AM – 1 PM

Room 2341

(5-8th grade but fun for parents! 2 hours)

Electrical energy is a very useful form of energy, because it easily converts to other forms, like heat, light, and motion. In this session, you'll build your own battery and use it to make light. You'll also build a motor to convert electrical energy into motion.

“Explosive” Chemistry

Facilitator: Dr. Allen Clauss

Time: 11 AM-12:00PM

(All ages, 1 hour)

Room 1361

See for yourself the difference between explosions vs. detonations. Demonstrations will progress through a series of examples (with demonstrations) from gasoline and other flammable liquids to high explosives.

Making a VIS Spectrometer

Facilitator: Dr. Rob McClain

9:00 AM, room 2330

(7th-12th grade, adults and parents welcomed! 2 hours)

Participants will work in our instrumental laboratory and make a small photometer using an LED light source and CdS photodetector. This hands-on activity will illustrate the basic principles of absorption spectroscopy. .

Open House in the Physical Chemistry Laboratory

Facilitator: Dr. Mark Wendt

Time: 9-11 AM

Room B200

(All age groups, self-guided experiments available)

Dr. Mark Wendt, the latest addition to the team of laboratory directors guiding undergraduate laboratory education in the department, opens his lab for alumni and their families. Explore some of the ways Dr. Wendt has modernized equipment and experiments performed in the p-chem lab.

Open House in the X-Ray Crystallography Laboratory

Facilitator: Dr. Ilia Guzei

Time: 9 AM – 1 PM

Room 2121

(All age groups)

Dr. Ilia Guzei is available to give you a personalized tour of this state-of-the-art facility. The laboratory is a part of the Paul Bender Chemical Instrumentation Laboratories that provide access to major shared resources in NMR, MS, ESR, IR, and X-ray diffraction facilities. Kids will have an opportunity to explore shapes of small molecules they will make themselves in Dr. Guzei's lab. Don't let the x-ray in the title keep you away! This is a cool place to visit.

Open House in the Laboratory of Dr. Frank Keutsch

Facilitator: Dr. Frank Keutsch and his graduate students

Time: 9 AM – 1 PM

Room: In the Chemistry Building Atrium

(All age groups)

Professor Keutsch and his students design and implement spectroscopic field instruments for high sensitivity atmospheric species detection. See for yourself on of the Keutsch group's instruments designed for sensitive atmospheric measurements. You'll be able to see real time atmospheric measurements of carbonyls in Madison air.

Other Facility Open House Offerings

Mass Spectrometry Facility (Vestling) room 2142, 9:00 AM – 1 PM

Library (self-guided tour/poster on the atrium art/Recent additions to the Library collection from our own Chemistry Faculty on display) 11 AM - 1 PM