

An open letter to CEOs

Growing up, my older brother was my role model. So when he was pursuing a career in chemical engineering, I wanted to follow in his footsteps. Little did I know my path would be much different.

During my sophomore year in high school, I was looking around my engineering class when I noticed something. I was the only girl in the room. At that moment, my eyes opened to the realities of being a woman in STEM. I worked extra hard to prove myself and show that I belonged.

This made it all the more rewarding when I earned a spot in Abbott's high school STEM internship program. It felt like all my hard work had paid off. The internship gave me the chance to meet successful women in engineering, and their support gave me a new sense of confidence.

I strongly encourage you to create opportunities like this at your company. Being a girl in STEM can be discouraging, but having female role models makes a world of difference. I hope that one day, I can be someone's role model too.

Thank you,
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