

# Pathways in Ecological Research

## Promise of Participation Form



PiER is an academic program focused on providing high-achieving high school female students with rigorous field and laboratory experiences at Lacawac Sanctuary under the mentorship of Lacawac staff and interns.

The students will gain valuable experience in advanced research skills by learning from mentors. The students will design and complete their own research project. The students will be provided a grant of up to \$100 to purchase supplies for their project.

By working within the supportive community of like-minded females, the students will develop the confidence that enhances leadership skills for future success in college studies and career opportunities.

PiER requires a commitment for acceptance into the program. Students are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled PiER activities. Some of these will occur during the school day and require that students be excused from school that day. Please refer to the Tentative Schedule on the next page.
- Most of the projects will be available during the summer when the college professors and interns are at Lacawac. Students will need to provide their own transportation to Lacawac.
- Design and complete a research project. The project will be presented at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Regional Competition and at the last PiER session at Lacawac Sanctuary.

### **Student**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Parent or Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **High School Principal**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **PiER Tentative Schedule**

Jan. – Begin advertising at schools, application available on Lacawac website.

Feb. – Applications due.

Feb. – Accepted students are notified.

March 3 – Pa Junior Academy of Science Region 2 Meeting – All PiER Participants first meeting and observe presentations.

April or May – Meet at Lacawac. Intro to PiER Program. Overview of Research at Lacawac.

Summer 2019 - Work on individual projects at Lacawac via mentorships with Lacwac staff and interns.

June, 2019 – March, 2020 - Student Projects – developed and completed at Lacawac or high schools under guidance of mentors.

March, 2020 – present at PJAS.

April, 2020 – Final Meeting at Lacawac – students present projects to other students, Lacawac staff, and mentors. Students receive Certificates of Completion and Letters of Recommendation from Lacawac Staff.