**PERFORM: Participatory Engagement with Scientific and Technological Research through Performance**

**Information for participants**

*science made simple* are working with researchers from the PERFORM consortium on a new research project designed to explore the effectiveness of using performing arts in science education to engage secondary school students in Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects (STEM).

To achieve this, we will conduct a participatory research process involving secondary school students, teachers and early career researchers in the development of a science education project using performing arts to explore relevant scientific topics at schools. Each interaction with the students will be systematically monitored and assessed throughout the duration of the project so as to include a pre, during and post-performance assessment. This will allow us to identify and analyze any cognitive and behavioral changes towards science and related careers by the boys and girls taking part.

The benefits of participating in the project include getting involved in a unique learning experience where students will have the opportunity to approach scientific issues with artists and scientific researchers. They will also receive training in performing arts and will build valuable transferable skills, desirable for future STEM careers and jobs. Individuals will not be paid for participating in this study, however, expenses will be covered for teachers and early career scientists actively taking part. The schools will also receive the materials required for this project.

This research is funded by the European Commission through a Grant to Isabel Ruiz-Mallén (from University *Universidad Oberta de Catalunya* –UOC, Spain). To conduct the research, this study will use a case study approach based on a total of twelve secondary schools in France, Spain, and UK will be. A total of approximately 600 students will be constantly involved in the research as stakeholders. An additional 6,000 students from 30 to 48 other schools will receive some engagement through this project (i.e., by attending the resultant performances).

Students taking part in this project will be actively involved in a set of workshops designed to encourage collective reflection and dialogue with early career researchers about STEM and relevant scientific topics. The workshops will be recorded in video and audio formats enabling researchers to compare interventions over time and track changes within the group. Students, teachers and early career scientists will also complete a written survey and, eventually, they will be interviewed on their perceptions, attitudes and interest in STEM. The assessment will also include a social media analysis of participants' interaction related to the study in social platforms. Private and personal information will not be obtained during this analysis nor will secretive methods be used to gain access to social media data. PERFORM will be accessing content that audience members choose to make public, either on the performance groups webpages or on Twitter. The data generated in this study will be used for basic science research; it will not be used with any commercial purpose.

I have read (or someone has read to me) the information in the consent form. I have had an opportunity to ask questions and all my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. By signing this consent form, I willingly agree to participate in this study.

Name of participant (type or print): MARIE HAZEL, BRIDGE LEARNING CAMPUS

Hazel

11/1/2017

Signature ~~of subject~~ or legal representative Date (must be signed prior to entry)

Keziah Featherstone - Headteacher

I have explained the research to the participant and answered all of his/her questions. I believe that he/she understands the information described in this consent form and freely consents to participate.

Name of Investigator/research team member (type or print): Leanne Cann

LC 20/01/2017

Signature of investigator/research team member Date