Dear*[TEACHER NAME],*

As part of a partnership with UNESCO and the European Union, we are emailing to invite *[SCHOOL NAME]*to take part in an exciting project is using the performing arts as a method of engaging students with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects and contemporary research.

If you are unfamiliar with *science made simple*, we are an award-winning\* science communication company specialising in presenting science shows in schools and busking at public events.We are leading the UK element of this project and will be working with other performers from Spain and France to compare approaches and learn about what could be most successful at inspiring young people into the STEM subjects.

Through this project we have developed 6 short interactive science demonstrations (busks), each designed to make audiences stop, look and think about science. The science themes covered by these busks directly relate to the key-stage 3 science curriculum and address Responsible Research Innovations (RRI’s) such as gender bias in science, the importance of ethical research and perceptions surrounding STEM careers. We have packaged these busks into a show lasting approximately one hour and we would like to visit your school, free of charge, and present this science busking show to one of your year 8 classes.

The only requirement is that the students taking part complete two 10-15 minute online surveys about their perceptions of STEM; one within the week prior to our visit and the other within the week following our visit. This allows us to evaluate our performance and to compare their responses to the students taking part in France and Spain.

Because this is forms part of an educational research project, we will require consent formsthe head teacher of your school,the students involved and their parents. We can discuss these in more detail with you over the phone if required.

We are looking to visit schools

We really hope you’d like to be part of this exciting project and will accept our offer to engage and inspire your students. If you would like to accept our invite or ask any questions about it, please contact the project officer, Dr Leanne Gunn, on 01908 655689 before the 30th June 2016.

We will be performing our science busking show in 10 schools across the UK between the 12th September and 10th October 2017. Where possible, we try to organise tour weeks, where we are based in a specific region for multiple days. We intend to be in the *[Region]*region in the week commencing the *[dates].*When considering our offer it would be great if you could try to find dates within this week, however, if you are interested but unable to accept any of those dates please still get in touch as these dates are flexible. In the event that more than 10 schools are interested we will be selecting our chosen 10 schools by the 8th July 2016.

We’re passionate about inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers by using performance as a way of enthusing audiences, and we hope you would like to join us in this mission!

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Sadler FRSA, MInstP, MSc

Director, science made simple

\* Science made simple awards

2014: Learning outside the Classroom - Innovation Award,

2009: Royal Academy Medal for the Public Promotion of Engineering,

2006 : EU Descartes Prize for Science Communication