ABOUT

ALEKHYA BURAGADDA

Alekhya Buragadda is a 17-year-old student whose dedication to the STEM field is expansive, bettering not only western Pennsylvania but also the global community as a whole.

Alekhya volunteers and serves on multiple boards for organizations like TechGirlz and The Citizens Science Lab, where she creates workshops to introduce children from underserved and underfunded areas to opportunities in STEM and has received the Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award for her efforts. She's also dedicated to destigmatizing mental health among children and teens and has helped pass legislation regarding mental health days in Pennsylvania through the PA Youth Advocacy Network.

Alekhya enjoys advancing her own knowledge of STEM through her involvement in the healthcare field. She currently works as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and volunteers at UPMC Magee Women's Hospital to learn new skills while helping those in need. Her research in gynecology and neuroscience has been supported through internships at prestigious universities like UCLA, the University of Pittsburgh and Penn State University.

Alekhya's work has been published nationally in Johns Hopkin's Pre-Collegiate Global Health Review, the RMS Journal, the International Youth Neuroscience Association Journal, and in her own, self-written book NeuroGyn: Harmonizing Body and Mind.

Alekhya is also the founder and president of Women Welfare, a nonprofit dedicated to developing the skills of women across the globe through access to healthcare and education. The organization currently has helped over 200 women continue their education.