



Department of Local Section and Community
Activities
LaTrease E. Garrison, Assistant Director
L_garrison@acs.org

September 23, 2009

Dear Volunteer:

“Chemistry—It’s Elemental” is the 2009 National Chemistry Week theme in celebration of the 140th anniversary of the periodic table. ACS members will be celebrating within their local sections from October 18—24, 2009. We would like to invite you to participate in a major celebration that will be held here in Washington, D.C.

Merck & Co., Inc. has donated more than 10,000 copies of the *Merck Index* to the American Chemical Society to be distributed to high schools across the country. Over 140 ACS local sections will be participating in this distribution project. The symbolic first gift of the *Merck Index* will be presented to the Science Department at Ballou High School (3401 4th Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20032) on October 20th. We need your help to provide the students of Ballou with an exciting day of chemistry.

After the presentation of the *Merck Index*, we will host hands-on activities for 500 Ballou students who are in grades 9-12. We are in need of ACS staff volunteers, scientists from the DC area, college/university students majoring in a science, and other volunteers who have a passion for science to make this a successful event. The volunteer commitment will be on October 20th, 8am—3pm (or any portion of the day that you can participate). Volunteers will be needed for the following duties: to conduct activities, to help with registration, to pass out goodie bags, to clean goggles and for the set-up and breakdown. If you are a scientist, have a interest in science or wish to improve people’s lives through the transforming power of chemistry, please email [Cheryl Brown \(c_brown@acs.org\)](mailto:c_brown@acs.org) to volunteer for this event. Transportation to and from Ballou (leaving ACS at 7:30 am) will be provided for all volunteers, as well as breakfast and lunch. If you are not a member of the ACS staff, please indicate your place of employment or college/university when volunteering. For more information about the Chemistry Recognition Day at Ballou High School, email [LaTrease Garrison \(L_garrison@acs.org\)](mailto:L_garrison@acs.org).

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Cheers!

ACS Office of Community Activities