On 11 February 2020, ITEN Teacher Fellow Bhagya Malladi organized her school's first-ever "Youth Power" science exhibition for 7th grade students.

**Students**

...built robotic arms and other technological devices from reclaimed and recyclable materials to learn about energy transformations and its conservation.

This event was born from the lesson developed as part of an ITEN Project team, with the intent to demonstrate that **teachers can use no- and low-cost materials to teach STEM.** A lack of resources should not be a barrier to quality STEM education.
Bhagya Malladi is a middle school science teacher who has a passion for helping others to see that everyday materials can be used to teach STEM effectively. She was recently named by the Jamaica Teaching Council as a Master Teacher, and is responsible for helping to support teachers who are new to the profession.

Bhagya doesn't just work around a lack of resources as an obstacle—she embraces limited materials as a real-world challenge for students' STEM learning. She regularly integrates recyclable engineering tasks when teaching science, in alignment with her motto, "Do it as you learn it."

As the 2019-2020 LASCO/MoEy1 Teacher of the Year awardee, Bhagya was able to acquire support from LASCO for students to receive prizes for the best project at the exhibit.

Learn more about what inspires Bhagya to be a teacher of excellence in this brief interview:

http://bit.ly/2HiLiQI

Among the judges participating in the event was Conroy Hall (second from the left), a STEM teacher educator at Shortwood Teachers College, who also participates with Bhagya in an ITEN Project Team.