



Promoting Science Through Wizardry

Cynthia Maguire, MS² *aka* Mistress of Potions

Abstract

An unexpected opportunity comes along when we least expect it, and that is how I came to travel to Middle Earth (New Zealand) as a wizard apprentice in fall 2016. Along the way, I learned a totally new and unique way of relating science information to children, thereby increasing their interest in science. My poster is a description of my journey as I truly became the Mistress of Potions (MP for short).

Since returning to Texas, I am seeking opportunities to visit schools for kids of all ages in order to demonstrate the power—and fun—of science! Wizarding performances are provided free of charge, but when overnight travel is needed the community is asked to provide local meals and a bed in someone's home. This provides the opportunity to strengthen bonds with the people I meet while reducing the cost of providing this unique performance to schools. Performing as the Mistress of Potions, I hope to be a role model for young women in science and an ambassador for TWU. For more information, email MP at cmaguire@twu.edu.



Freezing Flask



Ink Spell



Cauldron of Fire



Dragon's Breath

Wizard Training in New Zealand

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/112yiflc0kz6x3/Screenshot%202017-10-29%2017.08.27.png?dl=0>

The University of Otago in Dunedin (a SENCER alumni institution) was our host in country, providing chemicals and equipment, as well as referrals to schools. Along with his wife Jane, Garon the Wizard (G Wiz) and I spent 77 days visiting various schools and natural resource areas on both islands in New Zealand. We delivered 36 wizard performances at 25 venues for nearly 4,000 people, mostly children. I also visited places other great wizards have been—Rivendell and Hobbiton among them—and learned that I am the same height as Gandalf!



WIZARD SHOW PHOTOS



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