What is the First Year Showcase?
The First Year Showcase is a John Jay campus-wide celebration of first-year student projects. It is one of the many events sponsored by the First Year Programs Office. The 14th annual First Year Showcase will feature over 100 projects developed by nearly 400 first-year and sophomore transfer students with the support of 16 faculty. While this event is typically held as a massive gathering, the 2021 Second Annual Virtual Showcase will gather for an opening ceremony on Zoom followed by the unveiling of the Showcase webpage with projects at your fingertips.

When is the 14th Annual First Year Showcase?
This year’s First Year Showcase will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 from 1:30-3:30 PM.

How do I get the link to the First Year Showcase opening ceremony?
RSVP for the event in firstyearprograms@jjay.cuny.edu

Who will attend the First Year Showcase?
We are expecting hundreds of attendees to share the joy of celebrating first-year and sophomore transfer students’ influence and creativity. Attendees include campus leadership, professors, staff, alumni, and, of course, current students. There will also be open supports outside of John Jay, so we may also expect family members/loved ones and guests from interested organizations.

What exactly can I expect during and after Showcase Day?
On Showcase Day (Wednesday, December 8 from 1:30–2:30), we’ll convene on Zoom for an opening ceremony, which will include remarks by leadership, and Q&A with panel of faculty and students. We’ll then unveil the First Year Showcase webpage where you and the rest of the attendees will have the opportunity to explore over 100 projects developed by nearly 400 students and interact with presenters asynchronously for the rest of the week.

How will the presentations be displayed?
You will find your project organized by virtual exhibit (aka cohorts or area of interest). Each exhibit will include projects for you to explore, enjoy, and learn from.

How do I interact with presenters?
Once you’ve reviewed a project you’re interested in, you can “like” the project and post questions and comments. Presenters will see your posts and respond to you in the comment section.

Will the Showcase projects be available to view after 12/8?
Absolutely. The Showcase projects will live on the Showcase webpage with projects at your fingertips. You will find all the Showcase projects organized by virtual exhibits and is what allows you to interact with presenters on the Showcase webpage.

What will I need in order to participate in the Showcase?
In order to attend the First Year Showcase and view the Showcase webpage, you’ll need to sign up for a free Padlet account.

What is Padlet and why do I need to sign up for an account?
Padlet is the robust tool we’re using to feature the Showcase projects and what allows you to interact with presenters. Once you sign up for an account, your name will be displayed next to your project and answering questions and comments posted by attendees.

How will my project look on the Showcase webpage?
Your project will be featured on a Padlet webpage. Attendees will be able to click on your project to enlarge it, listen to audio/file attachments, and “like” it.

What do I need to do as a presenter?
As a presenter, you’ll need to do the following:
1. RSVP and attend the FY Showcase opening ceremony.
2. From 2-3:30 PM on Showcase Day, monitor your Showcase project and be ready to respond to attendee questions and comments. After that, through the end of the week, check your project daily to respond to attendee questions and comments. If you’re working on a group project, you can coordinate with team members to take turns.

How do I “present” at the First Year Showcase?
In this unique VIRTUAL symposium, you’ll “present” by monitoring your project and answering questions and comments posted by attendees. For those of you who also might be a bit shy, this is a great first step to presenting without needing to present virtually.

FAQ for Presenters
How will my project look on the Showcase webpage?
Your project will be featured on a Padlet webpage and is what allows you to interact with the attendees.

What digital tools do I need in order to interact with the attendees?
It is CRUCIAL that you sign up for a free Padlet account in order to present and answer attendee questions/comments. Signing up is so easy:
1. Head to https://padlet.com/auth/signup
2. Enter your email address and your desired password
3. Click “SIGN UP
4. Choose basic plan (it’s free). And you’re done!

What is Padlet and why do I need to sign up for an account?
Padlet is the robust tool we’re using to feature the Showcase projects and what allows you to interact with presenters on the Showcase webpage.

How will I know where my Showcase project is displayed?
The day before Showcase Day, we’ll share with you the exact location of your Showcase project – exhibit and floor.

What is the First Year Showcase?
The First Year Showcase is an annual event that celebrates the first-year and sophomore transfer student projects developed by nearly 400 students and interact with the audience.

What types of projects can I expect?
You can expect a wide array of projects covering a variety of topics and interests.

How will I need to participate in the Showcase as a presenter or attendee?
In order to participate in the First Year Showcase, you’ll need:
1. RSVP and look out for the Zoom event link.
2. Join the Zoom event link using your Zoom account.
3. Visit the Showcase webpage and watch the opening ceremony.

What are the available Showcase prizes?
The prizes below will be announced on Instagram @jjaysasp on Friday, 12/10:
1. Most engaging group project: Goes to the group presentation that receives the most engagement through “likes” and “questions/comments.”
2. Most engaging solo project: Goes to the solo project that receives the most engagement through “likes” and “questions/comments.”

In order to attend the First Year Showcase opening ceremony on 12/8 from 1:30-2:30 PM, you’ll need:
1. RSVP and look out for the Zoom event link.
2. Join the Zoom event link using your Zoom account.
3. Visit the Showcase webpage and watch the opening ceremony.

What can I expect during and after Showcase Day?
After Showcase Day, we’ll share with you the exact location of your Showcase project – exhibit and floor.

What is Padlet and why do I need to sign up for an account?
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How will I know where my Showcase project is displayed?
The day before Showcase Day, we’ll share with you the exact location of your Showcase project – exhibit and floor.

I have questions. Who can I contact?
Don’t hesitate to reach out to First Year Programs Student Academic Success Programs (SASP) at firstyearprograms@jjay.cuny.edu. We’re here for you!