How to prepare for the CES day?

Most students are new events such as CES. It's an exciting event full of energetic people who care deeply about the topics and projects they're discussing—that's what makes it so fun! But it can also be overwhelming as a first-time presenter/attendee. Read more about ways to prepare and what to expect during the day of the event below:

Presenters:
- Know your material thoroughly. Remind yourself about those small details you left out of the poster, you may be able to bring them up in discussions with judges.
- Practice and rehearse your speech at home, and in front of a mirror, your friends, family, or colleagues.
- Look pleasant, enthusiastic, confident, proud (but not arrogant), and remain calm. Speak slowly, enunciate clearly, and show appropriate feeling and emotion relating to your topic.
- Present your material in a format similar to a written research paper, with an INTRODUCTION (thesis statement) to BODY (strong supporting arguments, accurate and up-to-date information) to CONCLUSION (re-state, summarize, and logical conclusion).
- Do not read from your notes or your poster board for any extended length of time.
- Use this opportunity as a practice for an actual professional or academic presentation. Treat this as a true conference presentation and you will get real feedback about your performance.

What should I wear?
If you're presenting at CES, we'd recommend dressing up a bit—go with a business casual outfit. When you look good, you usually feel good going into your presentation.

If you're attending as an audience member, you can dress casually. If you're preparing to attend a

When should I arrive?
If you're presenting at CES, make sure to arrive about 20-30 minutes early prior to start of your session, so you can check-in, locate your poster, prepare, and still have time to look at the program booklet. As you plan your schedule for the day, make sure to build in some buffer time before your presentation so that you can do any last-minute talk practice or relaxation that you may need. Plan some time to check out work completed by your peers at CES and URAD.

If you're attending as an audience member, we recommend arriving 10 minutes early so you can be sure to find all the locations, turn off your cell phone, and take a quick glance at the program booklet. Mark posters, performances, and exhibits that you want to be sure to check out. This will help you keep your schedule straight as the day goes on.
What are unwritten etiquette rules for the conference attendees?
Here are some general rules of thumb to help you avoid a conference faux pas:

- If you see a presenter without an audience, don’t just stand there—go find out about that project.
- When you approach a display or poster presentation, introduce yourself and ask the presenter to explain the project.
- Ask questions especially if the project is about a subject that is new to you. Your questions could just be about how the presenter got involved or what the next steps would be.
- Thank the presenter for telling you about the project.