



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Museum of Discovery and Science presents  
IKEA Design Nation and FAU Self-Driven Team Weekend  
February 17 – 19, 2017.**

**December 29, 2017, Fort Lauderdale, FL** – The Museum of Discovery and Science, in partnership with IKEA and Florida Atlantic University, invites South Florida families to participate in Design Nation and FAU Self Driven Team Weekend February 17-19, 2018. The three-day event will offer families the opportunity to participate in challenges that unleash their kids' ingenuity and get them thinking like engineers, plus it will allow them to learn how the science of your brain and engineering combine to create new technologies.

Visitors can test their skills with hands-on, friendly competitions and interactive activities, such as displaying teamwork to create a paper table sturdy enough to hold stacks of books, using every day materials to build a roller coaster, plus additional engineering feats.

Florida Atlantic University Self-Driven Team will help visitors explore amazing new brain-based technologies in this hands-on exhibit, which includes drones, underwater robotics, animatronics, Robo Pets, autonomous vehicles, AI Formula E Car, 3D selfie and more! FAU High School and University student researchers will be your guides to explain how artificial intelligence allows machines to learn from their experience, not from pre-programming. Machine learning and artificial intelligence will change the way we do just about everything! Did you know that the same information that makes your brain work can be used to power self-driving cars? Learn how the science of your brain and engineering combine to create new technologies. Many fields from engineering to medicine are being transformed!

Marlene Janetos, VP Visitor Services, Marketing, and Communications, said “This event is designed to allow visitors to interact with engineers who are changing the world by dreaming up creative, practical solutions to invent, design, and create things that make a difference. We are very pleased to have great partners like IKEA, Florida Atlantic University, and local engineers from the American Society of Civil Engineers to help us promote Engineering Week.”

The Design Nation and FAU Self Driven activities provide a unique opportunity to test family teamwork skills in constructing amazing creations, plus exploring amazing new brain-based technologies, all while inspiring and motivating young students to excel in math and science.

**IKEA Design Nation and FAU Self-Driven Team Activities**  
**February 17 – 19, 2018 Noon to 4 p.m.**

**Build a Table**

Compete with other families to build a table that can hold the most weight.

## **Rollercoasters**

Construct your own rollercoaster and keep the passengers strapped in so they cannot fall out.

## **Mobius Strip**

Learn the newest technology trains will be riding on in this table talk demonstration.

## **Anki Cars**

See some of the cutting-edge “board games” that involve technology, specifically apps on your phone.

## **MaxFlight Rollercoaster**

If you are a thrill seeker then take a ride on our MaxFlight and be turned upside down and inside out in this two-minute experience. Purchase of a ticket is required.

## **ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers**

Meet Engineers from South Florida and participate in a variety of engineering activities for the whole family.

## **Download the Museum of Discovery and Science APP**

The APP was created by high school students in the APP-titude two-year internship that is supported by United Way.

## **ABOUT IKEA**

The IKEA Concept starts with the idea of providing a range of home furnishing products that are affordable to the many people, not just the few. It is achieved by combining function, quality, design and value - always with sustainability in mind. The IKEA Concept exists in every part of our company, from design, sourcing, packing and distributing through to our business model. Our aim is to help more people live a better life at home. <http://www.ikea.com/us/en/>

## **ABOUT CHARLES E. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**

The education and research programs of our College span the sciences and mathematics with major efforts in many fields ranging from biotechnology, bioinformatics and brain science to cryptology, developmental systems, dynamical systems, environmental sciences, geo-information science, marine science and space-time physics. The College's programs are offered at FAU's campuses in Boca Raton, Davie, and Jupiter and our buildings include more than 300,000 square feet of state-of-the-art instructional and research space.

Research and scholarship are central to our College's mission and play vital roles in the life of the College as a whole. External research funding, the great majority of it coming from federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, underwrites major programs of research by our faculty and students. Science faculty members throughout the college have developed state-of-the-art research programs in diverse disciplines and important new interdisciplinary areas. Our faculty members have active collaborations that extend not only across FAU's colleges and campuses but also with local research institutions such as Scripps Florida, the Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies, and the Max Planck Florida Institute; as well as affiliations with National Laboratories such as those at Los Alamos and Oak Ridge and international collaborations that span the globe.

In the knowledge-based and innovation-dependent economy of the 21st Century, our College's undergraduate and graduate programs prepare students who can enter the workforce ready to meet local, national and international needs in a globally competitive environment. We invite you to explore the

many opportunities that await you in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science — where together we create the future! <http://www.science.fau.edu/about.php>

### **ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE**

The mission of the Museum of Discovery and Science is to provide experiential pathways to lifelong learning in science for children and adults through exhibits, programs and films. Founded in 1976 as The Discovery Center, the nonprofit facility serves approximately 400,000 visitors annually. Major operational support for the Museum is provided through generous support by Leadership Guild members including: JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Jet Blue and Wells Fargo.

The Museum is open seven days a week, 365 days a year; Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Exhibit ticket prices are \$16 for adults; \$15 for seniors 65+; \$13 for active/retired military personnel; \$13 for children 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. All Design Nation and FAU Self-Driven activities are included with exhibit admission. The Museum of Discovery and Science is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, visitors should call 954.467.MODS (6637) or visit our web site at [www.mods.org](http://www.mods.org)

### **Images:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/IKEA%20Design%20Nation%20and%20FAU%20Self%20Driven%20Team%202.17-2.19.17>

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