



**Science Under the Sun to Shine Brightly in South Florida:
Clear Your Calendar for the Inaugural Visit Lauderdale Science
Festival on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4, 2023!**

*The community is invited to celebrate; sponsors and partners
welcome for hot new science festival in 2023!*

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (October 26, 2022) – Science is fun, especially under the sun! The [Museum of Discovery and Science](#) (MODS) is energized to premiere the inaugural [Visit Lauderdale Science Festival \(VLSF\)](#) on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4, 2023, at the Museum and throughout the Arts & Entertainment District of downtown Fort Lauderdale. The community is invited to attend adult and family events that provide accessible, interactive and fun STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) experiences for all!

“We are honored to bring a grand festival of mind-opening innovation, technology, environmental films and careers, further connecting science and south Florida,” said **Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO of MODS**. “Think STEM experiences for all ages and abilities, incredible science shows and demonstrations and engaging exhibitions and documentaries, all curated to inspire our community to connect, create, innovate and celebrate STEM in our lives.”

As a trusted leader in STEM, MODS has worked to increase access to science education for the diverse south Florida community for 45 years. The Visit Lauderdale Science Festival makes STEM accessible to all.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 | 26th Annual Bank of America Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration | Museum of Discovery and Science

- Dine, dance and discover at an event like no other! Friday, March 3, from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Visit Lauderdale Science Festival kicks off with the 26th Annual Bank of America Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration. This ticketed event includes a grand tasting of cuisine from south Florida’s premier restaurants, an array of wine and spirits from around the world, music and dancing, as well as a silent auction.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 | Visit Lauderdale Science Festival | Museum of Discovery and Science and Esplanade Park

- Families can enjoy a super-charged, super-fun celebration of science! These events feature countless dynamic demonstrations, mind-blowing presentations, hands-on activities and engaging experiments.
 - **FREE** Indoor/Outdoor Science Expo at MODS | Esplanade Park
 - Exhibits
 - Experiences -
 - Early Childhood Sprouting Science: Coding for Early Learners with DUPLO and music, and Storybook STEAM
 - Making opportunities with the MODS Squad
 - LEGO® “Build the Change”
 - STEMobile Activities
 - Pocket Science - Liquid Nitrogen Florida Snowballs
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Weather Science
 - Live Touch Tank
 - Food Forest Tours
 - Shark Cart and more!
 - Health & Wellness
 - Amazing Brain Science
 - Shows - Catch the Ultimate KaBoom Show featuring awe-inspiring exploding matter!
 - Demos - Featuring the most current amazing discoveries including time crystals and perpetual motion machines!
 - Headliners
 - Spheres Bubble Show
 - The King of Random and more!
 - **FREE** Film Festival, in partnership with Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLiFF), will showcase environmental documentary films on the GIANT screen in MODS’ AutoNation IMAX Theater
 - *Build A Better World Challenge*, sponsored by R-Squared Charitable Fund. Students (ages 12-18) will showcase their inventions through the. The finalists will present their inventions before a Shark Tank-style panel and be judged by leaders and innovators from south Florida’s business community. Inventions will be judged based on creativity, innovation and real-world relevance. The winning design will receive a \$5,000 grand prize to fund their project.
 - Best of regional food trucks, music and much more!

Partners include [Broward Area STEM Ecosystem \(BASE\)](#), [City of Fort Lauderdale](#), [FLiFF](#) and [Riverwalk](#). Major sponsors include [Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization](#), Comcast, [Community Foundation of Broward](#), [R-Squared Charitable Fund](#), [Save Our Seas Foundation](#), [Science on Screen](#) and, [Visit Lauderdale](#), the official destination marketing organization for Greater Fort Lauderdale.

“The Visit Lauderdale Science Festival brings together kids, parents, educators and innovators for some seriously fun science under the sun,” said **Stacy Ritter, president and CEO of Visit Lauderdale**. “The festival takes science and learning to new levels, creating experiences that are accessible, interactive and fun, which is a perfect match for the types of experiences that visitors are able to find throughout Greater Fort Lauderdale.”

GET INVOLVED! CALL FOR EXHIBITORS, SPONSORS, FOOD TRUCKS AND VOLUNTEERS

The Festival is a large-scale, highly visible, outdoor event where many STEM organizations, companies and groups will connect with thousands of families, science-lovers and festival-goers of all ages. MODS is preparing a full program of events and experiences, and the Museum is seeking exhibitors, sponsor and food truck partners as well as volunteers.

- **[EXHIBITORS AND PRESENTERS](#)** - Applications are now open for engaging exhibitors and presenters.
- **[SPONSORS](#)** - Become a VLSF Sponsor! Join a growing list of south Florida organizations, corporations, foundations and universities that recognize the importance of celebrating science with our community.
- **[FOOD TRUCK VENDORS](#)** - Our Festival is recruiting and searching for the most popular and delicious food truck vendors the city and region has to offer. Put your fare in front of a large community of hungry science fans!
- **[VOLUNTEERS](#)** - Volunteers are needed to support Festival events and in the weeks leading up to the event. Join the VLSF team and help make this festival a success.

For more information, please visit scienceunderthesun.org or email team@scienceunderthesun.org.

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ABOUT THE VISIT LAUDERDALE SCIENCE FESTIVAL:

The Visit Lauderdale Science Festival (VLSF) brings together leaders in STEM, with families and science-lovers of all ages and abilities to celebrate the wonder of science, showcase technology innovations and open minds to STEM careers in our region’s major industries! Powered by the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS), the Festival inspires our community to connect, create, innovate and celebrate STEM in our lives. This two-day science fest features spectacular events, environmental films, engaging exhibitors and exciting demonstrations to make science accessible, interactive and fun!

The Festival welcomes individuals from all walks of life to experience and discover inspiring science. It is open to everyone: individuals and families with physical and emotional disabilities and all levels of education, social and economic status. We embrace our truly diverse community including every family

structure, ethnicity, religion, gender identification and sexual orientation. All are welcome here. For more information, please visit scienceunderthesun.org.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE:

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science, providing STEM education and cultural experiences for 450,000+ visitors annually in the 150,000 sq. ft. facility. MODS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that has been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for three decades (only 3% of science museums are accredited for excellence and leadership in the field). In the past year, MODS has added to that distinction by being named *Broward's Hub for Resilience Education* by the Board of the Community Foundation of Broward, selected by the LEGO Foundation as one of only 12 museums nationwide to join the *Playful Learning Museum Network* and was selected as one of 15 finalists for the prestigious *2022 IMLS National Medal for Museum Service*.

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, please visit mods.org or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

Like us or follow us on Social Media.

Facebook: facebook.com/modsftl

Twitter: twitter.com/modsftl

Instagram: instagram.com/modsftl

ABOUT VISIT LAUDERDALE:

Visit Lauderdale is the official destination marketing organization for Greater Fort Lauderdale and serves as the tourism department for Broward County, Florida. Visit Lauderdale promotes the area's 31 municipalities to a global audience of leisure and business travelers as the ideal place for Everyone Under the Sun in recognition of the area's diverse and welcoming vibe, and books conventions into the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center and Area hotels and resorts. Find more information at visitlauderdale.com and follow @VisitLauderdale on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

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