



Museum of Discovery and Science Connects Learners with Science Experiences Anytime, Anywhere with New Platform, *Science Near Me*

Science Near Me is a FREE mobile-friendly website featuring thousands of interactive, local events and programs open to the public.

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (January 31, 2022) — [Museum of Discovery and Science \(MODS\)](#) joins a network of organizations across the country to announce the launch of [ScienceNearMe.org](#), an innovative web and mobile platform connecting families and the general public with opportunities to explore, experience, and engage in science from anywhere.

“As a Science Near Me pilot cohort partner, MODS is proud to join with organizations around the country to bring enhanced science to our community,” said **Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO at MODS**. “With this innovative online platform for discovering STEM opportunities, we’ll be expanding our reach to new and more diverse audiences while gathering important data for researchers studying science engagement.”

Science Near Me makes it easier for people to connect with opportunities across a spectrum of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) topics and venues and helps accelerate research on science engagement and learning in the process. With a broad roster of national and regional partners, and funding from the [National Science Foundation](#), Science Near Me aggregates thousands of STEM events, projects, and programs hosted by a wide range of organizations across the U.S.

“MODS’ mission is connecting people to inspiring science, and Science Near Me helps link STEM-seekers from all walks of life to our exciting programming and happenings,” said Cox.

The mobile-friendly website includes simple tools like the Opportunity Finder, which lets people efficiently search a rich, distributed network of partner organizations’ databases to identify programs, events and projects by location, age levels, topic, type of engagement and more. Now, in one place, the public can quickly discover an event at a local museum, an astronomy

talk at a local pub or a science policy forum open to the public online. The site provides additional easy-to-use tools that enable media partners, community-based organizations, and others to easily customize and embed these offerings on their own websites tailored to STEM engagement in their communities.

"Science Near Me is doing something long dreamed about in STEM, but never before executed to this extent," says co-founder Martin Storksdieck, director of Oregon State University's STEM Research Center. "Science Near Me provides the first convenient tool to find all types of science-related engagement activities, both in-person or online, in one place while providing insights to inform future projects aimed at creating more equitable and inclusive science engagement."

With a suite of creative features, ScienceNearMe.org is providing not only a singular destination to discover opportunities to participate in STEM opportunities, but also catalyzing new research about how diverse audiences engage with science.

"There's no shortage of opportunities to participate in science across many levels," Cavalier says. "Science Near Me will help make it easier for people from all backgrounds and interests to connect with the right opportunity and help accelerate research on science engagement and learning in the process. "

###

ABOUT SCIENCE NEAR ME.ORG

Science Near Me, a subsidiary of SciStarter.org, aggregates a diverse array of opportunities for the public to engage in science. ScienceNearMe is made possible through a federal grant from the National Science Foundation, and developed in collaboration with core partners include [Oregon State University's STEM Research Center](#), [COSI's Center for Research and Evaluation](#), the [Association of Science and Technology Centers](#), the [MIT Museum's Science Festival Alliance](#), [The Connector](#), [Discover Magazine](#) and the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#).

Science Near Me also includes a broad and growing group of nationwide cohort pilot partners who are contributing to the development and testing of this innovative resource with their communities:

- [Astronomy on Tap](#)
- [Bay Area Science Festival](#)
- [Expert and Citizen Assessment of Science & Technology \(ECAST\)](#)
- [Explora Science Center & Children's Museum](#)
- [Fleet Science Center / San Diego STEM Ecosystem](#)
- [Maine Discovery Museum](#)
- [Maine Science Festival](#)
- [Make Magazine & Maker Faire](#)

- [Michigan Science Center](#)
- [Museum of Discovery & Science \(MODS\)](#)
- [NASA Night Sky Network](#)
- [Nation of Makers](#)
- [Nerd Nite](#)
- [North Carolina Science Festival](#)
- [Science Museum Oklahoma](#)
- [ScienceWorks Museum](#)
- [SciStarter](#)
- [Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum](#)
- [The Connector](#)
- [Wisconsin Science Festival](#)

In 2022, free web tools will enable additional event and program organizers to connect with Science Near Me. For more information, please email info@ScienceNearMe.org.

ABOUT 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. The Museum encompasses more than 150,000 square feet of interactive exhibits. This includes all of our permanent and traveling exhibits, as well as our outdoor Science Park. Families can enjoy super science shows and demonstrations, wild Creature Feature animal encounters, private experiences, mind-blowing Makerspace labs, cool camps, unforgettable birthday parties, engaging field trips and STEM curricula, professional development workshops for educators, distinguished speakers, and more. In addition to daily hours, MODS is currently offering virtual and offsite programming. MODS' STEMobile delivers STEM education on location across South Florida! A STEMobile experience ranges from one-hour to full-day with programming for pre-kindergarten through adult and is available for schools, community centers, corporate team building and special events! All programs can be customized for time, group size and age group. Book a STEMobile visit today. Free programs and scholarships are available!

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

MEDIA CONTACTS

Kip Hunter Marketing | 305.803.9177

Nicole Lewis // nicole@kiphuntermarketing.com

Museum of Discovery & Science | 954.713.0901
Andi Fuentes // andrea.fuentes@mods.org