



UA's BIO5 Institute and College of Science Lead Largest STEM Event in Arizona

***Science City, an annual two-day celebration of hands-on science, technology, exploration and engagement, is a destination within the Tucson Festival of Books held on the UA campus
March 2-3***

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TUCSON, Ariz.— Exciting, educational, and engaging activities are planned for this year's [Science City](#) to be held on March 2 and 3 as part of the [Tucson Festival of Books](#).

The Science City lineup is designed to ignite the senses and inspire the minds of tens of thousands of visitors of all ages from across the United States. Organized into thematic neighborhoods and interactive spaces, Science City informs through over 100 hands-on learning activities, laboratory tours, and exciting science demonstrations, as well as public friendly talks by renowned science authors and researchers. The Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB) is the third largest book festival in the country, and the only one with a focus on science.

Visitors to Science City will have the opportunity to learn more about some of the groundbreaking research being done at the University of Arizona, as well as experience firsthand the role scientific innovation plays in their daily lives. Attendees are encouraged to explore the UA's science-rich campus by participating in open houses, tours, and events throughout the course of the weekend.

Science City's six themed neighborhoods include the Science of Everyday Life, Science of the Natural World, Science of Tomorrow, Science of Food, Science of You, and Science in Art. In these neighborhoods, over 80 unique participant groups representing campus units, local businesses and industry and non-profit organizations. Each will showcase interactive demonstrations and engaging hands-on activities where science-enthusiasts of all ages can learn about advancements in STEM/STEAM-related fields.

The UA's [BIO5 Institute](#) and [College of Science](#) are proud to lead Science City in partnership with the [Arizona SciTech Festival](#), and with the continued support of other valued community and business sponsors.

Both BIO5 and the College of Science have a long held tradition and culture of honoring the land grant mission of the UA, in addition to an emphasis on science outreach, community engagement, positively impacting our state, and inspiring the next generation of scientists.

Faculty, students, staff, and volunteers from UA programs like the Biosphere 2; the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory; the Museum of Art; School of Mind, Brain, and Behavior; Project WET; Department of Immunobiology; Center for Creative Photography; Food Product and Safety Lab and many others will be in attendance to share their passion for science, technology and innovation.

Additionally, the Richard F. Caris Mirror Lab; Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium; the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research and more will open their doors to the public in an open house/tour format. <https://sciencecity.arizona.edu/openhousetours>

Here are just a few of the events you won't want to miss:

- **Brand new Shark Exhibit and Shark Planetarium show at Flandrau:** Turn your fears to fascination in the new exhibit at Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium's Open House – *Sharks: Magnificent and Misunderstood*. Full of interactive displays, this experience will transform your understanding of these captivating creatures and the future of Earth's oceans. Also, don't miss the new planetarium show, *Great White Shark*, that will take you beneath the waves with these ancient predators.
- **Volcano Eruptions:** Watch a volcano erupt right before your eyes! Saturday & Sunday: 11am | 3pm | 5pm
- **Glass Blowing Demonstrations:** Hosted by the Sonoran Glass School
- **Electric Cars on Display:** Hosted by Tucson Plugs Ins
- **Strolling Pioneer Scientists:** The March for Science Southern Arizona's *Spirit of Science* program provides a unique opportunity for you to interact and engage with famous scientists, with an emphasis on women and underrepresented minorities, brought to life by actors and actresses. Learn who these scientists were, their life

stories, how they became a scientist, their struggles, and even take a selfie with them! Some of the scientists that will visit Science City at varying times during the Festival may include:

- Caroline Hershel (1800s astronomer)
- Ada Lovelace (1800s computer scientist)
- Hypatia of Alexandria (Greek mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher)
- Mary Anning (1800s paleontologist)
- Ellen Ochoa (astronaut)
- Ynes Mexia (botanist)
- Joan Murrell Owens (1900s marine biologist specializing in corals)
- Rosalind Franklin (1900s chemist and X-ray crystallographer, discovered the structure of DNA)
- **An Incredible Line-Up of UA Researcher Talks in the Science Café Including:**

Saturday, March 2

Time	Name	Title
10:30 AM	Vishnu Ready	Planetary Defense: Are we prepared for the next impact?
12:00 PM	“Ski” Floyd Chilton	Inflammation Nation- Eating and lifestyle approaches to address the inflammation epidemic

Sunday, March 3

Time	Name	Title
12:00 PM	Esther Sternberg	Healing Spaces: The science of place, well-being and performance

4:30 PM	Mike Mallozzi	How Beer Created Basically Everything: Society, trade, and microbiology
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- **Science/Medicine/Technology authors appearing on the Science Stage and across the Festival cover a range of topics with some themes running through:**
 - Supporting the public in being good consumers of science and health news: Dr. Joe Schwarcz with "A Feast of Science," Nina Shapiro, MD, with "Hype: A Doctor's Guide to Medical Myths, Exaggerated Claims, and Bad Advice," and Jennifer Jacobs, MD, with "Do You Really Need That Pill?"
 - Space exploration honoring the 50th anniversary of Apollo program: John Logsdon and his two books on space exploration, Alan Stern with "Chasing New Horizons: Inside the Epic First Mission to Pluto," and William Sheehan with "Discovering Pluto: Exploration at the Edge of the Solar System."
 - On the natural/environmental science side: Craig Childs with "Atlas of a Lost World" and Vince Beiser with "The World in a Grain: The Story of Sand and How It Transformed Civilization."
 - In the tech arena: Claire Evans with "Broad Band: The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the Internet," Christine Lagorio-Chafkin with "We Are the Nerds: The Birth and Tumultuous Life of Reddit, the Internet's Culture Laboratory," and Dan Lyons with "Lab Rats: How Silicon Valley Made Work Miserable for the Rest of Us."
 - "The World in a Grain" is interesting because some wonder if global wars will be fought over sand since there is a limited amount left to meet our needs for concrete and glass, asphalt roads, and silicone-based digital devices.
 - Claire Evans was chosen by The Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona out of all of the women authors as their sponsored author for 2019. She will give a special talk for an event they are hosting.
 - Did you know that earth's magnetic north pole has shifted enough to require a GPS update? Or, did you read that the World Magnetic Model required an update a year early? If you have skimmed the science news recently, or listened to NPR's Science Friday, you may have some questions. Award-winning author Alanna Mitchell will have some answers. Join her at her session on March 3 at 10am as she discusses her latest book *The Spinning Magnet: The Electromagnetic Force That Created the Modern World*.

Mitchell delves into the science of electromagnetism, and shares stories of discovery through the centuries. Learn how much of our technology relies on earth's electromagnetic force, and how our planet is in constant change. Mitchell will also be highlighting her 2010 book *Seasick*, about the changes that our vast oceans are undergoing, with fellow authors Vince Beiser and Sandra Postel, on a session discussing two of our most important resources, water and sand. This session takes place on the Science City stage March 2 at 1pm.

- **Exciting UA Open Houses (new this year) Include:**
 - SOCK Student Optics Chapter: Discover the wonders of light-based devices on the Museum of Optics tour. Tours and demonstration in the Museum of Optics.
 - UA Department of Computer Science: Explore computer science research presentations, games, coding workshops, lectures, and activities.

Start your Science City journey by picking up your Science City passport at the Visitor Center. There is a passport stop located in each of our Science City neighborhoods (six stops total). Guests will receive a sticker at each stop and then an embossed imprint upon completion of the entire passport. Those who complete the passport activity can enter into a drawing to win a prize which may include one of the following:

- Family (4) membership to Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium
- Family (4) membership to Sonoran Glass School
- Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Book Basket

Festival admission and Science City open houses/tours are free to the public. Science City hours are 9:30am to 5:30pm March 2nd and 3rd. To plan your personalized Science City experience and get up-to-date information on all tours, talks and activities visit Science City online at www.sciencecity.arizona.edu and follow us on Twitter and Facebook @TFOBScienceCity.

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The Tucson Festival of Books is a community-wide celebration of literature. Offered free-of-charge, the Festival exists to improve literacy rates among children and adults. All proceeds following the Festival support critical local literacy programs.

TFOB History

The first Festival was in 2009. Attendance has grown from 75,000 to over 100,000 including authors and visitors from all over the U.S. and overseas. It is the third largest book festival in the country, and the only one with a focus on science.