

2010 USA Science & Engineering Festival Testimonials

Congratulations! What a phenomenal ride this has already been... and the weekend is just beginning!

Brian Malow

Sciencecomedian.com

Here with the family, and the event is amazing! Congrats!!!

Greg Nelsen

Office of Science and Technology Policy
White House

This is amazing! We are proud to be even a teeny part of it. I'm already thinking about cool ideas for next year. :-) Congratulations!

Jennifer Kuhn

AT&T

FABULOUS!! My 5 and 7 year old loved it! Quality of the exhibits and enthusiasm and ability of those staffing far exceeded all expectations. So did the enthusiasm, joy, and diversity of the crowd. Numbers seem wonderful! Particularly competing for busy kids on an Autumn Saturday against sports, lessons, social events, etc, etc.

You've made an enormous contribution to our country and to enhancing the lives of millions of kids, including my Grandchildren. Thank you.

Manny Rouvelas

Grandfather

I am impressed!!

Cindy Lawrence

The Museum of Mathematics

NIH had a fabulous day on the Mall and at Freedom Plaza. Hope you are feeling the same way!

Bruce Fuchs

National Institutes of Health

I just want to let you know what a wonderful festival this has been so far. It's been an amazing event and the people wandering through are really excited to be here.

Rachel Weissenburger

The Thomas Edison Papers
Rutgers University

I cannot express in words how incredible the experience was for me and my son to participate yesterday in your opening day events for the Science Expo on the Mall. Frankly, it's about time we had a national event like this both in Washington and/or traveling across the country. Having attended several similar small-scale events in Europe and Asia, the amazing depth and passion brought by the booths and showcases was just powerful.

Richard S. Seline

Regionnovate, LLC

Congratulations. You have pulled off a coup. The USA Science and Engineering Festival is a smashing success. One problem...too much to see.

Yesterday, was my 1st presentation. It went very well. Security told me that of all the presentations at the 4th street stage, mine was the most well attended – so well in fact that they had to bring in extra metal security horses to keep even more of the audience from the stage.

Thanks for giving me a great venue and a great audience. Maybe we'll meet today. If not, I do understand that you might be just a tad busy.

Professor Bob Friedhoffer

City University of New York
Center for Advanced Study In Education

I cannot begin to tell you what an inspirational experience yesterday was at the Festival. We had hundreds of kids visit our booth on Pennsylvania Avenue to see racecars and have fun with Science. What a great day to be an engineer! I have used my own blog to promote this event <http://blogs.solidworks.com/teacher> at 6am this morning – I was too excited to sleep.

When I was in engineering school there were 3 girls out of 205 graduates. Yesterday, I was so happy to see so many girls participating.

Marie Planchard

Dassault Systemes SolidWorks Corp.

We had a fun/exhausting day at the fair. Both the Bowdoin College booths typically had a group of people 3 deep around them. We spent 7 1/2 hours talking science with hundreds of people. Everyone had lots of fun, we met a lot of great people (including a bunch of Bowdoin alums) and felt like we were part of something really great.

Eric Crown
Bowdoin College

I attended the festival yesterday (and will return today), and had to send you a note saying I was very impressed. Congratulations on a job well done!

P.S. How did you get the weather to cooperate?!

Edward Leach
Attendee

My kids and I have been here all morning and only scratched the surface. Outstanding! They are engaged, involved and fascinated at each exhibit. The teams at each booth are wonderful and patient. The crowd is polite and impressed. Abby and Ben are exploring everything they pinball back and forth between. They had a model Mars Rover climb over them. They have been to the Doppler truck. They have done hands-on experiments with university professor and countless other highly qualified presenters. What a day! Congratulations to you and your entire team - and thank you for such a remarkable Festival.

Jim Dinegar
Greater Washington Board of Trade

I just want to thank you for spear-heading the effort to bring the Science and Engineering Festival to the nation's capital. I volunteered both Saturday and Sunday and was so moved to see how excited the kids and their families were to be seeing such great diversity of science and engineering in one place. The kids loved all the hands-on activities. One mother I spoke with on the metro train I took home showed me a video of her son with a model Mars Rover driving over his back. I heard her then say to her husband that she would put it on FaceBook.

I think the science community has had a problem with communicating to the public for some time now about why the public should care about what's going on in science and engineering – many groups in the US seem fervently anti-science while others merely apathetic to how science is relevant in their every day lives. I think the Festival made a significant effort in informing the public about the why science is relevant and why they should care.

I hope there are plans for a 2011 USA Science and Engineering Festival. I will certainly be happy again to volunteer if the festival returns next year.

Melissa Booker

Physics Teacher

Robinson Secondary School

Our family had a wonderful time Saturday at the festival.

I worked with convention & tradeshows for 11 years and have an idea just how much work went into the event. It was a blast! We didn't put a dent into all the fun things to do and hope it will be an annual event. Congratulations to the entire team.

Nikki George

Mom

It was totally AWESOME. Our team presented at the LMCO stage... they had a blast. You have truly done something extraordinary. It was a great honor to be part of it.

Nancy Conrad

Chairman

Conrad Foundation

I just wanted to say, "THANK YOU" for your efforts in bringing about the USA Science & Technology Expo. Please also extend my sincere thanks to your team and all those who worked to make this event happen. My school was fortunate enough to be selected for a visit by one of the "Nifty Fifty" (Dr. Anne Spence - she was a wonderful ambassador for science & technology studies/careers) and parents are still telling me their children are talking about her visit. Then, today we took our daughter to DC to participate in the Expo. WOW - it was awesome. We couldn't cover everything there was so much. It was a great opportunity for Elisabeth, age 16 and a junior in high school, to talk with scientists and people working with awesome technologies as she formulates her thinking toward college. I hope there will be more events like this. Thank you very much.

Lisa Cutchin

Mom and Teacher

St. John Regional Catholic School

I'm a Docent at the National Air and Space Museum who enjoyed attending two full days of activities at the Inaugural USA Science Festival in Washington, DC. I was amazed with the sheer size of the event, with over 500 exhibits.

I'd like to offer some time and energy to help plan for the next Science Festival to make it even more successful. I think there are some areas for improvement such as ensuring that more exhibits also offer bags to carry all of the things that a visitor picks up during their visit. (I brought my Smithsonian bags from home, so I did not have a problem).

Again, a big "Thank You!"

Gene Nelson, Ph.D.
National Air and Space Museum

You should be enormously proud of what you and your staff have accomplished. In my opinion, it was just wonderful!

Daria Maresh
Mom

Congratulations for a resounding success of a Festival. For those of us who live in the trenches of science research, seeing the endless crowds of kids as curious, excited and happy as kids can be, was an uplifting experience.

Bertrand Moreno Esteva Garcia
Professor
Johns Hopkins University

Congratulations for two weeks of outstanding events, particularly the Festival on the Mall. I spent numerous hours on Sunday wandering around and it was mobbed with people of all colors, with and without children, having a great time learning about science and engineering. I was at our own ACS booth for two hours and couldn't believe how many people we had. I know it is hard to do an estimate of people in such an open space, but I estimated about 30-50 people turned over every 10 minutes at our booth. That would be about 180-300 people an hour or 1260-2100 people for each day. If you then multiply that by the number of booths, mobile labs, etc., you might have a rough estimate, although it would be very conservative because I haven't counted the dozens of people who posed with the ACS Mole (like we did, photo attached) but didn't go into a booth.

I'm sure you have your own way of estimating, but this is just on the ground anecdota.

Thank you for inviting ACS to be a part of this great event.

Madeleine Jacobs

Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
American Chemical Society

I want to thank you for all your efforts in organizing the USA Science and Engineering Festival. It was an incredible event – the attendees clearly had a tremendous time, and you made it easy for exhibitors to promote the joys of science, engineering, and mathematics.

The organization of the festival was spectacular. I was especially impressed by the speed with which requests were handled. When I called Festival Central and requested a water delivery, the truck was filling our buckets within minutes. Receiving water was the one logistical challenge about which I worried, but your deft handling of all the details made it a non-issue. I appreciate your efforts in making sure that the needs of even us small exhibitors were met.

You did a remarkable job and are to be commended. In addition to the incredible experience that we had, I heard other exhibitors commenting on how well the festival was run. Three cheers for the USASEF logistical team – hip, hip, HOORAY!

Patrick Vennebush

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Thanks for an amazing experience. The high school students were great and the Natural History Museum auditorium was spectacular. Both performances were packed! I have to congratulate you on organizing such a marvelous event. I can't even conceive how you managed to pull it all together with the hundreds of booths and performances. Just fantastic! Call on me anytime...(next time though I'd like to have 10 more minutes) Cheers and congrats again to you and your whole crew for an absolutely superb job!

Joe Schwarcz Ph.D.

Director

McGill University Office for Science and Society

Congratulations on an amazingly successful Festival!

Here's one comment I saw from someone on a listserv:

“The past two days have been intellectually stimulating and physically draining for me as the USA Science and Engineering Festival took place spread over the National Mall, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Freedom Plaza. More than 1500 booths provided tens of thousands of visitors lots of science and engineering. As someone said, if even 1% of the attendees become scientists and engineers, our country will be in great shape for decades. Our booth had a tremendous amount of traffic during the festival, as did every

other booth, from what I could see when I escaped for awhile to see other parts of the program. As anyone who is a father knows, it's hard to impress your kids, but my daughter even admitted that the Festival exceeded her expectations..."

I'm so looking forward to next year!

Cheers,

Matthew Bobrowsky
Professor
University of Maryland

We've just had two wonderful days at the Science and Engineering Festival. As the North American Sundial Society and Analemma Society, we'd like to thank you all for a most incredible event. Your hard work paid off for hundreds of thousands of kids, parents, and teachers. We were very glad to have participated as one of many fine science hands - on exhibits.

Go relax for a job well done. We hope this becomes an annual event.

Robert L. Kellogg
North American Sundial Society

The festival was truly incredible. I'm really happy and proud of you. I know it took a tremendous amount of work.

Adam Kalish
Lux Capital

Congratulations on a job well done! Ivan, Zac , and myself had an outstanding time. The event was well organized and a professional environment. We all had a great experience and look forward to volunteering and visiting in the future.

Robert Lesecka
Lockheed Martin Maritime Systems & Sensors

Just a quick note to say how absolutely exceptional the Festival was! It was truly incredible – I hope the plan is for it to become an annual event! Our students and teachers really enjoyed participating and our booth was busy all weekend. Not sure if you made it over there or not, but families loved the presentation on making recycled paper and many of them took down the “recipe” so they could make it at home.

It was a great weekend for E.L. Haynes and we are incredibly proud to have been a part of the event!

Julie Anne Green

Director of Marketing and Development
E.L. Haynes Public Charter School

It was my privilege to be an "ambassador" for the USA Science and Engineering Festival! Congrats on producing a spectacular event on the Mall in DC. You have set a new standard for celebrating science. In my years in the science education biz, the USA Science & Engineering Festival is the highlight of my community engagement experience! Thanks for bringing the nation together for citizen science, everyone was engaged and thrilled to be there on Sat & Sun! I never knew that DC could be so much fun!

Nancy Taylor

K-12 Science Coordinator
San Diego County Office of Education
Executive Director
San Diego Science Alliance

This was the best event we ever attended on the National Mall. Not only did we have a great time volunteering as a family, the kids were able to take some breaks (as Festival Ambassadors) and also enjoy the festival after their shift. Even if we were not volunteers and just attended the event, we would have the same reaction. This event was "Awesome"! The scale of the event with so much to do and learn was amazing. When we posted the pictures, folks told us they were planning to attend. Our reaction was this is definitely something to get on your calendar now for next year! Not to be missed. From the rockets, to fossils, to touching a brain, to holding a real human skull, to food science, etc. As a family, we do a lot of community events, volunteering together, and to be honest, we did not hear one complaint. Everyone had a great time and learned a lot (adults included)!

Andrew Levy

Volunteer

I took my grandson, 6 1/2 year old Jasper, to the Festival on Saturday. He had an amazing time with so many hands-on exhibits(including NASA pinwheels and the lunar lander and the remote-controlled soccer game) that he asked to go back on Sunday. He wanted to see more and to complete getting stamps in all 12 boxes of the program. On Sunday, we again went so that he was able to complete all of the stamps with visits to numerous other fascinating booths including chemistry (slime and shaving cream printing blocks), DNA, NIH muscles, and building a Life Saver car.

Joseph M. Iseman
Grandfather

Thanks so much for the USA Science & Engineering Festival. We came down on Sunday & had an excellent time at the festival. It's great to have people other than my husband & I encourage our 10th grade daughter to follow her interest in engineering and the diversity of exhibitors certainly helped her understand the great variety of engineering possibilities available to her.

Hope the festival becomes a regular event! I signed up for the mailing list so perhaps next time I'll have more notice & can spend several days there.

Thanks again for all your effort & hard work. We think the festival was a great success.

Julia Delpino
Mother

Thanks for the very impressive stats, but far greater thanks for managing to pull off such an enormous and spectacularly successful enterprise. I am sure you are exhausted now, but I hope that you will soon start planning for next year. Let us know how OSTP might be able to help.

Carl Wieman
Associate Director for Science
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President

Adjectives that come to my mind that apply to this weekend's USA Science & Engineering Festival:

- Amazing*
- Spectacular*
- Hopeful*
- Encouraging*
- Organized (really well)*
- Awesome*
- Fun*
- Educational (highly)*
- Inspirational*
- Productive (great networking)*
- Hopeful (Our great country can do anything we put our minds to.)*
- and much, much more*

*Congratulations to you and your team.
It was a privilege to be a part of this event.*

Clark 'Corky' Graham, Ph.D.
Founder and Executive Director of
LET'S GO Boys and Girls.

Thank you for organizing such a great event.

My daughters ages 7 and 9 absolutely loved all the exhibits and most of all meeting the Meteorite Men in person and being able to talk to them.

It was a fantastic event.

Mary Gilman
Mother

I brought my daughter (a 7 years old girl to the national mall this weekend for the USA Science & Engineering Festival. It is the best festival we have ever attended. My daughter learned so much from those hands-on activities and she really liked it.

I just want to say thanks for all the volunteers and I hope this festival can be held on the National Mall every year.

June Zhou. Ph.D.
Deputy Director, Laboratory of Geriatric Endocrinology and Metabolism
Veterans Affairs Medical Center

What a success...we gave out over 16,000 bookmarks. Beyond our wildest expectations.

Fabulous ... and thank you for putting this together, and your hard, hard work.

Dusty Fisher
Exhibitor

I just wanted to express my thanks for having this Math Walking Tour as part of the Science and Engineering Festival. My son and I LOVED it; it brought math to life.

We also went to the Mall, Wilson Plaza, and Freedom Plaza on Sunday. Just wonderful.

I hope this becomes an annual event for the NATION. Thank you.

George R Robbins
Father

I want to convey to you our many thanks for this weekend. Not only at the celebration of science over the weekend, but this morning we had individuals call and also saw people in the hallway who mentioned the great experience they had. Was a wonderful opportunity to enlighten children, and their parents on the value and meaning of science. Was deeply appreciated from the NIH Community. THANK YOU- was great to meet you, and learn from you. Hopefully we get to work together again. Take Care.

Randy Schools
NIH Charities

You did an AMAZING job! The festival was beyond incredible, and one of the best-organized large events I've ever seen. Thanks!

Cindy Lawrence
The Museum of Math

Congratulations on a fabulous festival! I suspect you are exhausted, so no reply needed. But I wanted to say thanks for allowing GMU to participate. It was a great success on many levels.

FYI - The most common question that we received over the weekend was: Will there be another science festival next year?

If there is, please count GMU in!

Michael E. Summers
Professor of Planetary Science and Astronomy
George Mason University

I just wanted to let you know that my daughters had a marvelous time on the Mall on Sunday. We barely made it through a small section of the tents because each area had them captivated while learning.

Because of the position I am in with NASA, I also received feedback from many friends and colleagues who also stopped by and had a wonderful time. It was described as the "Disneyland of Science" and a family member posted on my Facebook wall this: "The Festival was amazing! I can only imagine the amount of work that went into the planning and execution. I think my 11 year old found some science project ideas and the 14 year old enjoyed the whole experience. I hope it is something that is continued." Many of my

NASA colleagues said it re-energized them and motivated them to work harder to keep the next generation engaged.

I am sure you are getting much of this feedback yourself, but I thought I would share just in case it wasn't clear that this was a job well done! I hope you plan on doing this again next year so we can get to some of the things we missed!

Thanks for facilitating a great weekend and keep in touch so I can see what you do next!

Stacey E. Brooks
Public Outreach Manager
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

My daughter and I were in attendance this weekend; all I can say is WOW! What a fabulous weekend! We will remember this event for the rest of our lives!

Thank you very much for coordinating such an amazing, educational program for the children of America! I have no doubt an event of this magnitude will have a significant effect on the future of scientists in America! I KNOW it had an effect on my own daughter!

Theresa H. Haskins
Injury Compensation Specialist
Employee Services Department

CONGRATULATIONS!

We thought it was a fabulous event: Great ideas, great efforts, great weather, great spirit, and a lot of families obviously having a great time. It also helped those of us in STEM education appreciate how many clever, creative, and dedicated allies we have throughout the nation.

Thank you for inviting us; thank you for arranging such a perfect stage for our production; and thank you for coming to see us! We had many very heart-warming responses from our very diverse and jolly audiences. Please pass along our thanks to the AV, security, and production crew at NMNH who were so supportive and kind to us.

Carol Lynn Alpert
on behalf of The Amazing Nano Brothers Juggling Show team at the Museum of Science,
Boston: Dan Foley, Joel Harris, Karine Thate, Terry O'Malley.

I'm sure you are both being inundated with congratulations on the success of the Science & Engineering Festival, but I wanted to add my own as well. I

worked both days as part of the EPA exhibit (Baggie Science - learning about chemical mixtures) and it was amazing. So many kids exposed to so many aspects of science - just incredible. I've heard so many favorable reports, and I hope this is something I can be part of for years to come!

Thank you for all your efforts and for putting this together!

Maureen R. Gwinn, Ph.D. DABT
US EPA

Congrats on a successful USA science and engineering festival. Many of my students and teachers were in attendance and enjoyed every minute there. We appreciated the sharing of ideas, celebration, and fun. You did an excellent job!

Evan Glazer Ph.D.
Principal
Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

Just wanted to thank you for all your efforts over the past year to give birth to the USA Science & Engineering Festival and to make the event such a success. We had a great satellite event out here in Portland at OMSI on Saturday, and are looking forward to the 2nd Annual Festival next year. (I'll bet you have already started planning for it!) All the best,

Diana Gordon
Education Outreach Specialist
Oregon National Primate Research Center

I just got back from helping one of our research centers man its booth at the USA Science & Engineering Expo. What a great experience!

Our center was lucky enough to be selected to be a part of the NSF walkway. My new goal is to spread the word to others at the University of Kansas that we should have an ongoing presence at the Expo. I'll also be able to use our video and photos from the event to make sure our alumni continue to hear about the success of the effort.

Please extend my thanks and gratitude to all who helped make this event such an amazing success. I saw so many kids fired up about science and engineering. They walked away knowing that science and engineering are not only important, but cool and fun.

Thank you.

Jill Hummels
KU School of Engineering

Congrats – it was a great success! I enjoyed the full days at the DC Mall. It's time to start working on the 2011 USA S&E Festival.

Dr. Kam Ng
Office of Naval Research

Thanks again for hosting us for the USA Science & Engineering Festival – and congratulations to your wonderful achievement! I was truly impressed by the organization, outreach, and the scale of the event.

Erno Rubik
Inventor of the Rubik's Cube

The Festival was amazing. Are there plans for another one next year? I would love to get my employers' agency involved but have no authority to suggest such participation.

How would I find out about being an exhibitor next year? Thanks in advance.

Bob Wax
Attendee

The festival was amazing! Thanks for organizing such a great event. Each booth was more exciting than the last! Love the "show and do" philosophy! My husband and I were equally engaged as our children (ages 9 and 11). Great idea to have the Boy and Girl Scout tracks. It would have taken a week to see and do everything! Sadly, we were only there on Sunday. Hope there will be year #2!

I've spent my career in communications. Now, I want to be a scientist!

Mary Billingsley
Mother

What a fantastic weekend!

I hope that you were pleased. We were all ecstatic about all the enthusiasm drummed up for science and engineering. I spent much of Sunday on the mall with two of our grandchildren, Mary and Robert Gay. As you can see, they had a great time and send their thanks as well as their pictures riding off into cyberspace.

Chuck Vest
President
National Academy of Engineering

Congratulations on the USA Science and Engineering Festival. It was a great event and I enjoyed it as did the many kids who were there. It was a nice showcase of science and engineering experiments, it was nice to see graduate students and professors at the booths explaining their research. There is always something to learn and there was something for everyone. It was crowded which is good and bad but shows how so many people came out to the festival. Next time if there is anything that I can help with please let me know. I would like to be a part of such science education activities.

Please let me know what is a convenient date and time to contact you. I appreciate your help.

Maithili Daphtary
Mother

Just a quick note to say...CONGRATULATIONS! That was an extraordinary event that you pulled off. I assume that you are happy!

I couldn't get out past my exhibit, but I heard great things about the whole event...and, at our place, the look of excitement in the kids' eyes was just wonderful. I think (in fact, I know) we sparked some interest in science and engineering.

Way to go!

Randy Atkins
National Academy of Engineering

Thank you for all of the hard work. I trust you're feeling it was all worthwhile. On behalf of the organizations we represent, thank you for your promotion of science and engineering (and of course math, reading and writing)!!!

William M Dahl
Executive Director
Botanical Society of America

I want to thank you for all your help and advice. We just completed a very successful festival in Austin, Texas. We appreciate your vision and I am sure you would have enjoyed seeing the nearly 20,000 people and over 100 exhibits and lectures we had on

October 23 and 24. We did not compare close to what you did in Washington DC but I am sure you would have been proud of us.

Thank you very much!

Enrique Gomez

Chair

Austin Science and Engineering Festival

Executive Director

MAES

Congratulations on a fantastic Science and Engineering Festival. It was a tremendous success. Thank you for including me and my organizations in on the fun. It was very rewarding to see all those people looking to understand science and engineering. It was a very important start to turning around our erosion of talent.

Feel free to call on me as you consider the next steps. I am with you in any way I can help.

Bob Ekman

Rockville Science Center

I wanted to write and say Congratulations for putting on such a successful festival. I am an astronomer by training and have been working on science education projects for nearly a decade now at various organizations. Seeing the turnout this past weekend nearly brought tears to my eyes – it was absolutely fantastic to see so many people show up to celebrate science. It gave me hope that people do appreciate science for itself and also realize how essential S&E are for the economic growth and success of the nation.

I know it's been a long road to get here, but you've showed it can be done! And I do hope we can do this regularly and it's easier to do the next time around since you've now demonstrated the proof-of-concept. I would be happy to help in any way I can – the Afterschool Alliance is a small non-profit with very limited resources, but we are committed to increasing engagement in STEM topics and careers for youth and their families.

Congratulations again and best wishes.

Anita Krishnamurthi, Ph.D.

Director of STEM Policy

Afterschool Alliance

I wanted to commend the organizers of this event on such a wonderful festival on the

Mall in Washington, DC. We have an 8 year old daughter, and she had a great time. We had to literally pull her away from the booths.

Thank you for a great event that my daughter is telling everyone about.

Charlissa Goodyear

Mother

I thought the Expo was an outstanding success and I know that the first question people are asking is when is the next one. I'm wondering, instead, what else do you have planned? One thing that has stayed with me was your comment in the studio about how our society does not celebrate science. If you are planning to use the Expo experience as a springboard to other events, it would be a pleasure to assist in any way.

Andrew Zwicker

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

Just want to thank you for helping put together this past weekend's USA Science & Engineering Festival in Washington, DC.

I visited the festival on Saturday with my two daughters (7-year-old twins), and all of us had a fantastic time. We were impressed by the size of the festival and all the many talks, performances, and activities. I've been to the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and the Cherry Blossom Festival – and the Science & Engineering Festival seemed bigger and had more hands-on activities for kids to try.

My daughters had a lot of fun with the activities. A sample of the things they got to do: make a catapult out of paint stirrers, wooden spool, and paper cup... search for fossils... watch a presentation about the universe in a temporary dome... control robots in a soccer game... experiment with candy... and decorate and race solar-powered cars. Not to mention seeing the entertaining Amazing Nano Brothers Juggling Show to learn about nano scale, atoms, and molecules.

So, many thanks to you and all the many people who were part of putting together this festival. My daughters - and lots of other kids - were treated to seeing how science and engineering can be fun and interesting. I'm hoping that the festival becomes a regular event in Washington, DC.

Dave Williams

Father

Congratulations on a job well done. You and your team have moved science education light years ahead of where it was. The coverage of everything from soup to nuts, each

area of interest and the hands on approach is a revolutionary methodology that will surely change the world. You have been so amazing to work with and my school feels so honored to have had that opportunity.

We will tell the world about the Festival and if you need us just call. We are still Special Ambassadors and will do all we can.

*Thanks again.
You Rock!*

Bonita Adeeb

Young Reseachers and the Thomas Stone crew

I wish I had been there to sing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" last night! I would have given you a standing ovation. The USA Science & Engineering Festival was an amazing success! And I mean amazing!! Thank you both for dedicating a year of your life, pulling all nighters on a regular basis and giving up your personal time to make this science festival come to fruition. It has been such an honor working with both of you, and, to be honest, it will be difficult to go back to a regular project. As the song says, "I've had the time of my life". Thank you.

Here's to making a difference!

Deanna Rockefeller

Lockheed Martin

Just a note to let you know that my family and I had a wonderful time at the festival this weekend. I am very interested to find out how the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) can play a role in next year's festival. One of ITE's strategic goals is to take a more active role in workforce development through STEM and K-12 activities. Great job!

Aliyah N. Horton

Institute of Transportation Engineers

Immense meeting of the minds, and a wild success!

Thank you for providing the opportunity to volunteer at the Expo.

Marco "Poch" Roxas

Volunteer

I just wanted to send along an additional thank you for choosing Chantilly High School

to host Jim Kakalios as part of the Nifty Fifty Program. It was such a great experience for all! Many kids continue to ask us about different superheroes and how they can see physics in other aspects of their lives. It was an intriguing talk that sparked much interest in our students and brought science to life for many of them. We hope we can be a part of this in the future.

Krysten Scheidler

Physics Teacher
Chantilly High School

I attended the festival all day on Saturday and was amazed! Thank you for pulling it all together to give the students in our community a very memorable experience. I certainly hope you continue it~!

Thank you again!

Betsy Ablott

Investigation Station Teacher
Arlington Science Focus School

Thank you!

Thank you for your big hearts, your passion for science and its people, and your commitment to the Young.

It has been such a privilege to be with you on the final day of the Festival. I feel eternally grateful to you for the opportunity to make a contribution to your, and my, honorable cause inspiring and educating young people, the future of our country.

I wish you to have a great time back with your families and look forward to our cooperation in the future.

Heartfelt,

Edward K. Shapiro

Founder & Executive Director
Nobel Laureates School Visits

Just a quick note congratulating you again on a phenomenal festival. Every aspect of it was remarkable, even down to the weather! And of course, the video extravaganza at the Baird was itself a delightful hit, with Bill Nye generously donating his time to serve as the perfect host for the event. (It was a special delight to see the excitement and joy in the winners' faces.) You know, Bill mentioned to me that a

pivotal event in his life was attending the New York City World's Fair in 64-65, which ignited his excitement for science. I'm certain the festival will prove just as inspirational for the young people I saw (and sometimes met while giving directions) during the Expo. What a wonderful accomplishment!

James Cohen

The Kavli Foundation

Congratulations on an exceptional Expo!

The interactive activities and crowds were fabulous. A bit overwhelming sometimes (for us small town folks), but one couldn't ask for two better days of activities and great weather to draw families to an event celebrating science and engineering.

It was gratifying to see the looks of amazement and wonder as kids discovered they were really touching a chunk of an Alaskan glacier born of snowflakes that fell over 200 years ago, a 30,000 year old piece of permafrost, touch a piece of real tundra, and examine sea ice on which polar bears tread. (@ Alaska's Cool Cryosphere booth). We got a lot of "not really..?" followed by "Wow!" from young and old alike.

The entire team of scientists and STEM educators at our booth came away beaming. Collectively we appreciated the chance to share a small part of the science coming from the North, with tangible links – the real stuff – to make abstract concepts related to climate change and the earth's warming – a bit more real.

Thank you for all your hard work. Your team did an excellent job of organizing an important and massive event.

Thanks again!

Mary Hakala

SpringBoard K-16 STEM Initiative

Juneau Economic Development Council

My apologies if this is not the best place for me to direct this but I just wanted to take a moment to thank you and everyone involved in planning the USA Science & Engineering Festival on the National Mall this past weekend. My wife, son and I enjoyed ourselves thoroughly on Saturday and Sunday at a variety of exhibits. Watching the excitement on my son's face while getting to design his own robot car and checking out the inside of a sea urchin was worth every minute spent.

We were overwhelmed by the sheer volume of things to see and the number of organizations who spent time and money to come and get kids (and adults) excited about science. From what we saw, the event appeared to be a tremendous success and one

which I hope is repeated in years to come. I hope the planners of the event will consider extending the number of days in the future. Our only complaint was that there was so much to see that we just didn't have enough time or energy to even come close.

I hope you've received other positive feedback about the event. People all too often don't take the time to say something positive about such things. Everyone with whom I spoke last weekend and afterward had very positive experiences as well.

All the best,

Corey Ramsden

Father

Thank you and congratulations on the good news. Your vision and dedicated hard work is echoing across the halls of power. It reminds me of Longfellows' words -

*"I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.*

*I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?*

*Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke;
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend."*

Raju Govindaraju

Father

The D.C. science festival was an amazing event that offered both kids and adults a wide range of enriching, memorable activities. My four sons and I spent six hours on the Mall on Saturday, caught up in the rapture of so many hands-on projects and thoughtful, passionate presentations by researchers and staffers who truly care about science and math. Thank you for planning such a marvelous event for young minds. Best,

Vanee' Vines

Mother

You, indeed, are an amazing visionary! The USA Science & Engineering Festival has now infused me with vitality and connection to the real world of the possible. As a teacher of elementary students caught in the throes of state standards (VA) and high stakes testing, it is sometimes easy to get caught in predictable paths. However, having experienced the Festival (and it was a marvelous experience), I am even more bound and determined to have my students reach beyond excellence.

I jumped on the engineering and nanotechnology bandwagon a couple of years ago after participating in seminars intended for middle and high school teachers. One of the outcomes of those transfusions is a thematic curriculum surveying engineering that will be used with 2nd and 3rd grade gifted students in Richmond, VA, an ethnically diverse, urban school district with a high concentration of poverty. My take-away from the festival is that it is imperative to take this message of the engineering mindset even beyond the gifted program and early introduction is key.

Thank you so much for the countless hours you and your colleagues devoted to making the Festival such a grand opportunity for people like me who don't always focus on the big picture (or the big ideas of the little world of nanotechnology)! It was for me a transformational moment in time. Can't wait until next year!

Pat Woodberry

SPACE Teacher

Special Programs for Academic and Creative Excellence

Richmond Public Schools

Congratulations!! What a fantastic event! It was simply wonderful. I met lots of people and made some great connections.

I hope you're planning to do this again! Just let me know when and I'll sign up!

Peggy A. D. Chestnutt, M.H.S.

Director

Learning for Life

I wanted to tell you how amazing the science fair was! So many of my friends took their kids and they were all so impressed. I know you must have been pleased. What a wonderful project to have run so effectively! Congratulations!

Kathleen Edquist

Tangent

I just want to praise you for taking the time and energy to organize the USASEF. It was an amazing event and you should both be so proud of your endeavors. It was so exciting to see families interested in STEM and exploring together. AWe essentially never sat down during the two days as it was a steady stream (sometimes crowd) who wanted to explore nanotechnology. I hope you can now have some down time to recuperate after organizing such a massive endeavor.

Again, many thanks!

Nancy Healy
Georgia Institute of Technology

In all of the flurry, I don't think I wrote to tell you- Congratulations! You really pulled it off! It was, by far, the largest science festival in the Nation's Capital's history. I hope you are very proud of this accomplishment.

Dr. Collins truly enjoyed his visit to Walt Whitman and his appearance on the Mall stage. I feel very fortunate to have been part of the whole process. Thanks again for all you've done for science and the country. It's been a pleasure working with you.

John Burklow
National Institutes of Health

Congratulations on the USA Science and Engineering Festival! It really was a smash. We were busy both at the booth on the Mall and at the "Meet The Scientist" stage. And the diversity of the audience was amazing.

I hope you're able to continue it as an annual event!

Thanks so much.

Bob Hirshon
AAAS

What you've achieved is simply mind blowing! We're in full support of another festival. CE can help in extending the international reach of the festival and if possible, I request you to have a small scale festival in other countries as well. I am aware that it is a huge task!

CrazyEngineers looks forward to another festival and you can count us in from day 1 of your planning. :-)

Kaustubh Katdare

Founder
CrazyEngineers.com