

## What is the Wisconsin Science Festival?

First launched in 2011, the Wisconsin Science Festival is a statewide event celebrating science, art, and technology that brings people of all ages across Wisconsin in contact with scientists, educators, artists, manufacturers, and more. The Wisconsin Science Festival aims to inspire and engage us in the enterprise of science and discovery, to cultivate curiosity, and to communicate the power of knowledge and creativity to change our worldview. Events include hands-on science exhibitions, demonstrations, performances, tours, pub nights, workshops, and more.

The Wisconsin Science Festival garners widespread media attention, with some events capturing national press. Visitors from as many as 17 different states engage in events throughout Wisconsin, and the economic impact of the festival typically exceeds \$600K.

### Festival Feature

The Wisconsin Science Festival welcomes all disciplines utilizing science, technology, or art to explore and nurture curiosity. Each year, we spotlight a specific topic to emphasize its significance and value to the state and its people. In 2026, we are featuring...Us! The science of who we are – a celebration of the brain and body, our place in the universe, and the discoveries and scientists that shape our shared wellbeing. Because science is human work and every curious mind belongs.

Events related to the feature are not required for participation! To learn more, visit [wiscifest.org/feature](https://wiscifest.org/feature).

### 2025 FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE



## The Wisconsin Science Festival is a platform to:

- Promote the impact of our state's innovation and creativity.
- Highlight programs, technology, businesses, and opportunities from all sectors to communities across Wisconsin.
- Heighten awareness of the fundamental importance of science literacy to our state's economy and foundation.
- Involve youth and our state's future workforce in quality and accessible engagement and programming.
- Engage broader audiences in discussion of issues in science, technology, and society.



Check out our 2025 impact report!

Join us on social media!



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## Ways to Engage

The festival is made possible thanks to our sponsors and statewide event hosts. Each year, unique events and programs spark curiosity for learners of all ages and backgrounds throughout Wisconsin. Event hosts include organizations like libraries, pubs, nature centers, museums, schools, local businesses, state parks, and more. Engaging with the festival can look like hosting your own event or tapping into our key initiatives such as the ones below:



**Science on the Square** - A night of hands-on science taking over downtown Madison with over 17,000 attendees in 2025.



**Science in a Bag** - Hands-on STEM activity kits relating to Wisconsin research distributed throughout the state through our library partners. 3,000 bags delivered in 2025.



**Field Trips & Expo Days** - Providing virtual and in-person ways to engage K-12 youth, and community members of all ages, in STEAM content. Over 1,000 field trip students in 2025.



**How It's Made in Wisconsin** - Inviting the public to peek behind the curtain into Wisconsin-made products.

## How to Host an Event

We are always looking for partners, presenters, and contributors to support and participate in our festival's key initiatives, as well as event hosts to help expand our statewide footprint. Events can include an existing program or something new that is festival-specific for any and all ages, covering any topic relating to science, art, technology, the festival feature, and more!

There is no cost to participate in the festival - simply submit your event details on our website, request your event host kit, make use of our event host resources to help with promotion, and help unleash curiosity with our statewide audience. To learn more about hosting an event or to submit your event details, visit [wiscifest.org/host](http://wiscifest.org/host).

Join our growing list of festival collaborators and partners...



...plus hundreds of venues and event hosts statewide!

Contact Us  
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