

WHO'S INVOLVED?

The NISE Network includes over 555 partner organizations, representing all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Over 1,400 individuals are involved in the NISE Network.

NISE Network Partners 2005-2014



322 MUSEUMS **192** UNIVERSITIES **41** OTHER

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The work of the Network is led by fourteen core partners:

- Museum of Science, Boston
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- Exploratorium
- Children's Museum of Houston
- The Franklin Institute
- Lawrence Hall of Science
- Museum of Life and Science
- Oregon Museum of Science and Industry
- Sciencenter
- Center for Nanotechnology in Society at Arizona State University (CNS-ASU)
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC)
- Materials Research Society (MRS)
- SRI International



NISE Network

The Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network is a national community of researchers and informal science educators dedicated to fostering public awareness, understanding, and engagement in nanoscale science, engineering, and technology.

GOALS

Build a network of sustainable relationships among informal science education (ISE) organizations and nanoscale science and engineering (nano) research organizations.

Engage the public in nano through exhibits, programs, and other learning opportunities.

Increase capacity among partner organizations by providing professional development, resources, and knowledge.

CHALLENGES

When the Network began in 2005, it faced the following challenges:

1. The content and pedagogy of nano education was only just emerging.
2. Little was known about how to engage the public in nano in ISE contexts.
3. ISE organizations had little expertise, experience, or incentive to engage the public in nano.
4. The ISE field had limited experience in developing and working within a national supportive network.

(Overview of NISE Network Evaluation Year 4 Summative Evaluation, 2009)

Central to our success in meeting these challenges have been:

- The scope of the project, including the breadth of involvement from funded staff and partners across the country and the 10-year span of the project, and
- The continued cycle of formative evaluation, partner feedback, reflection, and re-design at every level of our work.



WHO'S THE AUDIENCE?

Professional Audiences

NISE Net is made up of informal educators and research scientists at museums, colleges and universities, and other educational institutions.

We organize our partners around three levels of involvement with the following goals:

CORE PARTNERS

Increase the capacity of core partners to lead the field in raising public awareness, understanding, and engagement with nano.

NANO-INFUSED PARTNERS

Increase the capacity of these organizations to deliver nano education experiences as an ongoing, sustainable part of their programming.

BROAD REACH PARTNERS

Introduce nano informal education to these organizations, such as through participation in NanoDays.



Public Audiences

NISE Net reaches public audiences through the efforts of our partner organizations. Our primary audiences include families, school groups, and other visitors to science centers and children's museums. We also serve a range of other audiences, including teachers and students from primary grades through college.

