

# The Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network

## Become a NISE Net Research Partner

### Why Partner with Museums?

Nano will affect our economy, environment, and our personal lives. But the costs, risks, and benefits can all be difficult to understand. Informal Science Education (ISE)—like that in museums—is a way for scientists to reach broader audiences in a variety of fun and effective ways. The better nano research and its implications for society is understood, the better the general public, the business community, and governments can make responsible decisions about funding, investment, and regulation.

The NISE Network works directly with nanoscale and materials science researchers

to help build successful education outreach partnerships with science museums. Museums gain content experts and valuable programming resources. For scientists, these partnerships help achieve “broader impacts” requirements and greater visibility. Museums are creative learning spaces, trusted by the public, and can help provide a bridge between the research lab and everyday life.

**“The combination of research expertise and outreach expertise is powerful, and it’s amplified through the museums connections to other museums nationwide.”**

—Tom Mallouk, Penn State



### NISE Net RISE Partnership Initiative

The Research Center Informal Science Education (RISE) partnership initiative of NISE Net provides professional development, consulting, and resources for collaborations, and also develops training

tools in communication and public engagement for early career researchers. RISE partnerships leverage the content expertise of research centers with the engagement expertise of ISE partners

to create a broad menu of programs, products, and experiences that can be further shared throughout the NISE Network.

→ [www.nisenet.org/riase](http://www.nisenet.org/riase)

### How to Join the NISE Network

Strong regional and national partnerships are the foundation of the NISE Network. Research institutions, museums, informal science organizations, and others who are interested in communicating with the public about nanoscale science are welcomed and encouraged to join.

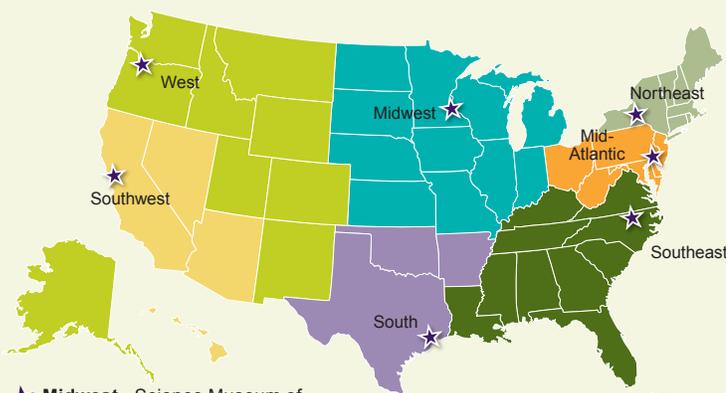
The NISE Network community in the United States is led by 14 organizations, and includes hundreds of museums and universities nationwide.

NISE Net is organized geographically around seven regional hubs and an international group. Hub leaders facilitate participation in network activities, help connect scientists and museums, host regional meetings, and provide additional support to partners in their region.

→ Contact your regional hub:  
[www.nisenet.org/community](http://www.nisenet.org/community)

→ Join the network and sign up for our newsletter: [www.nisenet.org](http://www.nisenet.org)

### NISE Network regional hubs



- ★ **Midwest** - Science Museum of Minnesota, *St. Paul, MN*
- ★ **South** - Children’s Museum of Houston, *Houston, TX*
- ★ **Mid-Atlantic** - Franklin Institute, *Philadelphia, PA*
- ★ **Northeast** - Sciencenter, *Ithaca, NY*
- ★ **Southeast** - Museum of Life and Science, *Durham, NC*
- ★ **West** - Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, *Portland, OR*
- ★ **Southwest** - Lawrence Hall of Science, *Berkeley, CA*

# NISE Network Resources and Events



Presentation

## Catalog of Educational Products

The NISE Net has built a catalog of educational products to raise public awareness, understanding, and engagement with nanoscale science, engineering, and technology. The catalog includes a wide range of programs, activities, forums, exhibits, and media to meet different educational needs. The Network offers a variety of training materials, tools, and guides to support educators and scientists in their efforts to engage the public.

→ Browse the catalog: [www.nisenet.org/catalog](http://www.nisenet.org/catalog)

## Professional Development for Scientists

Training materials, guides, and templates are available in the Tools & Guides section of our online catalog. The Network also hosts in-person trainings, pre-conference workshops, online workshops, and more.

- **Mastering Science and Public Presentations:**

*A seminar on science communication skills*

- **Bringing Nano to the Public:** *publication on collaborative opportunities for researchers and museums*

→ Browse Tools & Guides: [www.nisenet.org/catalog](http://www.nisenet.org/catalog)



Graduate student at NanoDays



**NanoDays** is a nationwide, weeklong, annual festival that engages people of all ages in nanoscale science, technology, and engineering. NanoDays events are organized locally by NISE Network partners and take place at over 300 science museums and universities, from Puerto Rico to Alaska. NanoDays events include hands-on activities, demonstrations, lectures, juggling shows, and more! NanoDays is an excellent opportunity for scientists and college students to volunteer at local public events.

→ Learn more about NanoDays: [www.nisenet.org/nanodays](http://www.nisenet.org/nanodays)



Demonstrations and experiments

## What is the NISE Network?

The Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Net) is a national community of researchers and informal science educators dedicated to fostering public awareness, engagement, and understanding of nanoscale

science, engineering, and technology (Nano).

NISE Net was launched in 2005 with funding from the National Science Foundation, and received a five-year renewal in 2010.