



# Nano Mini-Exhibition Application Overview



December 22, 2011

With support from the National Science Foundation, the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Network) has developed *Nano*, an engaging and interactive mini-exhibition about nanoscale science, engineering, and technology for family audiences. Hands-on exhibits present the basics of nanoscience and engineering, introduce some real world applications, and explore the societal and ethical implications of this new technology.

The *Nano* exhibition is intended for long-term display in museums across the United States, where it will engage millions of people. Up to fifty copies of *Nano* will be fabricated; all copies will be identical and distributed to museum partners free of charge. The exhibition complements NanoDays events and other NISE Network educational experiences. The mini-exhibition serves as a platform for museum staff and volunteers to engage visitors with additional facilitated educational programming and experiences.

More information about the mini-exhibition is available including host resources, photos, and video walkthrough:

[http://www.nisenet.org/catalog/exhibits/nano\\_mini-exhibition](http://www.nisenet.org/catalog/exhibits/nano_mini-exhibition)

Institutions who apply for *Nano* will need to meet eligibility requirements and comply with display and ownership commitments to be considered as a potential owning institution. We anticipate this to be a competitive application and award process.

Applications are due **March 1, 2012**.

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## ELIGIBILITY

- The mini-exhibition is designed for NISE Network partner museums located within the United States and U.S. territories; institutions located outside the United States are not eligible.
  - K-12 schools are not eligible.
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## REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed to ensure the mini-exhibition engages a broad spectrum of the public. Preference will be given to those applicants who can demonstrate their ability to meet the following criteria:

- **Display and Ownership:** Capacity of the applicant to publicly display and maintain the mini-exhibition in accordance with the display and ownership commitments.
- **Length of Display:** Applicants must commit to host the mini-exhibition for a minimum of one year. Preference will be given to applicants who plan to keep the mini-exhibition on display beyond the required one-year display period.
- **Public Engagement:** Ability of the applicant to articulate clear plans for using the mini-exhibition to engage the public, including any additional educational programming offered in conjunction with the exhibition.
- **Audiences:** Special consideration will be given to ensuring the mini-exhibition reaches a wide geographic distribution within the United States, as well as traditionally underserved and underrepresented audiences.
- **Relationship of the applicant with the NISE Network:** Preference will be given to applicants who are active members of the NISE Network.
- **Participation in annual NanoDays events:** Preference will be given to applicants who have participated and reported on NanoDays events.

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## SHARING

The NISE Network has heard from some of its partners that there is a desire to share a copy of the mini-exhibition among an existing group of collaborators or among two or more museums within a geographic region. This allows museums that may not have the capacity for long-term display to still be able to host the mini-exhibition for a more limited time. Space is included in the online application to describe a proposed plan for sharing and to list individual organizations.

Please note that if the application is successful, the primary organization completing the application will become the “owning” institution and will sign the ownership agreement.

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## APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

The mini-exhibition application is an online-only process. Please note that it is NOT possible to save your work in the SurveyGizmo online form and return for additional edits. We are attaching a PDF of the online application for reference at the end of this document. Applications left idle for too long in SurveyGizmo will go blank when you progress to the next screen. Please plan to complete the online application in one session. We strongly suggest that you write your essay questions in a Word doc, save, and then cut and paste into the online application.

The application may be accessed following this link:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/742910/NISE-Network-Nano-Mini-Exhibition-Application>

| <u>Date</u>     | <u>Milestone</u>   |
|-----------------|--|
| January 1, 2012 | NISE Network <i>Nano</i> mini-exhibition application announcement released   |
| March 1, 2012   | Applications due (Applications must be submitted online via SurveyGizmo)   |
| March 2012      | NISE Network reviews submitted applications  |
| April 2012      | NISE Network contacts applicants regarding decisions   |
| April 2012      | NISE Network works with successful applicants to finalize contracts  |
| April-Dec 2012  | NISE Network delivers exhibition to successful applicants (mini-exhibitions will be fabricated on a rolling schedule during this period) |

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## DISPLAY AND OWNERSHIP COMMITMENT

- Ownership by host museums will commence upon the day the exhibition is received.
- Host museums will commit to display the mini-exhibition in its entirety for a minimum of one (1) year.
- The one (1) year required display period does not have to be contiguous; however, the exhibition must be on display for a minimum of twelve (12) months within the first twenty-four (24) months of ownership.
- If circumstances change and a host is unable to display the exhibition, host must immediately notify NISE Net Mini-Exhibition contact.
- After meeting the one-year display commitment, host may keep the exhibition on display as long as host deems appropriate.

### During the 1 year required display period:

- Host museums shall be responsible for all repairs, routine care, maintenance and replacements of consumable supplies.
- Host museums may modify some portions of the exhibit(s) to meet the needs of their museum floor. For example, hosts may make repairs with non-specified parts, and may add an exhibit component, additional signage, or a multimedia component.

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## DISPLAY AND OWNERSHIP COMMITMENT *continued*

### **After the 1 year required display period is met:**

- Host museums may keep the exhibition and continue to use the exhibit(s) at their institution as they see fit.
- Host museums may choose to use or modify the exhibit(s) and components for another purpose, at their own institution.
- Host museums may lend exhibition to another suitable institution of the host museum's choosing for display to the public; the host may not tour the exhibition for a fee; host museums may charge a transportation fee to transport the exhibition to another institution. *The NISE Network may be able to offer suggestions of possible locations interested in borrowing the exhibition.*
- Host museum may give exhibition to another suitable institution of the host's choosing for display to the public. *The NISE Network may be able to offer suggestions of possible locations interested in owning the exhibition.*

In any event, host museums will notify the NISE Net Mini-Exhibition contact of its intention for use beyond the one (1) year required display period at least four months prior to the end of the one (1) year display period.

### **Restrictions:**

- Host museums will not remove any credit graphics on the *Nano* mini-exhibition.
- Host museums may not charge a separate additional admission fee or "up-charge" in addition to their regular museum admission to allow visitors to visit the exhibition.
- Host museums may not sell exhibition for a fee (with the exception of transportation costs).
- Host museums may not charge a rental fee to travel the exhibition (with the exception of transportation costs).
- If the host museum gives away the exhibition to another institution, the host museum is responsible for ensuring that all restrictions listed above will transfer along with ownership of the mini-exhibition.

### **Maintenance and Repair**

- Host museum is responsible for maintenance and repair of the exhibition while on display.
- A duplicate set of spare/loose parts will be provided; these consist of building pucks and rods for the "Build a Giant Carbon Nanotube" exhibit and blocks for the "Balance our Nano Future" exhibit.
- A technical support manual for the mini-exhibition will be provided
- Ongoing technical support, maintenance and additional spare/loose parts will not be provided for the mini-exhibition.

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## DISPLAY AND OWNERSHIP COMMITMENT *continued*

### Shipping

- The NISE Network will deliver the mini-exhibition to the owning host museum at no charge to the owning museum. The mini-exhibition will be shipped on pallets.

### Set-up and Installation

- Set-up and installation instructions will be provided.
- Host museum is responsible for actual installation.

### Reporting Requirements:

Host museums will be required to submit annual online reports (provided by the NISE Network) for up to four years upon receiving the exhibition to share their experiences of how they used or modified these products with the rest of the NISE Network. The report will include:

- a short narrative of how the exhibition was used
- the estimated number of visitor to the exhibition
- any modifications made to the exhibition

### Publicity, Credit and Sponsorship

Host museums will be responsible for all publicity, promotion and advertising relating to the display of the exhibition at their site. Whenever possible and where appropriate, credit should be given to the NISE Network and to the exhibition funder, the National Science Foundation (NSF); example text *“This exhibition was created by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE). This project was supported by the National Science Foundation under Award Nos. 05322536 and 0940143.”* Appropriate credit is included on the exhibition signage.

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## QUESTIONS

For general advice about the process, further questions, please contact your NISE Net regional hub leader: [www.nisenet.org/community](http://www.nisenet.org/community)

More information about the mini-exhibition is available including host resources, photos, and video walkthrough:

[http://www.nisenet.org/catalog/exhibits/nano\\_mini-exhibition](http://www.nisenet.org/catalog/exhibits/nano_mini-exhibition)

For any technical difficulties with the online Survey Gizmo application, please contact Catherine McCarthy, Science Museum of Minnesota, [cmccarthy@smm.org](mailto:cmccarthy@smm.org) or Christina Akers, Science Museum of Minnesota, [cakers@smm.org](mailto:cakers@smm.org)

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## NISE Network Mini-Exhibition Application

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**Instructions:** Please fill out this application to be considered to receive the NISE Network *Nano* mini-exhibition.

**Applications are due: March 1, 2012.**

Please note that it is NOT possible to save your work in the SurveyGizmo online form and return for additional edits. Applications left idle for too long will go blank when you progress to the next screen. Please plan to complete the online application in one session. We strongly suggest that you write your essay questions in a Word doc, save, and then cut and paste to this application. For more information, selection criteria and a PDF preview of the application, please see the ***Nano Mini-Exhibition Application Overview***.

If your application is successful, the applying organization will be required to complete an agreement with the Science Museum of Minnesota which includes display and ownership requirements described in the ***Nano Mini-Exhibition Application Overview***. The applying organization will become the "owning" institution and will sign the ownership agreement.

### 1. Contact Information:

**First Name**

**Last Name**

**Job Title**

**Institution**

**Address 1**

**Address 2**

**City/Town**

**State**

**Zip**

**Email Address**

**Institution Website**

**Phone Number**

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## Background organization information

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### 2. Average annual visitor attendance (#) at your organization:

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### 3. Annual operating budget of your museum or organization:

- under \$250,000
- \$250,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,000 - \$1 million
- \$1 - \$2.5 million
- \$2.5 - \$6.5 million
- over \$6.5 million

Comment about annual operating budget (if needed)

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### 4. Legal name of your organization (for ownership agreement purposes):

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### 5. Name of person authorized to sign legal agreements on behalf of your organization:

First Name

Last Name

Title

Email

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### 6. Name of person to be listed as primary contact in ownership agreement:

First Name

Last Name

Title

Email

Phone Number

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## Description of Plans

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### 7. Describe your overall plans for hosting and displaying the mini-exhibition:

Include why your organization wants the mini-exhibition and how it will benefit your audience.

### 8. Minimum Display Commitment:

Do you agree to publicly display and maintain the mini-exhibition in its entirety for a minimum of one year?

Yes  No

### 9. Longer Display Commitment:

Preference will be given to applicants who commit to display and maintain the exhibition longer than one year.

Do you plan to display the mini-exhibition to the public beyond the one-year minimum display requirement? If so, please describe in your overall plans below.

No

Yes (please describe length of time)

### 10. Audience:

Please describe the audience you plan to reach with the mini-exhibition. The NISE Network intends the mini-exhibition to reach a wide geographic distribution within the United States, as well as traditionally underserved and underrepresented audiences.

*If you are planning to share the exhibition among multiple organizations, please include audiences for all the locations.*

### 11. Programming or Additional Educational Experiences:

Please describe any additional programming or educational experiences you plan to offer in conjunction with the mini-exhibition. For facilitated experiences, please indicate how often you expect them to be available to the public. If you are collaborating with local scientists to offer programming, please describe.

*If you are planning to share the exhibition among multiple organizations, please include plans for all the locations.*





## Sharing among Multiple Organizations

### 12. Sharing of mini-exhibition:

If you are planning to share the mini-exhibition with additional organizations at different locations, please describe how you plan to do this and include a general timeline. Then list the organizations below.

*If you are not planning to share the mini-exhibition among different organizations, please write "N/A"*

#### Organization #2

Organization Name

City

State

Average Annual Visitor Attendance (#)

#### Organization #3

Organization Name

City

State

Average Annual Visitor Attendance (#)

#### Organization #4

Organization Name

City

State

Average Annual Visitor Attendance (#)

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Submit

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Thank you!

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Thank you!

Your application for the *Nano* mini-exhibition is now complete. You will be contacted by a NISE Network representative if there are additional questions about your application.

You can expect to hear via email about the status of your request in April 2012.

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