

ATLANTA SCIENCE FESTIVAL™

Meet Our Co-Founders

Meisa Salaita

Meisa Salaita has made it her mission to help others see and appreciate the beauty of science by making it a part of everyday cultural experiences. After getting her Ph.D. in chemistry from Northwestern in 2006, Salaita spent a few years teaching both chemistry and sculpture at the high school level. Following time in the classroom, she began to explore the intersection of science and art through a different type of teaching – to the public. After working at a National Science Foundation and NASA funded center doing public science outreach, Salaita co-founded and currently still co-directs the Atlanta Science Festival. Outside of her work with the Festival, Salaita undertakes other science communication projects. She is a contributing science writer for HowStuffWorks.com, has spent time producing and reporting science stories for the radio, and has hosted a science educational video series for middle schoolers. Salaita was recently named by **Atlanta Magazine** as one of twelve *Women Making a Mark* in Atlanta.

Jordan Rose

Jordan Rose is a creative, lifelong learner with a passion for promoting science literacy and building community partnerships. As the Executive Director for the Georgia BioEd Institute, his mission is to grow Georgia's leadership in life science innovation, specifically through workforce, entrepreneurship and education initiatives. Previously, Rose served as Associate Director for Outreach at the Emory College Center for Science Education, where he led numerous grant-funded initiatives to support K-12 teachers and students and facilitate university-community partnerships. Additionally, he has managed educational outreach programs for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, and Emory University's PRISM, an NSF Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education program. Rose received a Bachelor of Science degree in neuroscience and a Master's degree in Public Health from Emory University. Along with Salaita, Rose co-founded and co-directs the annual Atlanta Science Festival.