For Immediate Release:

Contact: Jon Waterhouse | Lenz, Inc. 678.770.9561 | iwaterhouse@lenzmarketing.com



Atlanta Science Festival spotlights diverse voices throughout 2022 edition

February 28, 2022 (Atlanta) — Atlanta Science Festival (ASF), the city's premier celebration of all things science, returns March 12-26. Among more than 100 events are many spotlighting diverse voices in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

"A big component of ASF's mission is to celebrate diversity," says Meisa Salaita, co-founder and co-executive director of Science ATL, the engineers of Atlanta Science Festival. "We want to show the next generation that anyone can be a scientist – no matter what you look like or where you come from. We take great pride in making sure we have diverse representation throughout our Festival events."

Many Atlanta Science Festival events feature STEM professionals from groups underrepresented in STEM (including women, Black/African American, Latinx), such as:

Salamander Stroll

Come on out to Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve in Decatur and witness wildlife with regional experts from the Amphibian Foundation. Become "citizen scientists" and perform an amphibian "bioblitz" inventory of the preserve documenting salamanders and frogs in one of the greatest strongholds for amphibians inside of the perimeter! Everyone and their families are encouraged to attend and bring their cell phones to upload images of what we find to iNaturalist.

Date/Time: 10 a.m. March 12

Cost: Free

Location: Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve, 2580 Pine Bluff Drive, Decatur.

Women In STEM: Learning from Monumental Leaders

If statues could speak, what would they say? Find out at this interactive online panel discussion, featuring successful women in various STEM careers from across the U.S. who all share one thing in common – they were featured in the largest display of female statues in the world through the IfThenSheCan Exhibit. These phenomenal women will be covering topics like the plethora of opportunities in STEM, how to prepare for these types of careers, the importance of the female perspective in STEM, strategies to succeed in environments where you may be "the only one", and many more – through an interactive virtual game. Don't miss the opportunity to hear from these prominent STEM pioneers!

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. March 15 **Cost:** Free with registration

Location: Virtual

Tech Talks: Unique and Diverse Perspectives in Science

Join us for an enlightening evening as we share with you inspiring talks and stories from Georgia Tech's diverse research community. Students and faculty from STEM departments

across the university will bring their perspectives about their science journey, share what they hope to do to improve their fields, and how that will impact lives. Following each talk, you'll have the chance to ask questions and speak directly to each researcher.

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. March 17 **Cost:** Free with registration

Location: Coda Building of Georgia Tech, 756 W. Peachtree St. N.W., Atlanta

Latino College & STEM Fair

We invite you to our 10th Annual Latino College and STEM Fair! Join us online for bilingual workshops, and inspirational conversations with Latino college students, parents, professors, and other STEM professionals. Various prizes and raffles for attendees. Hands-on STEM workshops will be available for schools and community organizations. This will be a free, fun, educational, and exciting event organized by Georgia Tech's GoSTEM program in partnership with HoPe (Hispanic Organization Promoting Education).

Time/Date: 9 a.m. March 19 **Cost:** Free with registration

Location: Virtual

Bugs & Bytes: Exploring Insect Farming as Food of the Future!

We'll take a walk through our insect farm to learn more about the habitat of the Darkling Beetle, explore the different stages of its lifecycle, and learn more about what it eats. You'll have an opportunity to touch and feel the insects, plus taste sweet treats made with grub powder...YUM! Bug Swag Bags will be available filled with engaging science activities about bugs to keep the fun going at home!

Join us for our virtual scavenger hunt from March 13th through the 18th, where you will get daily tips leading up to the 19th! Feel free to bring your completed Scavenger Hunt cards for extra prizes.

Time/Date: 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 19

Cost: \$10

Location: 1016 Monroe Drive N.E., Atlanta

The Chemistry of Blues!

COVID has made a lot of us feel blue, but at this event, feeling blue is a good thing! We're diving into the chemistry of blue! Join us to experiment with chemical reactions that turn blue! You won't believe your eyes! As a bonus, many of the reactions will include common household products, so you will be able to repeat them at home!

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. March 22

Cost: Free with registration

Location: Georgia State University, Perimeter College Clarkston Campus, 555 North Indian

Creek Drive, Clarkston

"These and other events give us the opportunity to not only showcase the role diverse voices play in science, but to inspire the diverse thought leaders of tomorrow," Salaita explains.

For additional press releases, a full schedule, updates, photos, and more, visit the Press Room at: AtlantaScienceFestival.org/press-room.

Interviews are available upon request.

About the Atlanta Science Festival

In its ninth year, the Atlanta Science Festival is a two-week celebration of science and technology. Taking place March 12-26, 2022, it will feature more than 100 interactive in-person and virtual events. Kids and adults alike can dive into a range of topics from coding and astronomy to nature walks and science/art mashups. The Atlanta Science Festival is engineered by Science ATL and 50+ community partners, with major support from founders Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber, and sponsors Delta, UPS, International Paper, NCR Foundation, and others. To learn more, visit <u>AtlantaScienceFestival.org</u>.

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