

Sciencenter Connection: Sciencenter Presents NanoDays on Saturday



Teresa Bell

The Sciencenter is making a big deal about the smallest science! Join us for NanoDays from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. You'll explore nanoscale science and technology with more than 30 hands-on activities, family-friendly presentations, and the Nano exhibition. Admission to the Sciencenter is free all day for NanoDays, sponsored by BorgWarner, Inc.

The range of exciting NanoDays programs will demonstrate the special and unexpected properties found at the super tiny nanoscale, examine tools used by nanoscientists, showcase nano materials of particular promise, and invite discussion of technology and society.

You'll investigate super-thin, flexible solar cells; encounter forces stronger than gravity; and imagine what society might be like if we all wore invisibility cloaks! Other activities include using electricity to make a nickel coin look like a penny, and generating electricity in special materials using movement. Hands-on activities will be offered throughout the museum, delivered by Sciencenter staff, volunteers, and researchers from Cornell University (including the Cornell Center for Materials Research; the Cornell Institute for Biology Teachers; the Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-based Sciences and Education; and the Cornell NanoScale Science & Technology Facility).

At noon, toddlers, preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to hear a reading of Dr. Seuss's "Horton Hears a Who!", make a pair of elephant ears, and experiment with identifying different smells.

A special Showtime! presentation at 2 pm, "A Different Kind of Gas" given by Paul Mutolo of the Energy Materials Center at Cornell, invites guests to discover how fuel cells may one day replace the engine in cars and buses to generate clean, efficient energy.

NanoDays at the Sciencenter is part of an annual, nationwide festival of educational programs about nanoscale science and engineering. NanoDays is organized by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Net). Right here in Ithaca, the Sciencenter develops the primary set of educational activities used by hundreds of organizations annually around the country. Each spring, visitors to NanoDays in Ithaca get to preview and try out activities that will become part of the national NanoDays events the following year.

Check out our complete calendar of events and plan your visit at www.sciencenter.org, call 607-272-0600. Sciencenter hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$6 for children 3-17 years, and free to members and toddlers 0-2 years.

The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail.

Teresa Bell is the Public and Media Relations Manager at the Sciencenter.

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