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THE 2017 PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FESTIVAL EXPANDS ACROSS NEW JERSEY

Be a Paleontologist at Edelman Fossil Park
Stargaze from the Battleship New Jersey
Visit the Space Station through VR at Rowan College
MOST EVENTS ARE FREE! April 21-29

PHILADELPHIA, April 12, 2017—From doctors to drones, forensics to fossils, surgery to stargazing—the 2017 Philadelphia Science Festival, organized by The Franklin Institute and presented by The Dow Chemical Company, offers a bounty of interactive and unique activities that highlight the importance of science in our everyday lives. Again this year, Festival events extend beyond Philadelphia and into regions of southern New Jersey. Several local organizations and science institutions will host major FREE Festival events on Sunday, April 23 including *Be a Paleontologist at Edelman Fossil Park*, *Science Slam at Rowan College*, and *Family Science Sunday at Rowan University*. Also, Rowan University, Rowan College at Burlington County, Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial, and Timber Creek Dog Park are four of the nearly 30 locations throughout the greater Philadelphia area featuring primetime stargazing at the Festival’s uber-popular *Citywide Star Party* on Friday, April 28.

At each location guests of all ages can participate in and be inspired by a variety of STEM-focused activities, experiments, and demonstrations while learning from local experts and scientists from across the greater Philadelphia area. New this year, Be a Scientist invites attendees into the labs of some of the most highly regarded paleontologists, marine biologists, ecologists, and more as the region’s premiere research institutions, hospitals, universities, and museums open their doors to the public for one day only. The New Jersey location for Be a Scientist takes place at Rowan University’s Edelman Fossil Park, where guests can *Be a Paleontologist* and dig alongside real scientists for 65-million-year-old fossils, and maybe even take one home. The Edelman Fossil Park is not yet open to the public for regular tours, making this a truly unique opportunity for scientific discovery through the Philadelphia Science Festival.

The 2017 Philadelphia Science Festival features over 200 partners with more than 80 events over nine days with dozens of family-friendly interactive programs, plus several events for adults 21+ across the greater Philadelphia area, all culminating across the river in a massive free Science Carnival at Penn’s Landing on Saturday, April 29.

Highlights of the Festival events across New Jersey include:

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

[Be a Paleontologist!](#)

10:00am-12:00pm, FREE

Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University

Dig alongside real scientists for 65-million-year-old fossils; examine Late Cretaceous marine fossils found at this site, including fearsome mosasaurs, 25-foot crocodiles, and several species of shark and sea turtles; plus, talk with Rowan paleontologists about their research into the last days of the dinosaurs.

Science Slam at Rowan College at Burlington County

12:00pm-4:00pm, FREE

Visit the Mount Laurel campus to experience the space station via virtual reality, investigate a crime scene for evidence, learn about blood typing, gain a deeper understanding of what you eat, use mathematics and data to discover the evolution of measurements, test drone flying, robot fighting, and toy car racing.

Family Science Sunday at Rowan University

1:00pm-3:00pm, FREE

Explore the sciences of sport and body movement, learn which numbers always surround you, catch a planetarium show, gaze safely at the sun, visit the Virtual Reality Center, and participate in numerous hands-on science activities.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

FREE Citywide Star Party

7:30 pm | Various Locations

The Philadelphia Science Festival presents the largest simultaneous stargazing party in the region as local astronomers at 25+ sites provide a mesmerizing tour of the cosmos. Telescopes, binoculars, and hands-on activities are at each location.

- [Star Party at Rowan University](#) Edelman Planetarium Science Hall, Glassboro, NJ
- [Star Party at Rowan College at Burlington County](#) Mount Laurel, NJ
- [Star Party at Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial](#) Camden, NJ
- [Timber Creek Dog Park](#) Blackwood, NJ

A complete calendar of events is available online at www.philasciencefestival.org.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

High- resolution photos of the Philadelphia Science Festival:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/philasciencefestival/sets/72157636664207973/>

About the Philadelphia Science Festival

Established in 2011 by The Franklin Institute as one of the first of its kind in the country, the Philadelphia Science Festival is a nine-day celebration of science and technology in everyday places—parks, restaurants, bars, libraries, and museums. It aims to inspire not only the next generation of scientists and engineers but also create homegrown citizen scientists. More than 200 partners work together to produce the Festival, which was founded by The Franklin Institute and is presented by The Dow Chemical Company. To learn more, visit PhilaScienceFestival.org. #GetNerdyPHL April 21-29

About The Franklin Institute

Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania's most visited museum, it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on science education. For more information, visit www.fi.edu.

About Dow

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