

April 6-7, 2024



# El Paso Science Festival

Exhibits Guide



# 01 Your Exhibit is an Experience

## **Science is a way of thinking and a powerful way to explore the world**

Think of your exhibit as delivering a powerful experience for young minds and their families. Your exhibit will need a hook and be an experience worth remembering. For your hook, think of what will pique learners' interest, including things that move, things that make sound, or explore intriguing questions. After the interest is piqued, then provide the experience that teaches a science concept or skill that is interactive, fun, and leads to further questions.

People learn fundamentally by engaging actively with their senses: mostly by listening, by seeing, or touching. Creating an exhibit that engages all these learning modalities so it can reach the greatest number of people. Be sure your exhibit is appropriate for children of all ages. Some very young children attend, so set fragile objects out of reach. Think also about how your message will be different for a 4-year-old and a 16-year-old.

All exhibits should be targeted at a 8th grade science understanding or below. That is to say exhibits will designed for young children and should not overwhelm the audience with the science. However, all booths should be staffed with an expert and student guides in the fields, so the subject matter can be brought up a level if so engaged. That is, be ready to provide an engaging broad experience, yet that it can be scaled up for those who would like to delve into the deeper questions. Alternatively booths can show that the experience is geared to a particular grade level.

Check the exhibitor application and the FAQ for more information about workshops for exhibitors.

Prepare a handout that can be distributed to educators or learners who want to do more. Also, browse [howtosmile.org](http://howtosmile.org). Before the festival day, let your community know you'll be there by using the #... hashtag and linking to the El Paso Science Festival Facebook/Instagram page in your social media networks.

## 02 Your Exhibit is an Experience

### **Science is a way of thinking and a powerful way to engage in the world**

Science is a way of thinking and includes social sciences, the art of science, the science of arts, humanities based on data, business based on data, and much more. This is an opportunity to show our community the breadth and depth of the work we do in the El Paso Region.