



**MEDIA ALERT** | For Immediate Release  
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**SCIENCE CENTER'S CHEMFEST SHOWS HOW 'CHEMISTRY ROCKS'**  
***CHEMFEST CELEBRATES NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK***

**PITTSBURGH, Oct. 6, 2017** – To celebrate National Chemistry Week, and in partnership with the American Chemical Society, Carnegie Science Center is hosting ChemFest on Friday, Oct. 27, and Saturday, Oct. 28. This year's theme is "Chemistry Rocks." ChemFest is presented by Ashland.

The event runs from 10 am–3 pm on Friday and 10 am–4 pm on Saturday. ChemFest activities are included with general admission.

With dozens of hands-on activities for the whole family, this year's ChemFest will focus on geochemistry. ChemFest is a catalyst for fun and learning for both school groups and families and is intended to spark students' interest in the field of chemistry.

Activities include:

- Testing different varieties of rocks and minerals and rating their hardness using the Mohs Hardness Scale at the Carnegie STEM Girls activity table.
- Picking up a kit to grow your own salt-crystal snowflakes at the Bidwell table.
- Observing a periodic table demonstration from Robert Morris University, including demos on golf-ball density and containers with various materials to indicate the idea of "full."
- Getting gooey with a slime activity with NOVA Chemicals.
- Checking out a booth about bats, with fun takeaways from the Habitat Resource Council and presented by Bayer—Oct. 24 to 31 is National Bat Week!
- Being dazzled by the reaction created when Seton Hill University representatives mix Pop Rocks candy, different brands of pop, ice, and balloons.
- Watching PPG scientists demonstrate the function of silica in car tires by using rolling resistance.
- Participating in activities Friday only inside the MEET-U—Mobile Energy Training Unit—to learn about

energy production and consumption. This is offered through a partnership with Friends of Drake Well, Inc.

- Learning how dyes and pigments change color when exposed to UV light, making a UV-reactive bracelet, and finding out if your sunglasses really protect your eyes from UV rays.

- Exploring careers during a 45-minute presentation by Covestro engineer Paige Kassalen, offered at 10 a.m. and noon Friday only on the Science Stage. Walk-ins are welcome; first come, first served.

National Chemistry Week is an event of the American Chemical Society. ChemFest is sponsored by WISH 99.7 FM.

#### **About Carnegie Science Center**

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

#### **About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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