



Science Festival
Dubai

Call for
Papers

About the Science Festival Dubai:

Science Festival Dubai is the first of its kind in the city of Dubai. It is a GEMS Education event and is co-owned by Meydan IMAX. The festival is an attempt to engage the general public and the community at large in science by highlighting the wonder and awe associated with science. Many wonderful science-based events are already happening at the moment. But they are in isolated pockets. Science Festival Dubai aims to bring all these events together in one exciting series of events. We believe in making science fun and exciting. You don't have to be a scientist to love science.

The aims of the Science Festival Dubai are:

- To develop a sense of wonder about science.
- To bring culture into science and make science fun and exciting through music, dance, poetry, theatre, debates, conferences, movie screenings and science fiction writing.
- To bring science out of the narrow confines of classroom curriculum and academic circles and into mainstream culture.

About the science papers:

The purpose of the science papers is to give students and teachers of science an opportunity to present scientific ideas, theories, and outcomes of science experiments. The papers may also be about pedagogy and practice in science education.

We also hope to encourage science teachers to collaborate with more-able science students in presenting a paper (when and where this is possible)

(N.B. Papers endorsing pseudo-science will not be entertained. Please see appendix 1 for a checklist)

Audience:

The papers should target one of the following groups:

- Primary and Secondary School students
- College and University students
- Teachers and Adults involved in Science Education

Format:

The lectures will feature oral and poster presentations as well as interactive question sessions with the audience. Each Lecture will last 45 minutes (presentation followed by Q&A). English will be the working language for all printed material, presentations and discussions.

Topics

The following topics serve only as a guide. Submissions are welcome from other areas of science too.

- Astronomy
- Neuroscience
- Nanotechnology
- Research & Development
- Science Education: Pedagogy & Practice
- Sustainable development, Renewable Energies
- Current Trends in science

Submission Process

1. Submit a 2-page digest under the following headings:

Title

Author

Target Audience

Abstract

Theory

Method

Result

2. Once the paper has been accepted, the authors will be invited to submit their entire paper (5-6 pages) and present it at the Science Festival Dubai.
3. See appendix 2 for the format of the full-paper.

Deadline

5th January 2014

For more information

Email: info@scifestdubai.com

Appendix 1: How to spot bad science

TED has the following using checklist about pseudoscience:

- Has failed to convince many mainstream scientists of its truth
- Is not based on experiments that can be reproduced by others
- Contains experimental flaws or is based on data that does not convincingly corroborate the experimenter's theoretical claims
- Comes from overconfident fringe experts
- Uses over-simplified interpretations of legitimate studies and may combine with imprecise, spiritual or new age vocabulary, to form new, completely untested theories.
- Speaks dismissively of mainstream science

Some red flag areas of pseudoscience include

Astrology, Alchemy, Reiki, Numerology, Graphology, Palmistry

Appendix 2: Journal-style Format for Full Science Paper Submission

Title:

Author(s):

Abstract: (What you did – in a nutshell)

One paragraph, of 100-250 words, which summarizes the purpose, methods, results and conclusions of your paper.

Introduction: (What was the problem?)

Interesting Questions | Educational/Scientific Theory and Background | Context of your problem

Method: (How did you solve the problem?)

How did you answer the questions above? There should be enough information here to allow other scientists/educators to repeat your experiment.

Results/Impact: (What did you find out?)

Discussion: (What do your results mean?)

Interpretation of your results.

Acknowledgements: (Who helped you?)

References: (Whose work did you refer to?)

For more information, visit: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/biology/ug/research/paper.html>

Website: www.scifestdubai.com

Facebook: scifestdubai

Twitter: @scifestdubai #scifestdubai

IMAX® meydan

