

Dobrodošli
CROATIAN

herzlich willkommen
GERMAN

καλως ΗΡΘΑΤΕ
kalos IRTHATE
GREEK

Bienvenu(e)
FRENCH

Benvenuto(a)
ITALIAN

欢迎
Huānying
MANDARIN

Welcome
ENGLISH

स्वागत हे
svaagat he
HINDI

Bem-vinda
PORTUGUESE

Добро пожаловать
Dobro pozhalovat'
RUSSIAN

Witamy
POLISH

Bienvenido(a)
SPANISH

خوش آمدید
URDU

أهلا بك
ARABIC

ようこそ
Yokoso
JAPANESE



News from the **Connecticut Science Center**

Working Together: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access

How do we assure that science benefits all people? Do we reflect and embrace our diverse community? Are we doing enough to foster an inclusive environment for the staff and accessible experiences for all visitors who walk through our doors? These are questions the Connecticut Science Center Board of Trustees and Staff reflect on, and that inspire our daily work.

Guided by a robust Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (“DEIA”) strategic plan, a dedicated DEIA leader and an internal working group of employees from all backgrounds advise on internal training and resources, unintended workplace biases, and ways to enhance the visitor experience through culturally affirming policies, practices, and offerings. The Science Center’s public facing and exhibit gallery spaces as well as school and adult education programs will increasingly include multilingual content and cultural celebrations, informed by multicultural partners. Recent examples include the popular Black History Month themed STEM-in-a-Box, and an upcoming Dia de los Muertos installation planned in partnership with a local artist. Our team engages in “Conscious Conversations” sessions and fosters career paths at the Science Center for diverse teens from our summer program. We’re implementing multilingual marketing efforts and wayfinding signage, a fully ADA compliant website and gender-neutral bathroom signage. Visitors will see bilingual content in our Engineering Lab exhibition and in the Nassau Science Plaza gardens, and we’re presenting a series of Straight Talk programs where adults take on issues of race and equity in science, while we continue to champion women and girls in STEM. Sensory Friendly Days and assistive listening tools in our theater help our differently abled guests, while we break down financial barriers through the Science Center’s Access Membership program.

Our team believes a true DEIA strategy encompasses both cultural growth and tactical actions. This important work must authentically become part of our thinking and our way. It is a learning journey that is both challenging and deeply rewarding. ■



The Connecticut Science Center inspires lifelong learning through interactive and innovative experiences that explore our changing world through science.

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS:

November 6
1:30-3:30PM
This event is **FREE** to attend for Adults 18+

Science of MINDFULNESS

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
COPPER BEECH INSTITUTE
Mindfulness Practice. Compassionate Action.

FILM SCREENING - DECEMBER 9

CODED BIAS

A SHALINI KANTAYYA FILM

sundance SXSW 2020 OFFICIAL SELECTION OFFFILM FESTIVAL

Networking Reception: 4:30PM
Screening: 5:30PM
Director Talk: 7:00PM



Staff Spotlight: Celina "Celi" Velez

"The Science Center has many ways of inviting audiences to explore STEM with high school programs, monthly events, memberships, and more," said Celina Velez. Celina first joined the Connecticut Science Center team in the summer of 2018 as a member in our Teen Innovation program, creating new demonstrations for our visitors to enjoy. "The Teen Program helped me grow into the person that I am in many ways. I became more of a 'people person' and eventually built a rhythm to start a conversation, which helped me become less shy and be the brightest version of myself!" After graduating from the teen program in 2019, Celina's enthusiasm led her to join our team as a Birthday Party Host. Currently, Celina is actively sharing her passion for science, learning, and people as one of our Visitor Experience Specialists. "There are so many things I enjoy about working here- the amazing staff, seeing many different age dynamics enjoy our exhibits, helping ensure the guests have the best time, and teaching a thing or two to families about what they see on their trip." ■

Welcome New Trustees

The Connecticut Science Center is governed by a Board of Trustees that ensures the success of the Science Center as an organization and this Board is pleased to welcome two new Trustees. In a unanimous vote, elected to the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut Science Center are **Ajay Kumar, MD**, Executive Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer, Hartford HealthCare, and **Kwesi Quaye**, Principal, Fairview Capital Partners. Prior to his role as Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Kumar was Hartford HealthCare's Vice President of Medical Affairs for the Hartford Region, and served as Chairman of Hartford Hospital's Department of Medicine from October 2013 through December 2018. Prior to joining Fairview Capital, Mr. Quaye was an Investment Officer at the Cook County Pension Fund. We welcome their leadership as Trustees. ■



Ajay Kumar, MD



Kwesi Quaye



Connecticut
Science Center

Thank you for your support of
the Connecticut Science Center.

The Connecticut Science Center is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization.

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Cultural Calendar of Inclusive Opportunities

Connecticut Science Center staffer Amy Sailor's current role as the Director of DEIA is an evolution of her tenure during which time she has led important diversity efforts including the Women in Science and Access Member initiatives. Through a series of public programs Amy will continue to position the Science Center as an attuned community partner by engaging in vital conversations that examine the intersections of social justice and STEM. A recent Straight Talk program explored the contributions of Native American lives and ancestral practices to the fields of Science and medicine. Developed in partnership with the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center, the hybrid event featured leaders from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, including the Nation's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Setu Vora. ■



Special thanks to the support of Connecticut Humanities Council.