



The Best 10 Days of the Year!



The 2025 W. L. Gore & Associates
Keynote Lecture | Sept 19

**Indigenous Food
Systems Science**
with Mariah Gladstone

OVER 100 EVENTS - ALL FREE!

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2 Culinary storyteller and scientist Mariah Gladstone to kick off 2025 Flagstaff Festival of Science

BY KATHERINE S. O'DONNELL

The Flagstaff Festival of Science is proud to welcome Indigenous food educator, scientist and entrepreneur Mariah Gladstone as this year's W. L. Gore & Associates keynote speaker. Her presentation, which opens the 10-day celebration of STEM in northern Arizona, will explore the intersections of ecology, culture, land stewardship and culinary science — all through the lens of food.

Gladstone is the founder of IndigiKitchen, a nationally recognized platform that combines Indigenous foods, storytelling and education that inspires both Native and non-Native audiences. Trained as both an engineer and environmental scientist, she weaves her academic background with traditional ecological knowledge, offering a dynamic and accessible approach to science through cooking. Her message is clear: food is not only nourishment, but also a powerful way to connect people with land, community and science.

Born and raised on the Blackfeet Reservation and the surrounding region in Montana, Gladstone brings a unique perspective rooted in lived experience. Her work combines research with deep community engagement, sharing knowledge in ways that are both practical and transformative. As she explains, "Indigenous cultures have been conducting empirical studies for generations. It's just time we start recognizing that."

Her keynote, "Indigenous Food Systems Science," will offer stories about traditional foods, land management practices and how Indigenous science thrives in natural landscapes, including those of northern Arizona.

"I want people to walk out of the auditorium, look at the plants around them, and see food, medicine and a living scientific relationship," she says. "This re-

gion is so abundant in plant diversity."

Whether she's experimenting with sumac-infused lemon squares, teaching about the nutrient transformation of nixtamalized corn or documenting the dehydration of puffball mushrooms, Gladstone continues to use food as a pathway into broader conversations.

"I use food as the vehicle," she says, "and once people are at the table, we can talk about ecology, nutrition, land management and cultural resilience."

Gladstone will highlight stories of traditional planting methods, wild food cultivation and the scientific knowledge passed through generations. While some may attend for the recipes, her message runs deeper.

"Cooking is a form of experimentation," she says. "I try something, it fails, I try again. That's science in action. When we bring in ancestral ingredients and land-based knowledge, we're continuing the scientific legacy of Indigenous communities."

This blending of cultural preservation and scientific inquiry has made Gladstone a compelling voice across Indian Country and beyond. Through social media, she reaches tens of thousands with seasonal harvests, recipe development and her community-first approach. Her audience includes both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, many drawn in by her vibrant imagery, and staying for the lessons in history, ecology and nutrition.

"People remember stories," she explains. "They may not remember a percentage or a statistic, but they'll remember the story of how a plant was used, or how it grew in a particular place. That's what sticks. That's how we make science memorable and meaningful."

This year's keynote will also include a unique artistic element: a choreographed performance inspired by Indigenous food systems and culture.



Mariah Gladstone is the founder of IndigiKitchen, a nationally recognized platform that combines Indigenous foods, storytelling and education.

Gladstone has worked closely with the choreographer to curate a playlist of Indigenous songs.

"I love that this event is blending science, storytelling and art," she says. "It's an innovative way to share information and engage new audiences."

Gladstone's presentation promises to be a powerful start to this year's festival. "I'm excited to connect with people in Flagstaff," she says. "It's a region with such rich biodiversity and cultural heritage. I hope the stories I share inspire Native and non-Native audiences to look at their surroundings in a new way and start seeing the land as a living classroom."

"We are delighted to host Mariah Gladstone for this year's Festival Keynote," says Adam Marsh, President of the Board of Directors of Flagstaff Festival of Science. "Her passion and enthusiasm for education, the environment,

food and Indigenous perspectives aligns perfectly with the festival's work in our communities."

Mariah Gladstone will open the 36th annual Flagstaff Festival of Science with the W. L. Gore & Associates Keynote Presentation at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 19, at Northern Arizona University's Ardrey Memorial Auditorium.

The Festival runs from Sept. 19–28, 2025, offering 10 days of free, family-friendly events for all ages, including science talks, hands-on experiments, nature walks and stargazing under the renowned dark skies of northern Arizona.

Admission is free and all are welcome. The festival also offers the option to livestream the keynote. Visit the website for more details on how to register.

For a full schedule of events and more information, visit scifest.org.

Message from the President

BY ADAM MARSH

One of the most fundamental principles of science is repeatability — the idea that when a result can be consistently reproduced, it becomes a building block of knowledge. For 36 years, the Flagstaff Festival of Science has embodied this very principle, repeating and expanding its mission of bringing free, cutting-edge STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programming to northern Arizona. Each September, our community gathers to celebrate curiosity, innovation and discovery during what has become fondly known as the 10 Best Days of the Year.

This year, we are delighted to continue that tradition with our 2025 theme, Harvesting Knowledge. The festival will launch on Friday, Sept. 19, with an inspiring keynote presentation by Mariah Gladstone, an Indigenous chef and environmental scientist whose work bridges the gap between cultural tradition and modern sustainability. Her keynote will highlight the ways that food, land stewardship and environmental science intertwine, setting the stage for a festival that encourages us to think deeply about the resources we share, the stories we pass on and the future we are building together.

Over the course of 10 exciting days, audiences will be invited to explore more than 100 free events across the Flagstaff region. From family-friendly, hands-on experiences to thought-provoking lectures and immersive field trips, there is truly something for everyone. Each program reflects our commitment to making science not only accessible but also engaging and relevant to people of all ages and walks of life.

One of our most popular traditions, Science in the Park, will once again transform Flagstaff's Wheeler Park into a bustling hub of discovery. Families can meet scientists, engineers and students who will share interactive demonstrations, experiments and activities designed to spark imagination. Flagstaff, known as the world's first International Dark Sky City, provides a breathtaking backdrop for guided stargazing through telescopes, laser-led constellation tours



and twilight talks from local astronomers. These evenings remind us not only of the vastness of the universe but also of our place within it. For the adventurers, opportunities abound with volcanic field excursions, where geologists will lead hikes across northern Arizona's unique landscapes, explaining how past eruptions shaped the terrain we see today. And for those passionate about protecting our future, talks on water conservation, seed banks and climate resilience will provide practical tools and ideas to carry forward into daily life.

Just as science values replicability — the ability to take an experiment and repeat it in a new setting — we encourage our audiences to take what they learn and apply it in their own lives.

The Flagstaff Festival of Science is proud to remain entirely free and open to the public. We believe that science should never be limited by barriers of cost or access. That is why, for nearly four decades, volunteers, educators, community partners and sponsors have come together to make this celebration possible.

The festival has grown from a bold idea into a beloved northern Arizona tradition, inspiring tens of thousands of people along the way. Yet our mission remains constant: to ignite curiosity, foster learning and celebrate the wonders of science in all its forms.

We invite you to join us this September for another unforgettable season of discovery. Come explore, engage and celebrate the harvest of knowledge with us during the 10 Best Days of the Year. Together, let's learn, share and build a brighter future — for the next 36 years and beyond.

CULTIVATING curiosity



NAU is a proud sponsor of the Flagstaff Festival of Science



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Festival of Science 2025 Event Schedule

SEPT. 13

Harvest Festival at Colton Garden

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Colton Garden at the Museum of Northern Arizona

Celebrate the variety of food that is grown and harvested on the Colorado Plateau! Enjoy a pueblo oven demonstration, tea tastings and kids' activities.

SEPT. 19

Nourishment Through Movement Keynote Ballet

6:30 – 7 p.m. | NAU Ardrey Auditorium

An artistic interpretation of this year's Keynote Address with a powerful performance merging ballet with concepts of Indigenous land stewardship, health and sustainability. Reservations required.

W. L. Gore & Associates Keynote Presentation: Indigenous Food Systems Science

7 – 8:30 p.m. | NAU Ardrey Auditorium

The 2025 W. L. Gore & Associates Keynote Presentation: Indigenous Food Systems Science, features speaker Mariah Gladstone discussing time-tested sustainability, nutrition and ecology. Free to attend but reservations are required: scifest.org.

Campus Sky Viewing at the Barry Lutz Telescope

7:30 – 10 p.m. | The Barry Lutz Telescope at NAU

View planets, stars and nebulae through a campus telescope with astronomy guides.

SEPT. 20

Snook's Science in the Park

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Wheeler Park

50+ booths with interactive learning for the whole family! Bring a curious mind and leave with a new appreciation for science in Flagstaff!

Engineering Speed: Noticing and Wondering

12 – 1:30 p.m. | Flagstaff Downtown Library Community Room

Engineer a LEGO vehicle with the most speed! Materials will be provided to prototype, build and test your vehicle.

Restoration Soils Composting Facility Open House

12 – 3 p.m. | Restoration Soils

Explore a real composting facility in action! Learn why com-

posting is important for helping the planet, reducing waste and growing better plants.

Paint a Star Map!

1 – 3 p.m. | Creative Spirits

All ages are welcome at Creative Spirits' studio, where we provide all needed supplies for a project to paint a star map! Reservations required.

Harvesting Knowledge through Yoga: connecting breath, body and mind

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. | Yoga Six Flagstaff

Join an ALL-LEVELS full sensory yoga practice! Minimum age 14 yrs. Reservation required.

Tynkertopia Open House

3 – 5 p.m. | Tynkertopia

Learn how we invite curiosity, inspire wonder and encourage playfulness at Flagstaff's award-winning STEAM Community Center.

Mushroom Foraging 101

3 – 4 p.m. | Community Room, East

Flagstaff Community Library

A presentation about the roles of fungi in our lives, basic mushroom anatomy and identification of wild mushrooms.

Astrophotography at the BLT

7:30 – 10 p.m. | The Barry Lutz Telescope at NAU

Image faint objects like galaxies, globular star clusters and nebulae in great detail. Weather permitting.

Celestial Saturday @ Americana Motor Hotel

7:30 – 9 p.m. | Americana Motor Hotel

Dr. Danielle Adams will provide fascinating insights into the night sky, sharing her extensive knowledge of astronomy and the rich history behind the stars and constellations.

SEPT. 21

Tagging Monarch Butterflies on their Migration

8:30 – 10 a.m. | Bubbling Ponds Fish Hatchery, Cornville

Every September monarchs sweep through Arizona on their migration and you can learn to tag them. Reservations required.

Cinder Lake Crater Field Astronaut Training Grounds Hike

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Meeting Location Provided

After Reservation Made

Hike the historic Cinder Lake Crater Field, training site for

Apollo astronauts, and future astronauts. Reservation required.

Explore, Learn, Discover: Geocaching at Tynkertopia

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Tynkertopia

The whole family can experience geocaching — locating hidden treasure at specific latitude and longitude coordinates. Bring your smart phone! Reservation required.

Elden Pueblo Public Day

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Elden Pueblo

Discover ancient Sinagua culture through tours, artifacts, excavation demos and hunting games.

Guided tours of the U. S. Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station

10 – 11:30 a.m., 1 – 2:30 p.m., 4 – 5:30 p.m. |

US Naval Observatory

Staff guided small tours of the Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station. Learn our mission, see the historic 61-inch telescope which took the images leading to the discovery of the largest moon of Pluto. Reservations required.

Downtown Historic Walking Adventure

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Wheeler Park War Memorial

Visit historically significant spots around downtown Flagstaff by playing a cooperative adventure game. Reservation required.

The Science Behind Animal Shelters

12 – 2 p.m. | High Country Humane

Learn about the science behind shelters!

Living with Parkinson's: Speech, Cognition and Swallowing

12 – 1 p.m. | Festival Zoom Account

This session will provide an easy-to-understand overview of Parkinson's, along with helpful, research-based tips and tools for living with the condition. Zoom only presentation.

NAU Robotics Open House: Interact with and learn about robots!

1 – 3 p.m. | NAU LRC Building (Building 61) Room 106A

Attendees will have an opportunity to experience interactive demos with robotic exoskeletons, autonomous vehicles, robotic arms, motors and other robotics equipment. Reservations required.

Public Fruit Orchards: Celebrating Abundance

1 – 2 p.m. | Festival Zoom Account

Learn about the long term social and ecological benefits of public orchards. Zoom only presentation.

Restoring a Wetland in Kachina Village

1 – 3 p.m. | Harrenburg Wash Trailhead

Discover the inspiring story of Harrenburg Wash, now a vibrant wetland teeming with life, on this engaging walking tour. Reservations required.

Stories That Stay With Us: The Return of Navajo Boy at 25

1 – 3 p.m. | NAU Cline Library

Assembly Hall, Room 102

A powerful evening screening of "The Return of Navajo Boy," an award-winning documentary that ignited international awareness of uranium contamination on Navajo lands.

Ponderosa Pete Readalong

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. | Willow Bend

Environmental Education Center

Join Ponderosa Pete as he explores northern Arizona and learns about forest health! Reservations required.

Harvesting Rainwater

2 – 3 p.m. | Community Room, East Flagstaff Community Library

Discover methods for capturing and using rainwater through active and passive harvesting techniques. Reservations required.

Little Paleontologists' Fossil Fest

3 – 4 p.m. | Budding Minds Children's House

Little paleontologists will dig for hidden fossils, piece together dinosaur puzzles and carefully excavate dino eggs at our hands-on stations.

Improvised Science: Where Science Meets Comedy

5 – 6:30 p.m. | Beaver Street Theatre

Scientists share real stories, then comedians improvise hilarious scenes inspired by their research.

Tongue & Cheek: The Science of Flavor

7 – 7:50 p.m. | Beaver Street Theatre

A fun show exploring how your tongue, nose and brain work together to taste.

Campus Sky Viewing at the Barry Lutz Telescope

7:30 – 10 p.m. | The Barry Lutz Telescope at NAU

View planets, stars and nebulae through a campus telescope with astronomy guides.

SEPT. 22

Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant Guided Tour

10 – 11 a.m. | *Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant*
Discover the intricate biological processes involved in treating your household drinking water at the Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant! Reservations required.

Guided tours of the U. S. Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station

10 – 11:30 a.m., 1 – 2:30 p.m., 4 – 5:30 p.m. | *US Naval Observatory*
Staff guided small tours of the Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station. Learn our mission, see the historic 61-inch telescope which took the images leading to the discovery of the largest moon of Pluto. Reservations required.

Downtown Geology Tour

1 – 2 p.m. | *Meeting Location Provided After Reservation Made*
Explore downtown geology, architecture and history with geologist Daniel Foley on this guided walking tour. Reservation required.

For Birds, Just Add Water

4 – 6 p.m. | *Kachina Wetlands Entrance*
Take a stroll through Kachina Wetlands and learn how a formerly dry meadow became an important stopover for migratory birds. The 2-mile walk will end at dusk with a stunning view of the San Francisco Peaks at sunset. Reservation required.

Walk on Mars

4 – 5:30 p.m. | *Northland Preparatory Academy Gym*
Explorers of all ages can walk across a giant, gym-sized map of Mars to learn about the Red Planet!

Indigenous Foods, Community Seed Banks and Climate Resilience

5 – 6 p.m. | *NAU Center for Native American and Indigenous Futures*
This talk will include information about long-term seed distribution and how seed banks have supported community resilience in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene in Appalachia.

The Art of Inquiry – Art Meets Science Showcase

5 – 6:30 p.m. | *USGS Flagstaff Science Campus*
Experience a multimedia art showcase at the USGS Flagstaff Science Campus, featuring original art and performances from FALA students.

Beyond Conservation: Rewriting the Water Story of the Southwest

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *Beaver Street Theatre*
Public sociologist, Janine Schipper, invites us to rethink

our most basic assumptions and imagine new, more reciprocal relationships with water.

Navajo Food and Environmental Research Presentations

6 – 7 p.m. | *NAU Center for Native American and Indigenous Futures*
Discover groundbreaking scientific research exploring the intersection of Navajo traditions and environmental factors.

Exploring the Rhythm of the Seasons Using Time Lapse Digital Photography

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. | *NAU Department of Astronomy & Planetary Science, Room 232*
Learn how PhenoCam helps scientists understand changes in plants and nature over time. Reservation required.

Wisdom Carriers: Indigenous Wisdom on the Balance Between Humans and Nature

7 – 8:30 p.m. | *Beaver Street Theatre*
A Diné woman's story of learning to carry ancestral knowledge for community balance.

Buffalo Park Night Hike

8:30 – 9:30 p.m. | *Buffalo Park Entrance*
Explore Buffalo Park at night while discovering animal adaptations and desert nocturnal life.

SEPT. 23

Cloud Walk at Buffalo Park

10 – 10:45 a.m. | *Buffalo Park Entrance*
Walk with a weather expert and learn how clouds form and predict the weather. Reservations required.

Guided tours of the U. S. Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station

10 – 11:30 a.m., 1 – 2:30 p.m., 4 – 5:30 p.m. | *US Naval Observatory*
Staff guided small tours of the Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station. Learn our mission, see the historic 61-inch telescope which took the images leading to the discovery of the largest moon of Pluto. Reservations required.

Behind the Ballot: An Elections Center Experience

10 – 11 a.m. | *Coconino County Elections Center*
Join an exclusive tour of the Coconino County Elections Center to learn about ballot collection and election integrity! Reservations required.

Starlight Garden: Constellation Stories

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | *Community Room, East Flagstaff Community Library*

Explore the night sky through stories!

Cloud Walk at Buffalo Park

2 – 2:45 p.m. | *Buffalo Park Entrance*
Walk with a weather expert and learn how clouds form and predict the weather. Reservations required.

Pines to Pixels: Using LiDAR Technology for Forest Restoration

2 – 3 p.m. | *Fort Tuthill County Park*
Join the Ecological Restoration Institute as we conduct a scan with LiDAR equipment around Fort Tuthill. Reservations required.

Build-A-Bot Workshop

3:30 – 5 p.m. | *Tynkertopia*
Design and build a recycled robot using a wide variety of creative materials.

LEGO Tree Houses

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. | *Community Room, East Flagstaff Community Library*
In this hands-on workshop, kids will use LEGO bricks to design and build their own wild creations inspired by animals, plants, ecosystems and the great outdoors.

Harvesting New Knowledge from Old Spacecraft Data

4 – 5 p.m. | *Lowell Observatory Astronomy Discovery Center*
Harvesting old data from spacecraft missions of the 1960s has led to spectacular new images and scientific information.

Lowell Observatory Open House

4 – 8 p.m. | *Lowell Observatory Astronomy Discovery Center*
Enjoy immersive shows in the giant-screen Lowell Universe Theater, soak up stunning views from the rooftop and explore interactive exhibits for all ages that bring the Universe to life.

Fire Ecology Learning Lab: How Does Wildland Fire Work and Why Is It Important

3 – 4:30 p.m. | *Killip Elementary School*
Join us for a hands-on workshop where you'll explore what makes a fire burn and how wildfires behave in nature. Reservations required.

Fun to Learn: Caterpillars and Butterflies

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | *Willow Bend Environmental Education Center*
Arts, sciences and puppets collide at Willow Bend Environmental Education Center at an event for younger children.

Race Robots with the CocoNuts! 5

4:30 – 6 p.m. | *Lowell Observatory Astronomy Discovery Center*
Come build a robot out of LEGO and race it with the CocoNuts!

To Mars and Back: Rover Science Updates and the Future

5 – 6 p.m. | *Lowell Observatory*
Local Martians, Alicia Vaughan and Ryan Anderson, share the latest science updates from the Mars rovers.

Visit an Herbalist's Garden

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *Moore Medicinal Garden at the Museum of Northern Arizona*
Learn about some of the important wild plants of the Colorado Plateau and their uses on this guided tour of the Moore Medicinal Garden.

The Day the Dragon Rose: A Fire Weather Story

6 – 7 p.m. | *Lowell Observatory Astronomy Discovery Center*
This presentation explores the extreme fire weather that fueled the blaze—and how modern meteorological science and technology are helping us detect, forecast, and combat these increasingly destructive wildfires.

SEPT. 24

Guided Bird Walk

8 – 10 a.m. | *Red Rock State Park Visitor Center*
Bird enthusiasts will join a naturalist for a guided walk appropriate for beginner and advanced birders. Reservation required.

Historic Apple Packing Shed — Pendley Homestead

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | *Slide Rock State Park*
Come and learn the history of the Pendley family, and enjoy a demonstration of our apple polishing and sorting machine! Reservations required.

Busy Builders for Ages 3 & 4

9 – 10:30 a.m. | *Flagstaff Science Center at Moonshot*
Put on your hard hats because it's time to stack, stick and build together designed for little learners (ages 3–4)!

Apple Orchard Tour

9 – 10 a.m. | *Slide Rock State Park*
Learn all about the historic apple orchards at Slide Rock with a ranger-led hike! Reservation required.

Nature Walk

9 – 10:30 a.m. | *Red Rock State Park*
A naturalist will lead a guided nature walk informing visitors about the different life zones of Red Rock State Park. Reservation required.

6 STEM Poster Session

1 – 4 p.m. | *NAU Ashurst Auditorium*

Open to all STEM students, researchers and institutions. Bringing together STEM students and STEM professionals to interact, communicate, collaborate and share with the Flagstaff community.

Tagging Monarch Butterflies on their Migration

3:30 – 5 p.m. | *Bubbling Ponds Fish Hatchery, Cornville*

Every September monarchs sweep through Arizona on their migration and you can learn to tag them. Reservations required.

Behind the Ballot: An Elections Center Experience

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. | *Coconino County Elections Center*

Join an exclusive tour of the Coconino County Elections Center to learn about ballot collection and election integrity! Reservations required.

Build-A-Bot Workshop

3:30 – 5 p.m. | *Tynkertopia*

Design and build a recycled robot using a wide variety of creative materials.

Meet the Horse: All About Horses' Brains

4 – 5 p.m. | *Northern Arizona Riding Stables at Savi Ranch*

In this interactive demonstration, meet some horses up close, talk to a horse trainer and watch a riding demonstration. Reservations required via email: nars.susan@gmail.com

Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults Book Discussion

4 – 5 p.m. | *Community Room, East*

Flagstaff Community Library

A book discussion for young adults on how wider ecological understanding stems from listening to the earth's oldest teachers: the plants around us.

Beneath Bhutan: The First Glimpse at its Subterranean Animal Communities

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | *Community Room,*

Flagstaff Downtown Library

Learn about the ecological expedition and research study in the caves of Bhutan.

Cooking From Your Garden

5 – 6:30 p.m. | *Killip Elementary School*

Learn from an expert chef simple ways to cook with locally grown vegetables, along with helpful tips for growing them at home. Reservation required.

Braiding Sweetgrass Book Discussion

5 – 6 p.m. | *Community Room, East*

Flagstaff Community Library

A book discussion about the awakening of ecological consciousness and the acknowledgment of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.

Visit an Herbalist's Garden

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *Moore Medicinal Garden*

at the Museum of Northern Arizona

Learn about some of the important wild plants of the Colorado Plateau and their uses on this guided tour of the Moore Medicinal Garden.

Astronomy Night @ Tynkertopia

6:30 – 8 p.m. | *Tynkertopia*

A professional astronomer will be on-hand to operate the telescope, assist with activities and talk about space.

Buffalo Park Night Hike

8:30 – 9:30 p.m. | *Buffalo Park Entrance*

Explore Buffalo Park at night while discovering animal adaptations and desert nocturnal life.

SEPT. 25

Rio de Flag Water Reclamation Plant Guided Tour

2 – 3 p.m. | *Rio de Flag Water Reclamation Plant*

Learn about the biological processes behind Flagstaff's grade A+ reclaimed water. Reservations required.

Growing Fruit Trees from Seed

3 – 4 p.m. | *3565 N. Jamison Blvd. Flagstaff*

Learn how to propagate your own fruit trees using locally collected seeds.

Behind the Ballot: An Elections Center Experience

4 – 5 p.m. | *Coconino County Elections Center*

Join an exclusive tour of the Coconino County Elections Center to learn about ballot collection and election integrity! Reservations required.

Braiding Sweetgrass Book Discussion (Winslow)

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | *Winslow Public Library*

A book discussion about the awakening of ecological consciousness and the acknowledgment of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.

Following the Sun and Moon on a Petroglyph Calendar Panel

5 – 6 p.m. | *Community Room, East*

Flagstaff Community Library

This site has revealed shadow lines and light daggers interacting with certain petroglyph elements marking significant cultural events in the Hopi calendar.

Houston, We Have a Punchline: Space Blunders and Brilliance

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *NACET Accelerator*

Building, Conference Room

Entertaining presentation about infamous NASA mission mishaps — and the ingenuity that saved the day.

Women in STEAM Networking Event

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | *Coconino Center for the Arts*

Join us for an inspiring event that highlights the achievements and experiences of women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM).

Visit an Herbalist's Garden

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *Moore Medicinal Garden*

at the Museum of Northern Arizona

Learn about some of the important wild plants of the Colorado Plateau and their uses on this guided tour of the Moore Medicinal Garden.

Revisiting the Scopes Monkey Trial

6 – 7 p.m. | *Community Room, East*

Flagstaff Community Library

Explore the historic trial that debated evolution's place in public education.

Flagstaff Star Party

6 – 10 p.m. | *Buffalo Park*

Participants can take turns looking through powerful telescopes to get up-close views of planets, star clusters and distant galaxies.

Astronomy Night @ Tynkertopia

6:30 – 8 p.m. | *Tynkertopia*

A professional astronomer will be on-hand to operate the telescope, assist with activities and talk about space.

The Human Side of Science Through Storytelling

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | *Kitt Recital Hall*

An evening of personal science stories by Northern Arizona University graduate students and faculty.

The Incredible Story of Two Women Scientists Who Braved the Wild River

7:30 – 9 p.m. | *Coconino Center for the Arts*

Actors from the Flagstaff Shakespeare Festival will perform a dramatized scene from the book "Brave the Wild River," the author will read excerpts, followed by Q&A and discussion.

SEPT. 26

Explore More: A Day of Discovery

8 a.m. – 3 p.m. | *Flagstaff Science*

Center at Moonshot

An immersive dive into the wonders of science, as learners experience hand-on labs, science presentations and a tour of the USGS Astrogeology Science Center.

Behind the Ballot: An Elections Center Experience

2 – 3 p.m. | *Coconino County Elections Center*

Join an exclusive tour of the Coconino County Elections Center to learn about ballot collection and election integrity! Reservations required.

Supporting Science in Polar Regions

2 – 3 p.m. | *Community Room, East*

Flagstaff Community Library

A discussion about what goes on behind the scenes to help make scientific research happen in polar locations.

Field Notes: Edible Plants and Drawing

3 – 5:30 p.m. | *Picture Canyon Natural and*

Cultural Preserve (3920 N. El Paso Flagstaff Road)

Join Flagstaff Open Space for a guided walk through Picture Canyon to explore the traditional uses of native plant species and create field sketches. Bring your sketchpad. Reservation required.

How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? — An Edible Exploration!

3 – 4 p.m. | *Willow Bend Environmental Education Center*

Follow the journey of everyday foods from farm to table, exploring how our favorite lunchbox staples are grown, harvested and transformed into delicious bites!

Planting Solutions: Community Gardening for Food Security

3 – 6 p.m. | *Flagstaff Family Food*

Center Kitchen (1903 N. 2nd Street)

Explore a veggie-themed mural and see how garden harvests support local meals during a tour of the Flagstaff Family Food Center's vibrant community garden.

1816: The Year Without a Summer

5 – 5:45 p.m. | *USGS Flagstaff Science Campus*

Join USGS geologist, Danny Foley, and learn about natural cataclysmic Earth processes, like the 1815 eruption of Mount Tambora.

CCC Science Night

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | *CCC Lone Tree Campus*

Perform chemistry experiments, launch water rockets, play STEM games, examine rocks and fossils and use microscopes to observe insects and find microscopic organisms!

Navigating Two Worlds: Obstacles faced in STEAM

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | *CCC Lone Tree Campus*

Join a panel discussion where participants candidly share their experiences overcoming cultural and personal challenges while pursuing and establishing careers in STEAM fields.

Volcanism of Arizona

5:45 – 6:30 p.m. | *USGS Flagstaff Science Campus*
Join USGS geologist, Morgan Nasholds, and learn about Arizona's rich variety of volcanoes.

Flagstaff Star Party

6 – 10 p.m. | *Buffalo Park*
Participants will take turns looking through powerful telescopes to get up-close views of planets, star clusters and distant galaxies.

Making the Most of your Garden: Cooking Workshop

6 – 7 p.m. | *Flagstaff Family Food Center Kitchen (1903 N. 2nd Street)*
Join a local master gardener for a fun, hands-on workshop on turning your garden harvest into delicious creations. Reservations required.

SEPT. 27

Meteor Crater Neighbor Appreciation Day

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | *Meteor Crater*
Explore one of the world's best-preserved meteorite impact sites, take in the breathtaking views and experience a day filled with adventure, discovery, activities and fun for all ages. Make the most of your visit with a Full Rim Tour at 9 a.m. Reservations are required for the Full Rim Tour, but not the rest of the open house.

Lava River Cave Guided Hike

9 – 11 a.m. | *Lava River Cave Trailhead*
Guided hike into the Lava River Cave. Reservations required.

Harvest Festival

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | *Hal Jensen Community Garden*
This harvest festival will invite folks to explore the garden and have a focus on activities for kids and stations to learn about seed saving.

Explore the Science of Walnut Canyon

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | *Walnut Canyon National Monument Visitor Center*
Learn about Walnut Canyon's natural and cultural history.

Science Day at MNA Open House

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | *Museum of Northern Arizona*
Enjoy exploring hands-on science activities for all ages, many related to the Shifting Life Zones exhibition. The Arizona Science Center and Meteor Crater Education Alliance will also bring hands-on activities to share. This is a free museum day sponsored by APS.

2025 Sustainable Building and Garden Tour — Cultivating Resilience

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | *Willow Bend Environmental Education Center*
Embark on a self-guided, local, tour showcasing innovative buildings featuring sustainable practices.

Bison at Raymond Wildlife Area

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. | *Raymond Wildlife Area*
Learn about the vital role bison play in the ecosystem, their conservation journey and what is being done to protect them. Reservation required.

Tynkertopia MakerSpace Open House

12 – 4 p.m. | *Tynkertopia MakerSpace*
Explore state-of-the-art facilities featuring 3D printers, laser cutters, a fully equipped workshop and an inspiring art studio.

The Impact of Large Extinct Animals

1 – 2 p.m. | *Museum of Northern Arizona*
From towering dinosaurs to mighty Pleistocene megafauna, large animals have long influenced the balance and function of ecosystems.

NAU Discovery Fair

1 – 3 p.m. | *NAU North Campus*
Explore the wonders of science through interactive activities designed to spark imaginations of all ages.

All My Gardens are Wild: 30 years of Ethnobotany

3 – 4 p.m. | *Museum of Northern Arizona*
Herbalist Phyllis Hogan shares insights from her ethnobotanical work on the Colorado Plateau.

Base Builders: Moon & Mars Edition

4 – 5:30 p.m. | *Flagstaff Science Center at Moonshot*
Families become space engineers in this interactive, creative, scientific journey to humanity's next frontier.

Making STEM Digestible

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | *USGS Flagstaff Science Campus*
An expert panel will share tips and tools for making STEM more accessible and fun to understand.

Flagstaff Star Party

6 – 10 p.m. | *Buffalo Park*
Participants will take turns looking through powerful telescopes to get up-close views of planets, star clusters and distant galaxies.

Homolovi State Park Star Party

6 – 9 p.m. | *Homolovi State Park Visitor Center*
Telescope viewing through the Winslow Homolovi Observatory's Moore Telescope (Celestron 14" Schmidt-Cassegrain) and viewings of deep space nebulae, star clusters and more.

SEPT. 28

Historical Archaeology Tour of Apex, Arizona

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. | *Meeting Location Provided After Reservation Made*
Join NAU's Apex, Arizona Archaeology Project for a guided tour of a Depression-era logging camp along the Grand Canyon Railway. Takes place in Tusayan, Arizona; meeting place in Flagstaff. Reservations required.

Quenching the Wild: The Role of Wildlife Drinkers in Conservation

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | *Fort Tuthill County Park*
Explore how wildlife drinkers help sustain animal populations during dry seasons in the West. Reservations required.

Downtown Historic Walking Adventure

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | *Wheeler Park War Memorial*
Visit historically significant spots around downtown Flagstaff by playing a cooperative adventure game. Reservation required.

Meet the Herd and the Hump!

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. | *Peaks View County Park*
4-H youth will introduce their animals, share what it is like to care for them and explain how they're raised.

Learning from Lobos: Discovering Wolves Through Stories, Science and Compassion

5 – 6 p.m. | *Rogers Lake Frontiere Property*
Explore the world of wolves through stories, science and compassion.

Rogers Lake: The Importance of Wildlife Corridors

6 – 8 p.m. | *Rogers Lake Frontiere Property*
Join us for an educational talk about wildlife corridors at the Rogers Lake Community Forest — Frontiere Property. After the discussion, we will spend some time looking for local wildlife and stargazing. Reservations required.



Science Night Exploration

Sept. 26, 2025
CCC Lone Tree Campus
5:30–7:30pm

Earn a Jr. Science Badge!
Make clay models, use a microscope to see tiny creatures, launch rockets, see live animals, play science games, and examine rocks, minerals, and fossils.

Bring the family. Free parking.
Stay for the star party (dusk until 9 p.m.) and view the Wild Duck Cluster, a unique formation of nearly 3,000 stars resembling a flight of ducks.

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Building a healthier Flagstaff, one device and one volunteer hour at a time

BY W. L. GORE & ASSOCIATES

When W. L. Gore & Associates (Gore) opened the first Flagstaff plant in 1967, it was with a vision of how our materials could support space exploration. Almost 10 years later, Gore's first medical device, the GORE-TEX® Vascular Graft, was sold in August 1975, and Flagstaff quickly became the hub for this new and exciting business venture as the focus shifted to exploring medical solutions. This kicked off half a century of innovation, leading to more than 55 million devices implanted in patients all over the world.

Gore's dedication to improving lives doesn't stop with our customers. Volunteerism is one of the core tenets of what it means to be a Gore Associate, and up to eight paid volunteer hours are offered to Associates each year to support the causes that are important to them.

"I love that there are so many different opportunities for volunteering in Flagstaff," says Associate Sriyanthie Gunewardena. "If you miss one type of volunteer event, you can jump in and join something else."

Gunewardena has participated in many events throughout her time at Gore, supporting organizations like Habitat for Humanity of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff Family Food Center, United Way of Northern Arizona and the Flagstaff Festival of Science.

One grassroots initiative she recalls from the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic encouraged donations of food and other supplies for Associates and their families living on the Navajo Nation. Gore Associates continue to volunteer with a variety of local organizations to provide their neighbors with the assistance they need.

For Chrystal Redding, who has been on the Coconino Humane Association (CHA) board for five years and



GORE, COURTESY PHOTOS

Associates Sriyanthie Gunewardena and Henry Teller, who serves as vice president on the Habitat for Humanity of Northern Arizona board, participated in a blitz build this summer to prepare 10 houses for first-time homeowners.

served as president the past three, she found that she missed working with animals and began volunteering with the nonprofit to help pets across northern Arizona find their forever homes.

"We have a lot of people at Gore who help support them, and my team is very supportive if I ever have to leave for something CHA-related," she says.

Fellow Associate Alicia Brown also serves on the CHA board as secretary and says she enjoys the outreach aspects of volunteering the most and helping educate others on current animal care best practices.

Another way Associates are encouraged to give back to the communities where they live is through the Volunteer Support Grants (VSG) program. Associates who volunteer 20 or more hours each year at their chosen nonprofit can apply for grant funding

starting at \$500. Gore provided a VSG to the Flagstaff Family Food Center (FFFC) in support of its Feeding Futures Campaign, which provided needed infrastructure improvements to their facilities.

"Volunteering is a way for Associates to do things they're passionate about and make a difference in the community while addressing some critical community needs," says Associate Jeff Shiffman, who sits on the FFFC board as secretary. "Food insecurity has grown in Flagstaff, especially with the high cost of living, and this team wants to meet that need to support northern Arizona."

Similarly, food insecurity can impact pets, and Redding and Brown share that CHA has served as a resource to help people feed their pets by providing bags of food to owners and partnering with other animal



Chrystal Redding walks with Floki, a 5-year-old black Lab mix available for adoption from Coconino Humane Association, in the Fourth of July parade.

shelters to distribute food donations across northern Arizona.

"The idea is to keep animals in homes," Brown says. "People are struggling, especially with inflation costs, so we want to help when we can."

Whether it's through the development and manufacturing of medical devices or donating valuable time to make sure members of the community — both people and animals — have a roof over their head and a nutritious meal, Gore Associates are ready to answer the call.

"It's so cool that so many Gore Associates volunteer at such a high rate and many are critical to community organizations in Flagstaff," Gunewardena says. "There are so many good people who work here. It's another thing that makes me proud to work for Gore."

50
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At Gore, what we do is driven by who we are: curious, creative, patient-focused problem-solvers working to improve medical devices for patients and physicians all over the world.

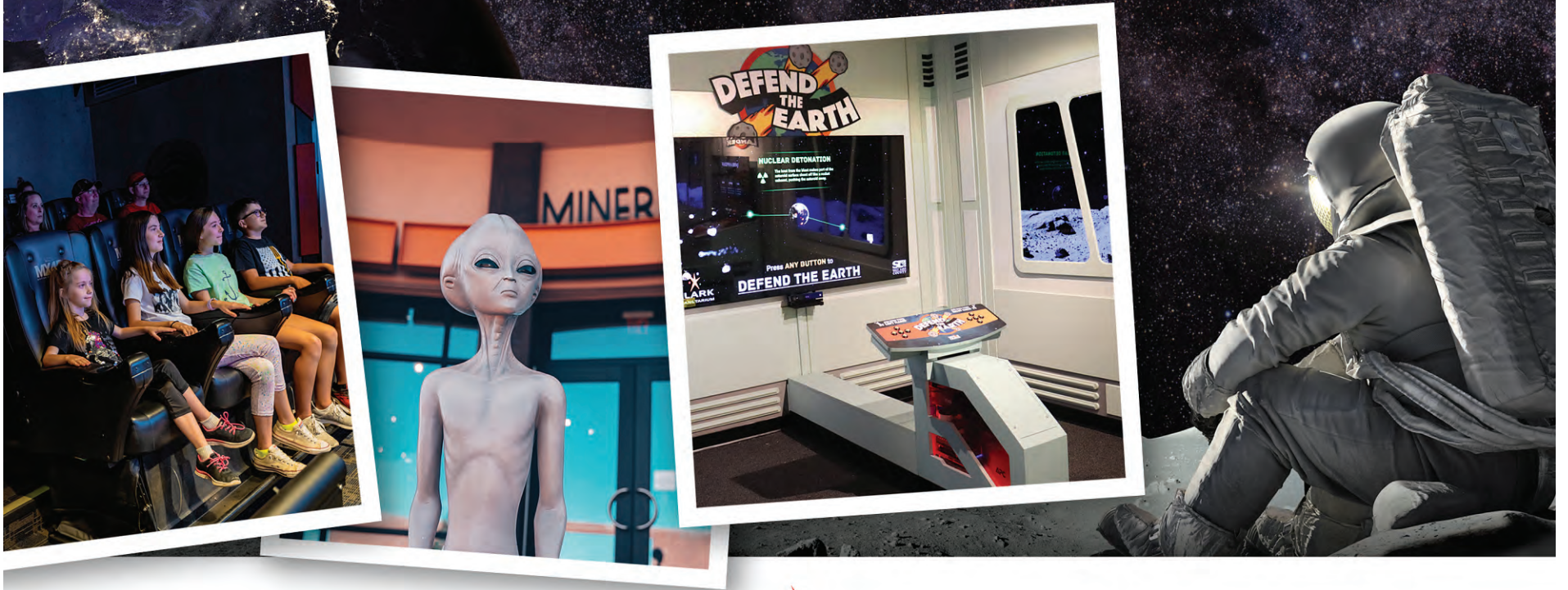
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Together, improving life



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