



Call for exhibitions at the Bath Taps into Science Fairs 2017

About the Bath Taps into Science Festival

Bath Taps into Science Fair, is a wonderful opportunity to present your research and to demonstrate its impact to a fantastic, and large, audience of the public in general, and young people in particular. Started in 2000 it now forms a firm part of the Bath science scene and, whilst organised and largely funded by the University of Bath, it is a partnership with many other organizations in Bath and beyond, including many schools. The philosophy behind Bath Taps is simple. Everyone can enjoy, and engage with science (and by science we always mean science, engineering, technology, maths, medicine and the social sciences) if it is presented in a fun, engaging and hands on manner. There is no question of dumbing down science, instead Bath Taps into Science aims to light science up.

Over the years Bath Taps into Science has expanded and in 2016 consisted of 35 events including a schools science fair and a family science day. The success of the events have meant that over 8,000 people of all ages attended the events across the festival week from a wide range of local schools and local families.

For more information, see www.bathtapsintoscience.com/about

The 2017 festival

In 2017 there will be over 50 events including workshops, talks, demonstrations and science fairs and we aim to meet 10,000 people during the week. If you are interested in offering a talk, workshop or demonstration there is a separate call at:

www.bathtapsintoscience.com/getinvolved/researchers

The Science Fairs in 2017 will be held on:

- Friday 17th March - Schools Science Fair at the University of Bath
Audience of 1500 primary school (Year 5/6) students visit the fair from 9:30am-3pm. The event will be held at the University of Bath
- Saturday 18th March – Family Science Fair in Victoria Park Bath
Audience of approx.. 5,000 members of the public and local families from 9:30am-4pm (quiet hour for people with disabilities from 9:30-10:30). The event will be held at Victoria Park in Bath.

At each science fair there will be 30-40 exhibition stands from university researchers, local and national companies and local schools.

Opportunities to get involved

There are 2 opportunities to get involved:

1. Present an interactive exhibit for children or families
2. Offer the general public the chance to be involved in your research

Present an interactive stand for children or families

This option will allow you to present at one or both of the Science fairs that are part of the Bath Taps into Science Festival. You will have an exhibition stand and present your research in an interactive manner for primary school students and/or the general public (usually families with young children). You will be able to talk about the impact of your research on people's everyday lives and show why research in your area is so important.

Presenting at the science fairs at Bath Taps will also be good preparation for larger national and international science fairs such as the Big Bang Fair, the British Science Festival or The Royal Society Summer exhibition.

Offer the general public the chance to be involved in your research

This option would allow you to use the visitors to the Schools Science Fair and/or the Family Science Fair as participants in your research. The Schools Science Fair would give you access to over 1,400 primary school children in one place on one day, and the Family Fair access to over 5,000 members of the public (mainly families) on one day. You may undertake any ethically approved research and could involve visitors completing questionnaires or doing their own data collection in the form of citizen science. This was successfully achieved in 2015 by members of the Education Department who collected questionnaire responses from the Family Science Fair see <http://bathresearch.weborium.net/blog/bath-taps-science> for more detail.

Requirements

- The exhibition stand should be as interactive as possible
- Designed targeted for the audience – Schools Science Fair Year 5/6 students, Family Science Fair Families with young children
- Where possible it would be good to have information for teachers/parents/students to take away
- There will be the ability to display signs/posters/exhibition stands and these should be used to explain and add to the exhibit
- Where appropriate your exhibition stand should relate to your research

How to apply

Complete the online application form at:
www.bathtapsintoscience.com/getinvolved/researchers

Support available

A supporting document is available to help with including the Bath Taps into Science Festival in Pathways to Impact statement and to support designing an exhibition on the festival website at: <http://bathtapsintoscience.com/documents/impact%20brochure.pdf> (For Uni of Bath researchers: costs listed on this document are for inclusion the Pathways to Impact budget, if you are not including it in the statement then there is no cost to you)

Andrew Ross (Festival Project Manager) is happy to meet and discuss ideas and proposals before or after submission. Other members of the organising team are also happy to support. Contact details of the team can be found at www.bathtapsintoscience.com/contact

The Public Engagement Unit offer training and support for researchers who want to promote their research to the public www.bath.ac.uk/marketing/public-engagement/get-involved/opportunities/professional-development