



## Educator from Chicago's Museum of Science & Industry to Present at AzCASE 2017 Conference

With our **25th Annual School's Out, Make It Count Conference** just a few months away, we are excited to start announcing the myriad high-quality workshop presenters who will join us this year!

One fantastic example is Gail Hutchison, coming to us all the way from the Museum of Science & Industry in Chicago. Gail is an Educator with the Museum's Center for the Advancement of Science Education. At School's Out, Make It Count she will present two sessions, "Using STEM & Film to Foster Youth Voices" & "Learning Your Way: Multiple Intelligences & STEAM," both of which were recognized as Top 25 workshops at the 2017 National Afterschool Association Conference.

[Learn about a few other featured presenters here](#)

[Register today to receive the early bird rate!](#)



## Arizona SciTech Kickoff Conference

Registration is open for this year's Arizona SciTech Festival Kickoff Conference: "Building Arizona's STEM Ecosystem," the kick-off for the 7th season of Arizona's SciTech Festival! Come out to Mesa Arts Center on August 31, 2017 for:

- 40 sessions divided into 7 STEM tracks with interactive panels, discussions and talks

- 60+ diverse exhibitors showcasing interactive STEM opportunities including a special Maker Room

[Learn more & register](#)



## RAIN Project Receives \$200,000 Grant to Fund STEM Education

*by Halie Chavez, Verde Independent*

The Rural Innovation and Activation Network (RAIN) grant will allow the Verde Valley's Rural Innovation Center (RIC) help promote science, technology, engineering and math through informal STEM education. The funding amount is \$50,000 per year over the next four years. The Verde Valley RIC will be one of four to receive the grant, with each rural innovation center located in a key geographic, economic and cultural hub within Arizona. According to the grant proposal, large-scale informal STEM educational programs in Arizona have been metropolitan-oriented. "Primary target audiences are youth, families and the general community, emphasizing latino and Native American groups. Through multiple tiers of engagement, the 4-year RAIN project has the potential to reach ~60,000 people," according to the grant proposal. "This isn't just about the children - it's about promoting STEM to the whole community," said Diane Joens, former Cottonwood mayor and the rural champion named in the proposal. "Why promote STEM in rural areas? Well, jobs. Everything we do is related to STEM. Wine-making, working on motorcycles, restaurants - what do we do that's not involved?"



[Read more](#)

Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence

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