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STARnet

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and The Space Science Institute's STAR Library Education Network Celebrate 250 Years of American Scientific Innovation with the Launch of SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA, a New Public Library Outreach Campaign that Shines a Light on the Past, Present and Future of Scientific Innovation in America

SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA is the second campaign under the “*Spark of Science@ My Library*” initiative from HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and the STAR Library Education Network

November 19, 2025 (Chevy Chase, Md.) - HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and The STAR Library Education Network are proud to announce the launch of **SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA**, a nationwide library campaign that celebrates 250 years of American scientific achievement and highlights local connections to science. Coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, **SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA** will launch in early 2026 and give public libraries the opportunity to showcase how American scientific innovation has shaped America and the world, and how science is relevant to our daily lives.

Since its founding, the United States has been a leader in scientific discovery. From the light bulb to the Human Genome Project, to the invention of GPS, American scientists have driven science forward, and this research has taken place - and is continuing today - in every corner of the country. In partnership with public libraries in states, territories, reservations and counties, **SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA** will shine a light on the local discoveries that have and will continue to improve health, increase productivity, and deepen our understanding of our natural world.

To celebrate 250 years of American scientific innovation, participating libraries will host events and activities that feature the past, present and future of scientific innovation in their communities, counties, and states. Using a robust suite of free, customizable activities and materials, they'll invite their patrons to explore how science gets done, what impact it has, and where scientific research is taking place nearby.

The **SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA** free resources will include discussion guides and training for community dialogues about science, hands-on activities including a physical story wall, and

a community-generated digital map that encourage patrons to explore the stories of scientific discoveries in their states and territories. The initiative will also provide access to leading scientific experts and experiences curated by science education organizations including Exploring by The Seat of Your Pants and the Science and Entertainment Exchange (a program of the National Academy of Sciences). Libraries will also have access to award-winning science documentaries and shorts produced by HHMI Tangled Bank Studios.

“The history of scientific discovery in America provides such rich ground for exploration, especially in libraries,” said Head of HHMI Tangled Bank Studios Jared Lipworth. “What better place to delve into the impact science has on our lives, and to discover the local connections to groundbreaking research. We hope this program will take some of the mystery out of science, build pride in American scientific innovation, and inspire future scientists.”

“Community dialogues are an important component of this initiative, and we look forward to supporting library staff and their patrons as they learn more about the science happening in their own communities,” said Dr. Anne Holland, Director of Education and Learning Research at the Space Science Institute. “We’re so excited to help librarians make new partners and learn more about their communities, and most importantly, develop customized programs and activities to celebrate scientific innovation across America. We can’t wait to see what unexpected local scientific achievements our libraries discover!”



SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA is the second campaign from **Spark of Science@ My Library**, a joint initiative between HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and the STAR Library Education Network. **Spark of Science@ My Library** delivers free, high-quality, fun and engaging resources to public libraries so they can host creative and interactive outreach events and experiences for their communities. The first campaign, **Flight Path**, which was launched in the fall of 2025, brought the science of bird migration to more than 200 libraries across the country.

To Learn more about Spark of Science@ My Library please visit <https://www.starnetlibraries.org/about/our-projects/spark-of-science/>

ABOUT HHMI TANGLED BANK STUDIOS

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios is a mission-driven production company that seeks to shine a light on some of the most significant scientific challenges and breakthroughs of our time. Recent films include *The Birds*, *The Calling*, *Turtle Walker*, *Ending HIV in America*, *Blue Carbon*, *Every Little Thing*, *Wild Hope*, *Wilding*, *Blue Whales: Return of the Giants*, and Oscar-nominated *All That Breathes*, the only film to win best documentary at both the Sundance and Cannes film festivals. Other notable films include Emmy Award-winners *Hunt for the Oldest DNA*, *The Serengeti Rules* and *The Farthest – Voyager In Space*; Emmy-nominated *My*

Garden of a Thousand Bees*, *Battle to Beat Malaria*, and *Nature's Fear Factor, and Peabody Award winner ***Inventing Tomorrow***. To extend the reach and impact of each film, the studio undertakes educational and public outreach efforts in partnership with purpose-focused organizations. For more information, please visit WWW.TANGLEDBANKSTUDIOS.ORG.

ABOUT STAR LIBRARY NETWORK

The STAR Library Education Network (STAR Net) is a hands-on learning network for libraries and their communities across the country. STAR Net focuses on helping library professionals build their STEM skills by providing “science-technology activities and resources” (STAR) and training to use those resources. STAR Net is built upon a strong network of collaborators and partners, led by the Space Science Institute’s (SSI) Education and Learning Research Group. Over the past 15 years, it has been a leader in supporting libraries in developing effective STEAM programs, through both NSF, NASA and foundation funded projects such as NASA@ My Library, STEAM Equity, and SEAL (Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries).