

**An Experiment in Progress**

  

**Have You Ever Wanted to Create Your Own Science Exhibit?**

**Open Call for STEAM Educational Exhibit Proposals.**

**Theme: Biological Systems, Structure, and Functions – Exhibition: February 2021 – May 2021**

**Keywords: biology, anatomy, marine mammals, adaptations, oceanography, whales, archeology, paleontology**

The Bisbee Science Exploration and Research Center (BSERC) and its Bisbee Science Lab (BSL) are seeking proposals from science and/or arts minded people (hopefully a collaboration of both) for educational exhibits based on the theme: **Biological Systems, Structure, and Functions**

**Having just received complete Minke and Pilot Whale skeletons courtesy of the College of the Atlantic, BSERC is seeking exhibits that incorporate some of these elements into an interactive, relevant educational experience. Participants will be asked to consider incorporating pieces of the Pilot Whale skeleton into their display.**

**IMPORTANT: The exhibits should be STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) related and encourage interaction with your audience. The exhibit will travel in a mobile lab.**

Proposals submitted will be reviewed by a Committee and a proposal will be selected. The awardee will receive up to $4,000 to support (in whole or in part) efforts to design, build, transport, and install their exhibit at the Bisbee Science Lab located at 519 W. Melody Lane, Bisbee Arizona. The exhibit must be able to travel between different communities within Cochise County as part of the BSL mobile science lab, the Sky Island STEAM Express. The exhibit and/or its components will be displayed and housed at 519 W. Melody Lane when not on the road. Collaborations between scientists, researchers, artists, kids, and/or the general public are encouraged, though not required.

The selected Exhibit will be on display at the Bisbee Science Lab and on the road for three to four months, shown in both indoor and outdoor settings.

BSERC will work with selected person or team to finalize their budget and to determine how awards will be made available (advances are possible; however, reimbursements are a preferred method).

BSERC will provide marketing and publicity and host an opening for the exhibit team and the general public.

**Call Open**: November 23rd, 2020

**Exhibit Creation Workshop:** Friday, November 20th, 6:30-8:30 at 519 W. Melody Lane

Participants will learn from experts in exhibit design and development, receive tips on submitting proposals, and be given the opportunity to ask questions.

Join virtually or watch recording on our Facebook page or the BSL website

**Call** **Close**: December 11th, 2020 5:00 p.m. Bisbee AZ time

**Awards:** January 1st, 2021, 3:00 pm Bisbee AZ time – **Announcements posted** at [www.bisbeesciencelab.org](http://www.bisbeesciencelab.org) **Winner(s) notified by email**. **Selected** **Exhibits must be** **installed between February 8th and February 10th by appointment. First community visit: February 11th**

Assistance for reviewing proposal content, and audience research and evaluation will be provided by an advisory team of knowledgeable professionals, including those involved in STEM subjects and the arts, young people, and others that are enthusiastic and willing to help.

**Things to think about when designing your installation:**

* How is your exhibit connected to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)? **Please refer to the “Next Generation Science Standards: Crosscutting concepts and Science and Engineering Practices” for clarification and specific ideas and goals for your exhibit.**
* Think about the audiences that will see your exhibit. Connect, surprise, and engage with your audience. Exhibits are to be designed to interact with audiences.
* Versatility; the exhibit should be able to be displayed indoors, outdoors, and on the road.
* Consider safety (yours, ours, and audience members’).
* Exhibit must be sized appropriately and not too heavy so it can be loaded, unloaded, and travel easily.
* Think about maintenance and supervisory requirements (must your exhibit be monitored, supervised, managed, maintained during exhibition?).
* Will you need electricity, water, special technology, or other considerations for your exhibit?
* How does your exhibit invite audience participation and engagement without requiring a great deal of reading text panels?
* Please consider involving collaborations across different disciplines,- bring together the arts and sciences in a creative way.
* Make sure your exhibit concepts are based on strong original ideas.

 **Things to think about when developing your proposal:**

* Follow instructions
* Demonstrate relevance to our local/regional audience
* Demonstrate a meaningful connection to the theme, bringing a thought-provoking or unexpected perspective
* Be succinct
* Confirm your budget is accurate and includes all costs (see below)

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Questions concerning your proposal may be asked at the pre-proposal meeting on Friday, November 20th 6:30-8:30 at 519 W. Melody Lane, virtually on Facebook, or submitted by email amieesteves@gmail.com. Questions, and the answers provided, will be posted on the website at www.bisbeesciencelab.org.**

**Email your proposal including your narrative, budget, and questionnaire as ­one document (Word or PDF) to** **amieesteves@gmail.com** **no later than the announced deadline of December 11, 2020 by 5:00 pm. Emails time stamped after this date/time will not be considered.** If you are unable to email your submission, notify us (email, phone call, letter) that you intend to use United States Postal Service and mail to PO Box 375, Bisbee AZ 85603 or a carrier such as FedEx or UPS to 519 W. Melody Lane, Bisbee AZ (no signature required). All submissions must be received (not post marked) by the deadline in order to be considered.