



## **ASTC to Lead Launch of UNESCO International Science Center Day**

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**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—On January 19, the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) were pleased to formally announce their joint support for the concept of a worldwide International Science Center Day; the first will be celebrated in conjunction with UNESCO's World Science Day for Peace and Development, which was initially established in 2001 and now takes place every November 10.

In future years, ASTC will serve as a permanent partner for the World Science Day for Peace and Development and, working with other science center networks, will actively and creatively engage the science center and museum field in the promotion of that year's chosen theme. Previous themes have included "Science for a Sustainable Future," "Towards Green Societies," and astronomy. The January 19 announcement was the result of a series of conversations between the two organizations that began in September 2015.

The ASTC Global Committee has created an ad-hoc group to help the Association execute the agreement; today, the Committee announced the appointment of Chevy Humphrey, president and CEO, Arizona Science Center (Phoenix), and Silvia Singer, directora general, Museo Interactivo de Economía (Mexico City), as co-chairs. Additional members of the group are: Alain Coine (France); Graham Durant (Australia); Derek Fish (South Africa); Asger Høeg (Denmark); Erik Jacquemyn (Belgium); Jennifer Martin (Canada); Ronen Mir (Israel); and Mamoru Mohri (Japan).

### **About ASTC**

The Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) is a global organization providing collective voice, professional support, and programming opportunities for science centers, museums, and related institutions, whose innovative approaches to science learning inspire people of all ages about the wonders and the meaning of science in their lives. Founded in 1973, ASTC now represents over 650 members in nearly 50 countries, including not only science centers and museums, but also nature centers, aquariums, planetariums, zoos, botanical gardens, and natural history and children's museums, as well as companies, consultants, and other organizations that share an interest in informal science education. For more information about ASTC, or to find a science center near you, visit [www.astc.org](http://www.astc.org).

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