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NOTE TO EDITORS: Hi-res images from the exhibition are available for download and publication HERE: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/iy4msh1660o3wtf/AADB9tu-DhZV-eleemh3i-XFa?dl=0>

**EXPLORE A CAPTIVATING WORLD WITH A *MIRROR MAZE: NUMBERS IN NATURE* AT ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER**

*Wander through an elaborate mirror maze and discover nature's mathematical patterns through interactive features and hands-on activities*

**PHOENIX, MAY 22, 2018** - From June 30 through September 4, Arizona Science Center guests can experience *A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature*, an interactive and immersive new exhibition that exposes and explains the mathematical patterns that abound in the natural world. *A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature* is generously supported locally by APS and located in the Sybil B. Harrington Gallery.

Guests will explore a seemingly infinite repeating pattern of mirrors in this exhibition created by the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI). Navigating through twists and turns and around dead ends, maze explorers will ultimately discover a small secret room with bonus puzzles, imagery and artifacts.

Guests will watch stunning footage of nature, the human body, and even art and architecture. Then they'll get hands-on with the exhibition's interactive features. They can draw patterns on a digital screen to reveal real-world objects with the same pattern, compose a piece of music using symmetry, compare similar patterns in architecture built thousands of years apart, and more.

This exhibition allows guests of all ages to see the world in a new way, through the mathematical patterns that surround us—from the nested spirals of a sunflower's seeds, to the blood vessels in our eyes, to the spots on a giraffe's fur and skin.

"My interest in science was first sparked by nature, and that immediately drew me to this exhibition," said Chevy Humphrey, The Hazel A. Hare President and CEO of Arizona Science Center. "*A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature* will give visitors an entirely new, and completely fascinating, perspective on the natural world around us."

"The Museum of Science and Industry designed this exhibition to highlight how people interact with mathematical patterns every day, provoking curiosity and wonder," said John Beckman, MSI's director of exhibition design and development. "Our hope is that this exhibition inspires all guests to look at the world around them with a new appreciation."

## INTRODUCTION TO PATTERNS IN OUR WORLD

- As guests enter the exhibition, they will be greeted by images animated from nature, showing the many repeating patterns that are easily identifiable if they know where to look!
- From there, an immersive presentation provides an introduction to how math surrounds us every day, illustrated with stunning footage of nature, the human body, and even art and architecture.
- Animated computer graphics are superimposed over the images to reveal the mathematical patterns beneath these familiar objects.
- Guests can then put their new knowledge to the test, identifying patterns that surround them every day and creating numerical patterns of their own.
- They will be able to manipulate images of snowflakes, sea shells, flowers and more, as well as create a numerical sequence to understand how a pattern is generated from repeating a simple set of rules.

## THE MIRROR MAZE

- When guests make their way to the centerpiece of the exhibition—the mirror maze—they are exposed to a pattern of triangles that repeat in a dizzying array of mirrors. This experience allows guests to learn about the math that surrounds them while navigating through a giant pattern.
- In the mirror maze, guests will learn that it's fascinating (and a little challenging) to be enveloped inside of an endless pattern, especially when dead ends are scattered throughout.
- A small secret room inside the maze will reward guests with bonus puzzles, imagery and artifacts.

## HANDS-ON DISCOVERY

- Upon leaving the maze, guests will have more opportunities for hands-on activities in a final gallery, including:
  - Drawing patterns on a digital screen
  - Striking a pose in front of a large two-way mirror while patterns are superimposed on your body
  - Examining symmetry in the human face
  - Creating a musical scale with mathematical proportions using a playable harp.
- The exhibition also features an array of artifacts such as Bighorn sheep antlers, honeycomb and an aluminum anthill casting, all demonstrating real examples of patterns in objects from the natural world.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Members can purchase tickets beginning June 18. Ticket sales open to the public on June 25. Guests can purchase tickets online at [azscience.org](http://azscience.org), or in person at Arizona Science Center. The price for *A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature* exhibition tickets is \$8.95 for non-members (adults and children) and \$6.95 for members (adults and children). Exhibition requires purchase of general admission ticket. The exhibition runs from June 30, 2018 through September 4, 2018.



NUMBERS IN NATURE  
**A MIRROR  
MAZE**



ARIZONA  
**SCIENCE  
CENTER**

Never stop wondering.  
Never stop imagining.™

## **ABOUT ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER**

The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science. The Center, located at 600 E. Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, features more than 300 hands-on exhibits, live demonstrations, the state-of-the-art Dorrance Planetarium and the five-story Irene P. Flinn Giant Screen Theater. CREATE, at Arizona Science Center®, adjacent to the main building, is the newest addition. This 6,500 square-foot community makerspace provides workshops, including 3D printing, laser cutting, woodworking and sewing. The Center offers programs for all ages, including Camp Innovation, Teen Science Scene, Professional Development and Learning for Educators, and adults' night out: Science With A Twist. For further details, please visit [azscience.org](http://azscience.org)

**THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY, CHICAGO (MSI)**, one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and uniquely interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can't be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make you the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Welcome to Science Initiative, the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI's larger vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. Come visit and find your inspiration! MSI is open 9:30–4 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas day. Extended hours, until 5:30 p.m., are offered during peak periods. The Museum is grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org) or call (773) 684-1414.

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