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**National Science Foundation Announces Activities for “Taste of Science” –
Ever Popular Kid Friendly Festival Part of Taste of Arlington®**

May 6, 2009 - Ballston (Arlington, VA) – The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced their activity line-up for the ever popular **Taste of Science**, part of the **22nd Annual Taste of Arlington®** taking place on **Sunday, May 17, from noon to 5:00 p.m.** on Wilson Boulevard in front of Ballston Common Mall. The Taste of Science has been a part of Taste of Arlington® for nine years. Taste of Science offers fun, free hands on activities for kids and family of all ages, engaging them in the discovery and exploration of scientific topics. This year, a select group of Arlington students with award-winning projects in the recent Northern Virginia Regional Science and Engineering Competition will showcase their projects.

2009 Taste of Science Activities

WGBH Boston

Demonstrations and TV segments of Fetch, Design Squad, and PEEP will showcase one of NSF’s award winning educational public television programs.

National Science Teachers Association

The National Science Teachers Association – based in Arlington, VA, will examine phase-change fun by turning liquids into solids and liquids into ooze (known as “slime”) without ever changing temperature.

George Mason University (GMU)

GMU will be showcasing cutting-edge NSF-supported research in solar phenomena and in biomechanics with upper extremity movement.

Robotics – Drexel University

Exhibitors will demonstrate NSF-supported research in humanoid robotics.

NSF Astronomy

National Science Foundation Astronomy Division staff will host a demonstration of a safe view of our sun through a specially-designed solar telescope.

NSF Polar Programs

Go to the poles – the Arctic and the Antarctic – wearing cold weather gear that the real scientists use. See a full scale dinosaur skull discovered in Antarctica only a few years ago.

NSF Science Assistants

NSF Science Assistants – a group of early career scientists and engineers – will host hands-on activities in chemical reactions and another on the hidden color in light.

Fun Food Stuff: The Science of Food

NSF staff will have Taste of Arlington® attendees experience science as exploring the unknown through a cycle of experiments that probe the nature of food.



Northern Virginia Regional Science and Engineering Fair Winners

Seventeen Arlington's 7th- 12th grade students will be showcasing their winning science and engineering projects.

Cyberchase

Visitors to the Cyberchase table -- another NSF-supported public television program -- will be invited to use their mathematical and spatial skills to step through space using a sheet of paper.

The Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership is organizing and hosting the highly-anticipated Taste of Arlington® event, having purchased the rights from Community Residences, Inc., a local non-profit organization that assists people with disabilities to live independently in the community. Each year, Taste of Arlington® draws nearly 12,000 attendees who have the opportunity to sample dishes from over 40 restaurants. Proceeds from the spectacular community event will continue to benefit Community Residences, Inc.

Advance ticket sales for Taste of Arlington® can be purchased at the Taste of Arlington® Web site (www.tasteofarlington.com). The cost is \$20 and will be available **through May 10**. Advance ticket purchases can also be made at the Ballston Virginia Square Partnership, Clarendon Alliance, Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, and Rosslyn Renaissance offices. Ticket booklets may be purchased on-site the day of the event for \$25. The Dittmar Company (www.RentDittmar.com) is the title Co-Underwriter for the 2009 Taste of Arlington®.

The Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership has teamed up with the Clarendon Alliance, Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, Rosslyn Renaissance and the National Science Foundation to produce the 2009 Taste of Arlington.®

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About Ballston Virginia Square Partnership

The Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership is a public-private organization of citizens, real estate professionals, businesses, civic and condominium associations, educational institutions and non-profits with the mission of promoting and enhancing the Ballston and Virginia Square areas as desirable communities in which to live, learn, work, shop and play. Founded in 1985, it has played a role in, and continues to influence, the development decisions and environmental enhancements for these two urban villages. www.ballstonvasquare.org

About Clarendon Alliance

The Clarendon Alliance is a public-private partnership chartered by the Arlington County Board in 1986 to promote the health and vitality of Clarendon, Arlington's original downtown commercial district, and its surrounding areas. We market existing businesses in Clarendon and the community in general. Members of the Alliance include commercial property owners, small and large businesses, financial institutions, government representatives, neighborhood community groups and individuals. www.clarendon.org



About Rosslyn Renaissance

As a membership organization, RR informs, involves and engages the community in planning for the future. Founded in 1991, its mission is to work with residential, commercial, cultural, and government communities to realize Rosslyn's potential as a distinctive urban environment through a focus on urban design and development. www.rosslynva.org

About Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, public/private partnership. Established on May 14, 1986, CPRO is a coalition of businesses, civic associations, property owners, and individuals working with the Arlington County Government. It works to provide direction and support to improve and revitalize Columbia Pike and its adjacent neighborhoods.

www.columbiapike.org

About National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering, with an annual budget of \$6.06 billion. NSF funds reach all 50 states through grants to over 1,900 universities and institutions. Each year, NSF receives about 45,000 competitive requests for funding, and makes over 11,500 new funding awards. NSF also awards over \$400 million in professional and service contracts yearly. www.nsf.gov