



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Planet Word to Host Free, Hands-On Language Science Fair Celebrating the National Science Foundation's 75th Anniversary

Washington, D.C. — On Saturday, May 10, 2025, **Planet Word** will bring language to life with a free, hands-on [Language Science Fair](#) inviting visitors to explore how language shapes our world. The Language Science Fair, organized by the Language Science Station (LSS) in partnership with Planet Word, offers an interactive day of activities for all ages.

Visitors can dive into puzzles, crafts, and prizes at hands-on stations throughout the museum, and enjoy public talks by leading experts about the science behind how we communicate. Language scientists from the University of Maryland, Gallaudet University, Howard University, Georgetown University, and George Mason University will be on hand to share their work and answer questions.

The Language Science Fair is part of a nationwide series of STEM Day events celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Language Science Station and the University of Maryland's Language Science Center are proud to help mark NSF's contributions to the scientific study of language.

"We always wanted to include a language lab at Planet Word, so being able to host the Language Science Station has been a dream come true. It means museum visitors not only take something away from their visit, but they also leave a bit of themselves behind when they do real linguistic research," said Ann Friedman, founder and CEO of Planet Word. "Having the chance to do science and learn about words is core to what we do at Planet Word. Language isn't just something you learn; it's something you use to explore, connect, and even help others. The Language Science Fair is a wonderful extension of that original ambition: inviting people to actively engage with and contribute to the study of language and have fun at the same time."

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Whether you're a language enthusiast or simply curious about how language shapes our lives, the Language Science Fair promises a fun and educational experience for all. Admission is free and tickets can be reserved here: <https://planetwordmuseum.org/events/language-science-fair/>.

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Saturday, May 10th, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Location: Planet Word Museum, Washington, D.C.

Cost: Free

Open to all ages

For additional details, please contact Naia Lee-Hendricks at lehnai@umd.edu.

ABOUT THE LANGUAGE SCIENCE STATION

The Language Science Station is a pop-up language science research and engagement laboratory operating at Planet Word in Washington, D.C. The Language Science Station is a partnership between researchers at the University of Maryland, Gallaudet University, and Howard University, and is funded by the National Science Foundation.

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Planet Word is the only museum in the country dedicated to renewing and inspiring a love of words and language. Located in the historic Franklin School on the corner of 13th and K Streets in downtown D.C., Planet Word opened in 2020 as a new kind of interactive and self-guided museum. Using the museum's state-of-the-art technology, visitors determine their experience through their own words and choices. Planet Word is a bold and imaginative response to the life-long importance of literacy and to the challenge of growing a love of language. As a private, non-governmental museum, Planet Word is free for visitors and supported primarily by the generosity of donors.

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