



Never stop wondering.
Never stop imagining.™

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact: Heather Zielinski, Public Relations and Social Media Manager, Arizona Science Center, zielinskih@azscience.org, 602.716.2066 (office), 480.329.5621 (cell)

NOTE TO EDITORS: Galaxy Gala photos available here: <https://bit.ly/2IG8koi>

ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER GALAXY GALA 2019 RAISES MORE THAN \$700K FOR YOUTH STEM EDUCATION PROGRAMS

PHOENIX (Feb. 27, 2019) – Galaxy Gala: Mummies Alive at the Museum, generously supported by presenting sponsors Ellie and Michael Ziegler, raised a record-setting \$735K for Arizona Science Center.

The Feb. 9 event, chaired by Suzanne Hensing and co-chaired by Ilana Lowery, drew nearly 500 guests who were welcomed to the Science Center by dramatically lit full-size mummy-inspired figures before making their way to the Center’s SRP Canyon Terrace to enjoy drinks and appetizers. After mingling, partygoers then headed inside to be among the first to experience the newly arrived *Mummies of the World: The Exhibition*, the largest collection of real mummies and related artifacts ever assembled.

Later in the evening’s program, Board of Trustee members G. Douglas Young and Michael A. DeBell were honored with the designation of Lifetime Trustee in recognition of their continued efforts and transformational impact over their many years of service to Arizona Science Center.

The JP Morgan Chase Courtyard of the Science Center was transformed into an elegant dining space, where dinner from M Catering included clever nods to the mummies theme, with pastry “wrapped” entrees and desserts shaped like a pyramid and a sarcophagus. After-dinner drinks and desserts were served in Heritage and Science Park, complete with sofas and fire pits to create an elegant setting for guests to savor the final hours of the evening. Party favors included personalized mummy-shaped luggage tags with each guest’s name, made in CREATE at Arizona Science Center®, the Center’s makerspace, and boxes of Girl Scout cookies – a salute to Arizona Science Center and Desert Diamond Casino’s support of future female leaders.

Guests contributed more than \$53K to the Science Teacher Residency (STaR) Initiative, a teacher training program, generously supported by Helios Education Foundation, that provides instruction and mentoring to third through eighth-grade teachers at no cost to the teacher. The STaR program is designed to enhance educators' mastery of science content and equip them with the skills needed to effectively teach and engage students.

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

#