

## SciFest & ArtFest 2017: Cells & Building Blocks

High school students invited to fifth annual hands-on event

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(Photo by Darren Heslop)

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Andrews University invites high school juniors and seniors, or any other high school students showing an interest in STEM or the arts, to attend the fifth annual SciFest & ArtFest weekend on their main campus in Berrien Springs, Michigan. This experiential, educational event will take place September 21–23, 2017.

SciFest & ArtFest are opportunities for budding scientists and artists to explore their passions hands-on in a fun, exciting and educational environment. Participants are encouraged to stay on campus to get the full college experience during the event, and all meals are covered by the registration package fee.

The theme for this year's SciFest is "Cells." During SciFest, young scientists rotate through the seven STEM departments at Andrews: Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Engineering & Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics. Each station will present a challenging task for each five-student team.

“The goal of SciFest is to provide an environment that fosters exploration of the various elements of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and understanding of their interdependence and interrelation,” says Margarita Mattingly, chair of the Department of Physics. “We want students to express their love of science in unity with other students and teachers who share that passion, and to give them the stepping stones and motivation to pursue further education in STEM.”

The theme for this year’s ArtFest is “Building Blocks.” ArtFest provides a fun-filled weekend exploring photography, ceramics, graphic design, documentary film, drawing and broadcast media. It culminates in a gallery exhibition of the finished work, allowing students to experience having their art celebrated and displayed in a professional way.

“The purpose of ArtFest is for students and faculty together to explore how the various elements of visual art, communication and design are interrelated and valuable in today’s fast-paced, creative world,” explains Paul Kim, chair of the Department of Visual Art, Communication & Design. “We aim to present a unifying event focused on artistic expression with students and teachers from all over the country, and encourage attendees who excel in the arts to pursue further education in the creative fields.”

All ArtFest attendees are eligible for a \$2,000/year scholarship, should they choose to join the Andrews University Department of Visual Art, Communication & Design as first-time freshmen.

The weekend will also include a faculty/student STEM show, downtime in the University’s recreation center, a tour of campus, joint dinners and meet-n-greets with current STEM and arts students and faculty, and worship opportunities.

Schools interested in bringing a team to SciFest or ArtFest can find details at [andrews.edu/scifest](http://andrews.edu/scifest) or [andrews.edu/artfest](http://andrews.edu/artfest). Early registration deadline for a 10% discount is August 19. Homeschool students are encouraged to attend; individuals can register and be matched with an attending team. Each team is required to be accompanied by a school-provided supervisor; preferably a teacher from an applicable field (STEM or arts) or a yearbook sponsor (for ArtFest).

## Related Links

- [STEM at Andrews](#)
- [Details about SciFest](#)
- [Details about ArtFest](#)

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