

# Finding the funds for civic engagement with science

**Fanuel Muindi, PhD**

Professor of Practice, Northeastern University

Founder/Director, Civic Science Media Lab

Senior Fellow for Civic Science, Research!America



‘...broad public engagement with issues that arise at the many intersections between science and society.’



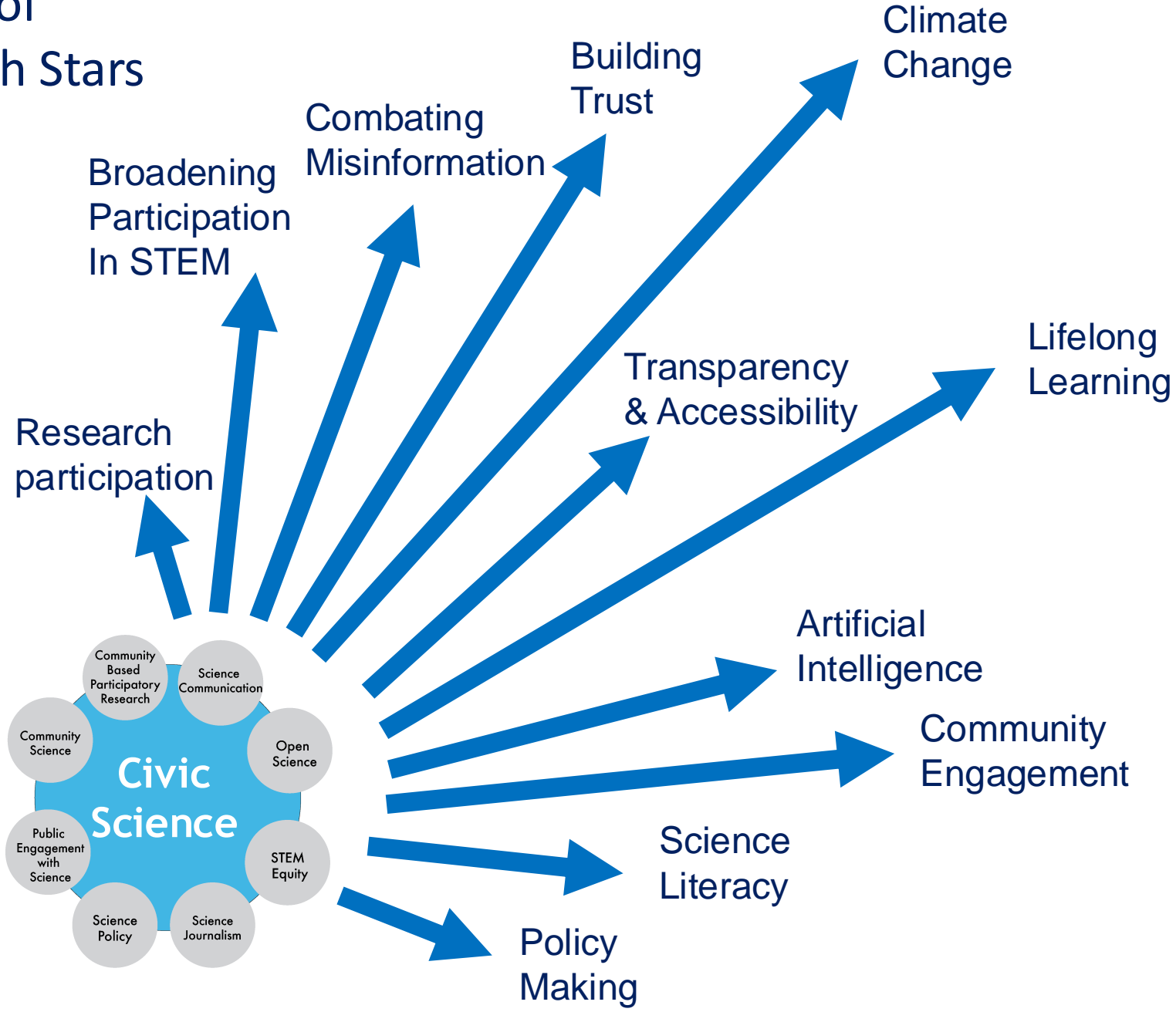
*Feature*

**The Civic Science Imperative**

By Elizabeth Good Christopherson, Dietram A. Scheufele & Brooke Smith

Spring 2018 issue of the *Stanford Social Innovation Review*

# A constellation of connected North Stars





BEAM Dana



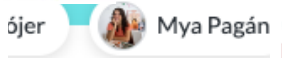
DORIS DUKE FOUNDATION



SCIENTIFIC CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE AT HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL



Advocacy Training Program



SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE

The OPEN Notebook SEATTI The story behind the best science

THE RICHARD LOUNSBERY FOUNDATION



Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY



Early Career Policy Ambassadors

SOCIETY for NEUROSCIENCE

Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering Workshop



Adventure



SIEGEL FAMILY ENDOWMENT

T+BIOLOGY



Kavli SciComm Essentials ASCB Public Engagement Grants

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ANATOMY

SCICOM

SIM FOUNDATION

NS

Science Policy Fellowship Program

ALFREY FOUNDATION



Civic Science Fellows and partners gathered in 2023 at the National Academy of Sciences Building in Washington, D.C. (Photo: Sameer Khan)



Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL)

ZIN

Mass Media

SciComm Symposium Metcalf Institute

FOUNDATION

BIOC SOCIETY

Enhance

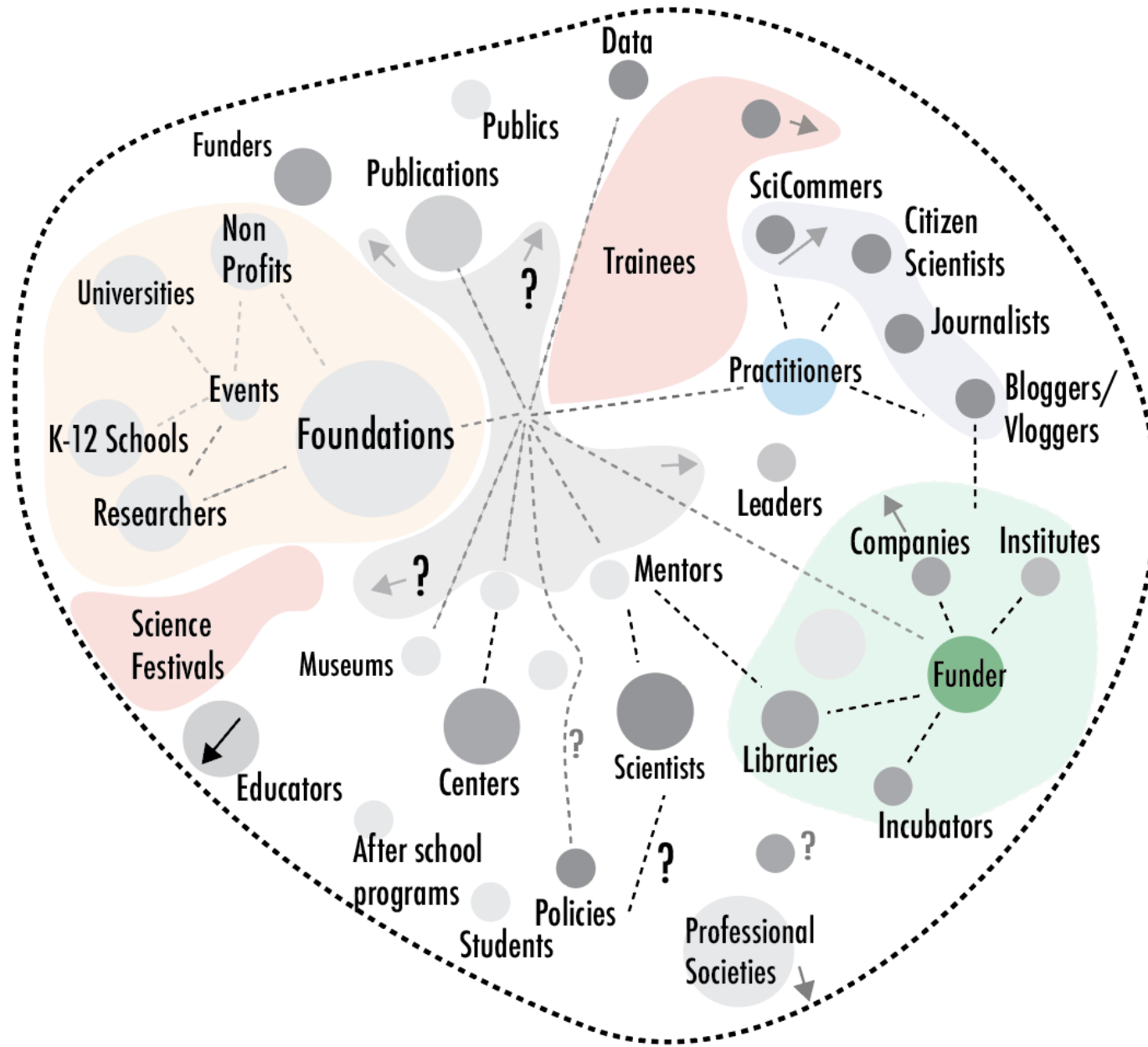
UC RIVERSIDE

Science to Policy

Santa Fe Science Writing Workshop

RICHARD LOUNSBERY FOUNDATION

Communications Fellowship (NCF)





## Global fund needed for STEM education

To be competitive in today's global economy, developing countries need a workforce with a strong education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). While

## African database for education schemes

The severe shortage of trained scientists in Africa (see [go.nature.com/gio8pu](http://go.nature.com/gio8pu)) has given rise to a variety of

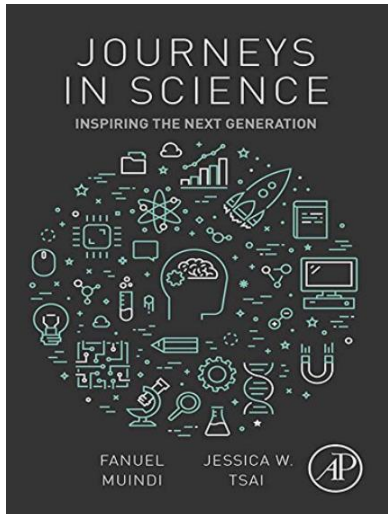
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## The case for a global fund for science education

nature

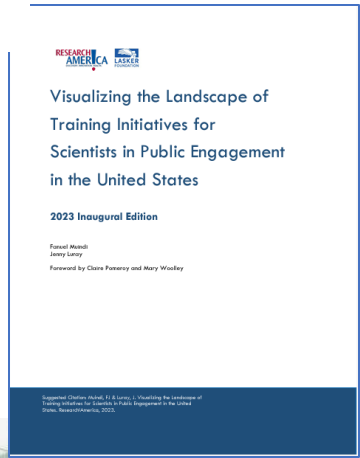
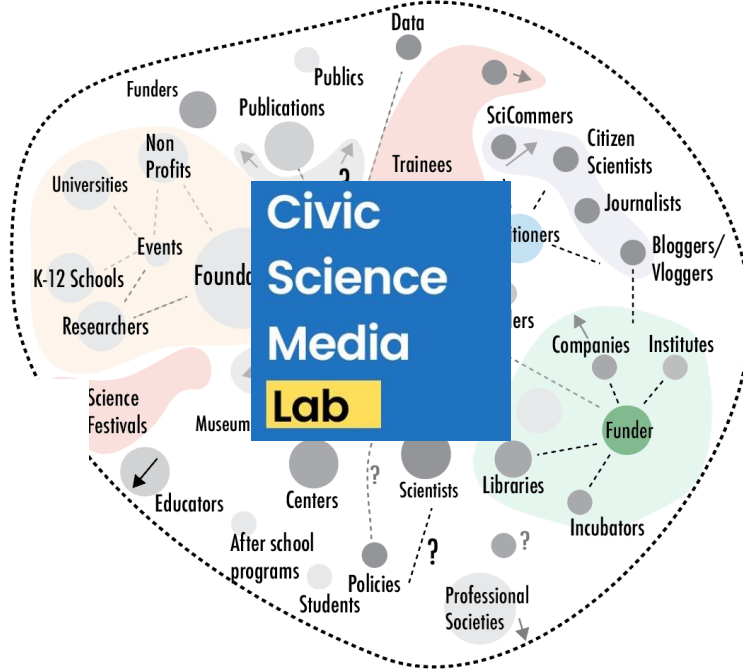
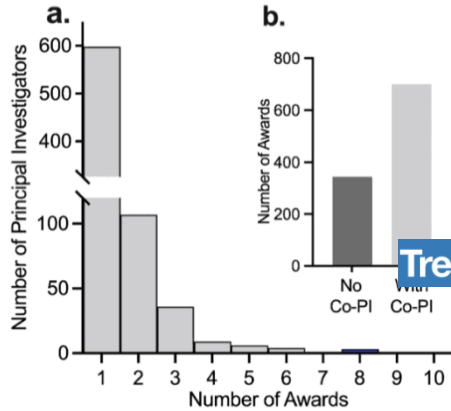
sai resident collective



### Build neuroscience capacity in Africa

The non-profit organization TReND is funding a neuroscience training initiative so that Africa's scientists can join this rapidly evolving research field (see [www.trendinafrica.org](http://www.trendinafrica.org)). TReND (for 'Teaching and Research in Neuroscience for Development') is run by

Principal Investigators for AISL Awards between 2006-2021



### Trends in Molecular Medicine

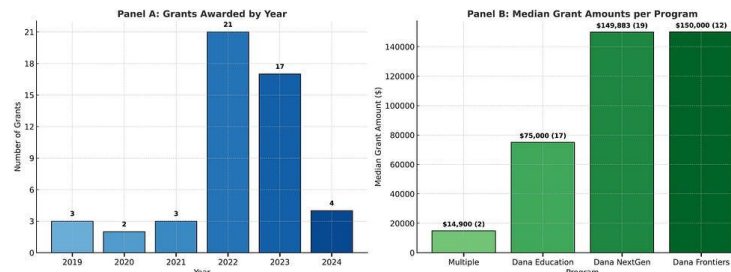
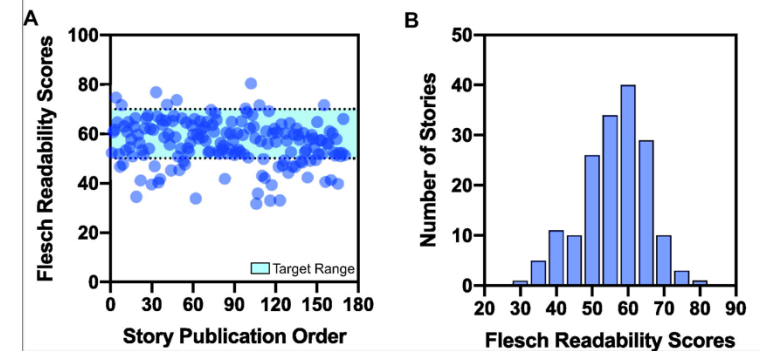


Figure 2





RICHARD LOUNSBERY FOUNDATION

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## Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL)

Projects funded by AISL should contribute to **research** and **practice** that further illuminates -

- informal STEM learning's role in equity and belonging in STEM; personal and educational success in STEM;
- advancing public engagement in scientific discovery; fostering interest in STEM careers;
- creating and enhancing the theoretical and empirical foundations for effective informal STEM learning;
- improving community vibrancy;
- and/or enhancing science communication and the public's engagement in and understanding of STEM and STEM processes.

# The AISL Program funds five types of projects:



Synthesis;



Conference;



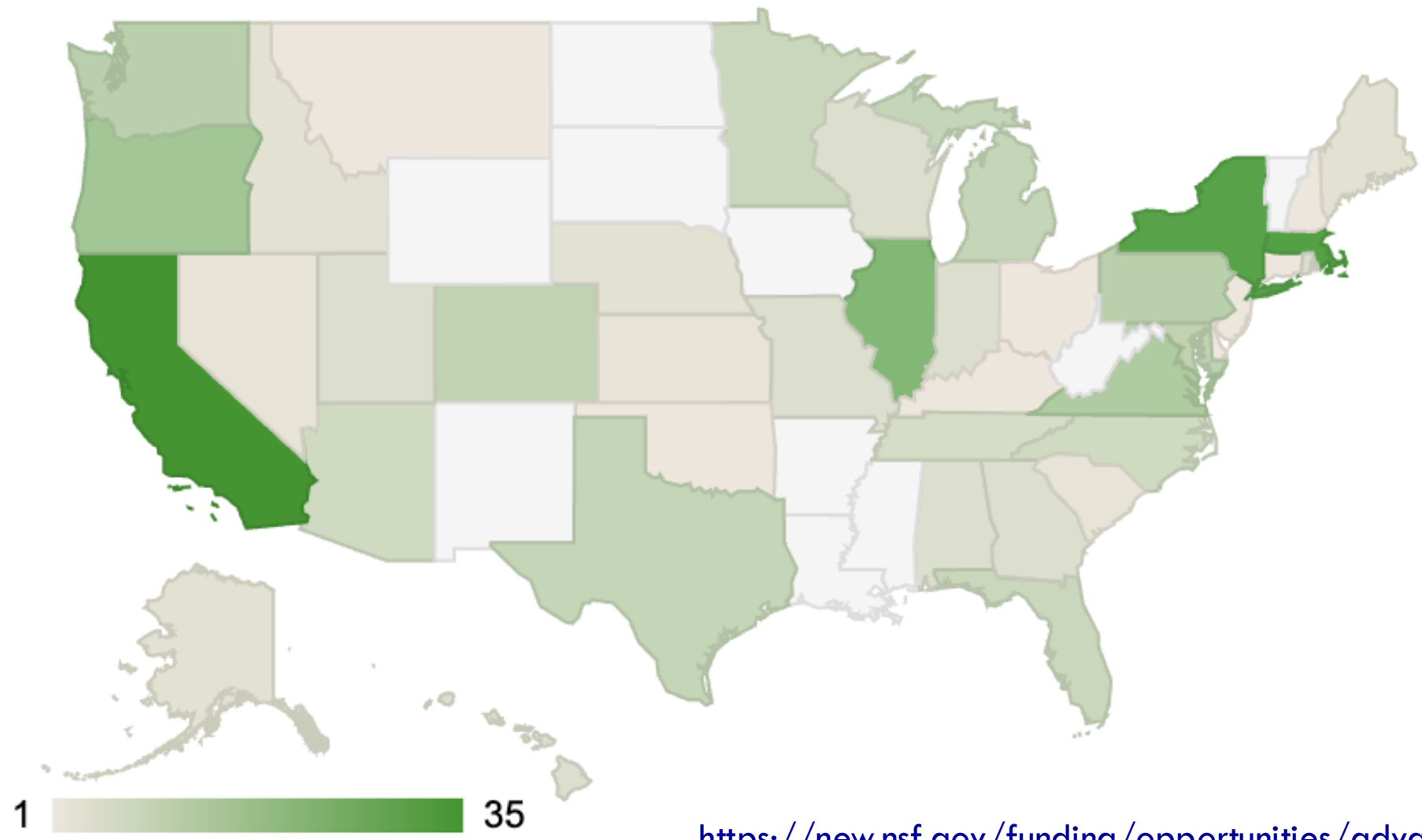
Partnership Development and Planning;



Integrating Research and Practice;



Research in Support of Wide-reaching Public Engagement with  
STEM



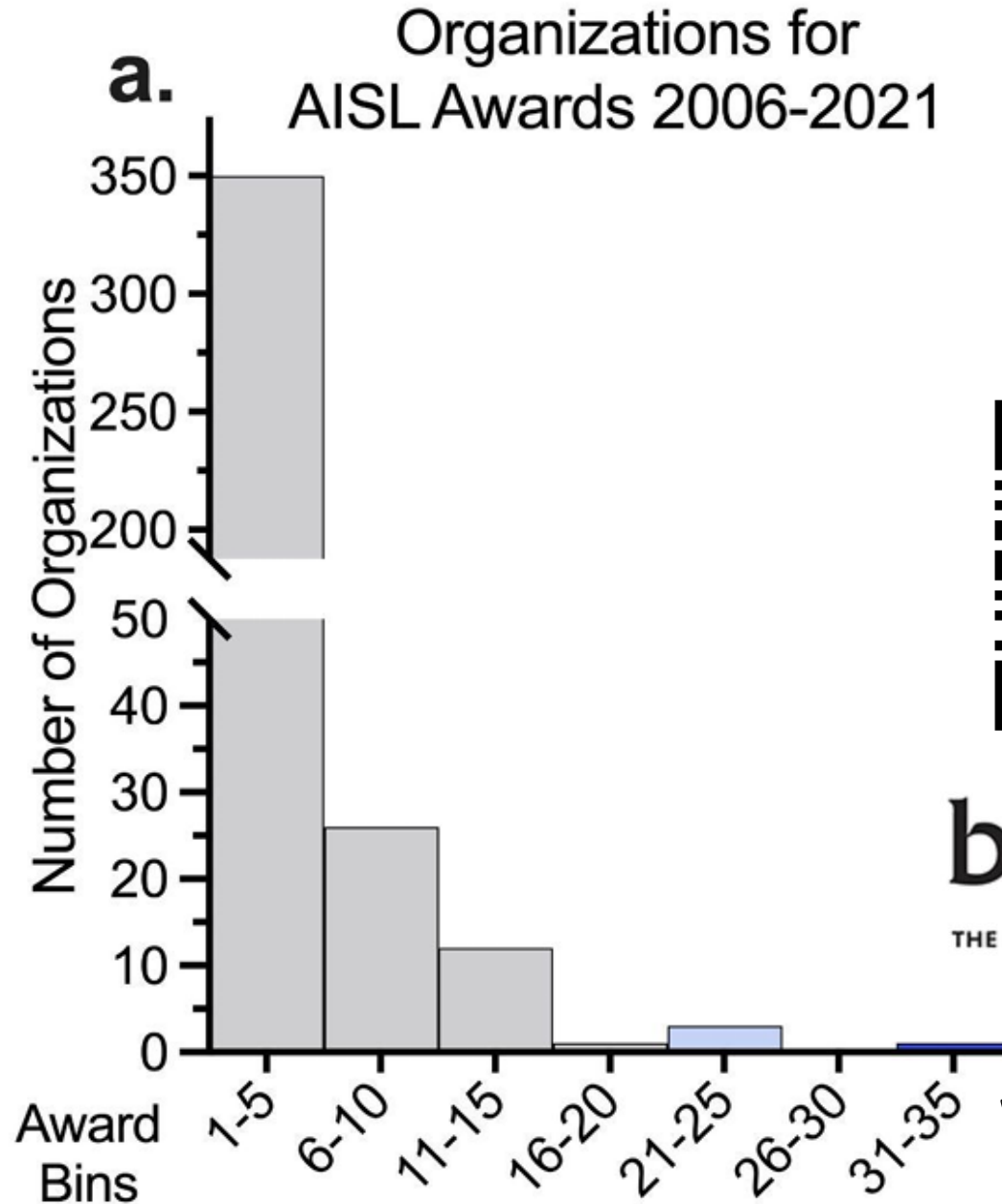
<https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/advancing-informal-stem-learning-aisl>



# Distribution of the National Science Foundation's Advancing Informal STEM Learning Awards (AISL) between 2006-21



Heidi Houzenga



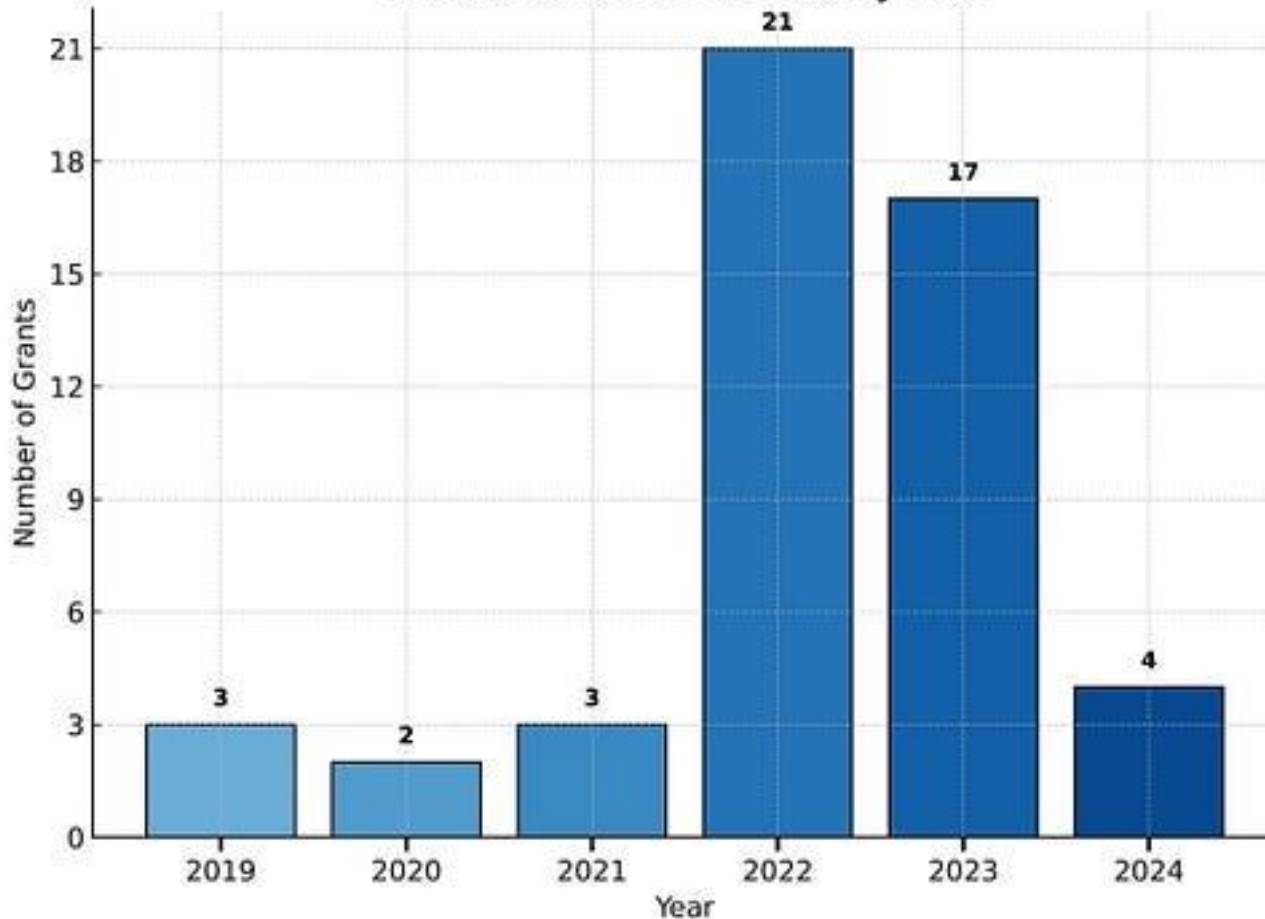
**bioRxiv**  
THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

**WGBH**  
**Exploratorium**

# Neuroscience and Society: Mapping Dana Foundation's New Focus



Panel A: Grants Awarded by Year



CIVIC SCIENCE TIMES

**Dana Foundation President Caroline Montojo says the critical window of opportunity for neuroscience and society is now**

CIVIC SCIENCE TIMES

**The critical need for community based research in neuroscience and how UCLA and Charles R. Drew University are addressing it through their new Dana Center**

“Public Engagement funds a wide variety of grantees to create content, cultivate thought leadership, and develop campus programming. We seek to catalyze conversations that inspire awe and wonder because we want to enable people to live lives of meaning and purpose.”



JOHN  
TEMPLETON  
FOUNDATION



1. Documentary and Video
2. Radio and Podcast
3. Grants for Writers and Print Projects
4. Events
5. **Thought Leadership**
6. Programming for College Students

**Academic Ideas in the Public Sphere:  
Teaching Scientists and Philosophers How  
to Communicate with the Public**

Project Leader(s): [David DeSteno](#), [Lisa Barrett](#)  
Grantee(s): [Northeastern University](#)



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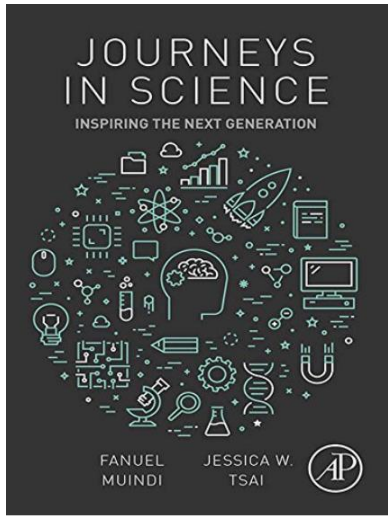
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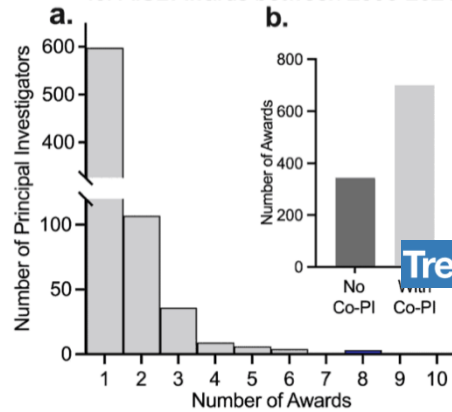
nature



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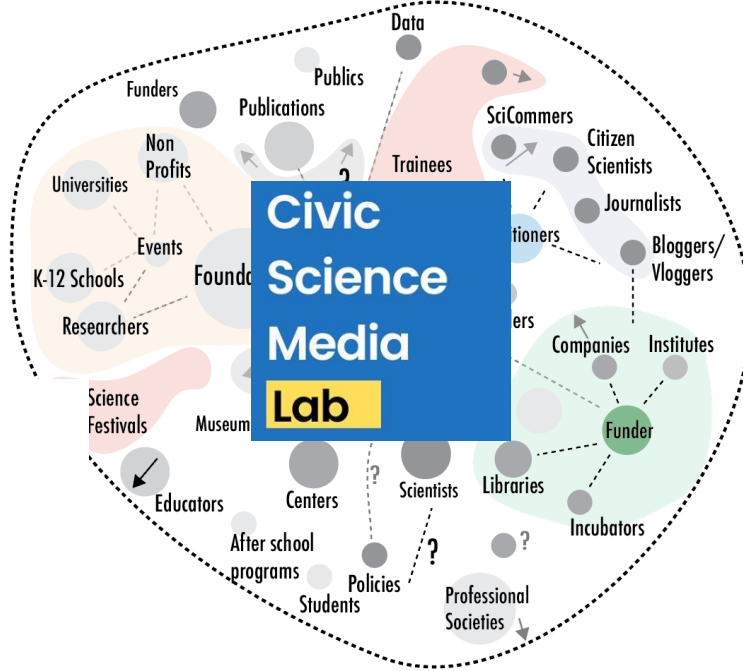
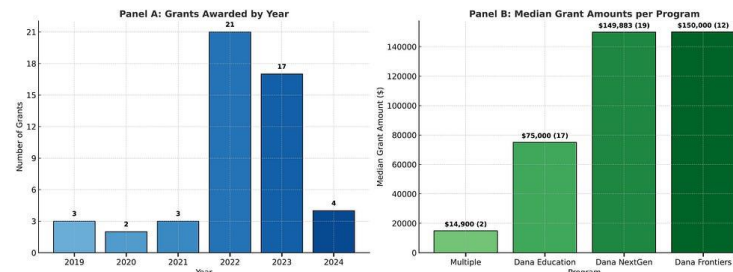
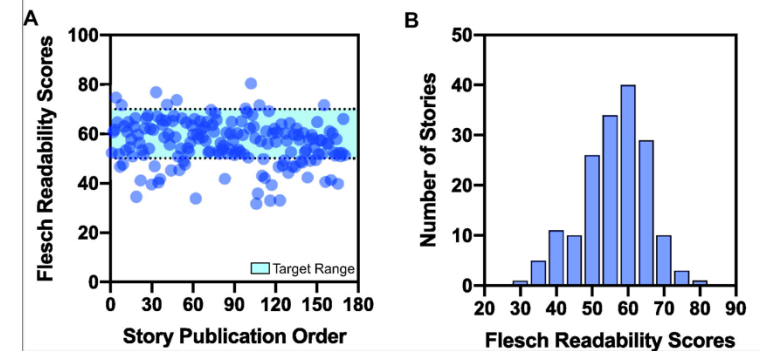


Figure 2



## Opportunities for residents

### → Apply to Internal Professional Development Funding

Residents can apply for unrestricted funding (subject to funding availability and suitability) each quarter that can be used towards their projects to cover related costs.

### → External Promotion of Projects

Promotion of resident projects across Sai channels and to external funders when appropriate.

### → Ability to Apply to External Grants as PI

You can access a curated list of external professional development grant opportunities and apply to them as the PI.

### → Help with making external connections

Residents receive help in connecting with advisors regarding evaluation, finances, leadership, and more!

### → Get Summer Intern Support

Potential to get an [intern](#) to support your work during the summer

### → Access the SRC Alumni Network

Residents have first access to stakeholder insights from the [CSM Network](#)

By the  
Numbers

25+

# of Current Residents

60+

# of Fellows & Summer Interns  
mentored by Residents

# Residents



[Matt Wilkins, PhD](#)

Resident

**Initiative: Galactic Polymath**

*A service that translates current research into creative, interdisciplinary lessons for grades 5+ that are free for everyone.*



[Kilan C. Ashad-Bishop, PhD](#)

Resident:

**Initiative: STEMNoire**

*A research conference and holistic wellness retreat for women of the African diaspora in STEM.*



[Peter Vollbrecht, PhD](#)

Resident

**Initiative: Brain Explorers**

*A program that provides exciting, engaging, and assessable neuroscience experiences for underserved and underrepresented populations*



[Rosario Marroquin-Flores, PhD](#)

**Resident; PubNavigator**

*An online platform that uses accessible language to help students navigate scientific literature.*



[Brittania Moodie](#)

Resident;

**Caribbean Youth Development Institute**

*Equip middle schoolers in Jamaica with the 21st century STEM skills that are critical for navigating the transition to high school and beyond.*

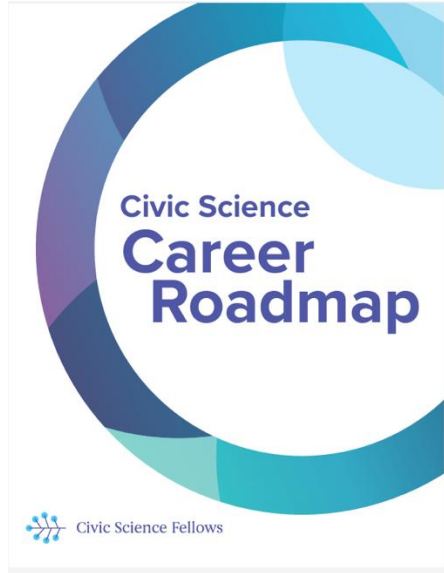


[Jenny Cutraro](#)

Resident:

**Initiative: Science Storytellers**

*Trains kids to interview scientists just like professional journalists*



“Philanthropy needs to step up by continuing to grow its commitments to civic science, bridging gaps in representation, understanding, and participation. “What can you do as civic scientists to accelerate these trends? Give us some new ideas.

Samsher (Sam)  
Singh Gill, President  
and CEO, Doris  
Duke Foundation

We need more and bigger ideas from all of you. We need you to help us find new talent, new ideas, new networks to apply our funds.



# Acknowledgements



HARVARD  
UNIVERSITY

MCB

Department of Molecular  
and Cellular Biology



brain+cognitive  
sciences

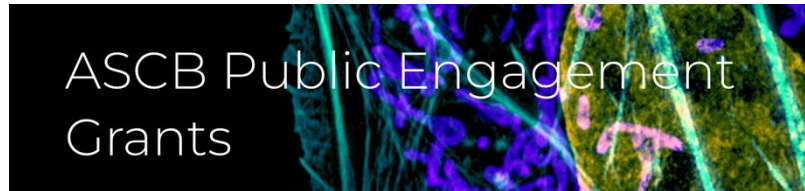
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BIOCHEMICAL  
SOCIETY

BERLIN  
SCIENCE  
WEEK

Mass  
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Council

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