

# The Ad Astra Kansas Foundation is co-recipient of science festival grant

**TOPEKA**—The Science Festival Alliance has awarded the partnership of the Ad Astra Kansas Foundation, the Visit Topeka! and 712 Innovations organizations up to \$10,000 in matching funds to expand science festival learning in Topeka in 2017.



Awarded as an accelerator grant in December by the SFA, this is one of only 9 such awards for 2017. The award also includes \$3000 in professional development resources plus attending and learning from other science festivals.

In October 2016, Ad Astra scheduled its eighth annual evening space celebration to coordinate with the daytime first-ever Topeka Science & Technology Festival, providing a double-barreled day of fun and learning for attendees.

The success of this event prompted a request from the SFA, headquartered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Museum, for an accelerator grant application. The grant is funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

In 2017, the Topeka Science & Tech Festival in conjunction with the Ad Astra Space Celebration will be held October 14 in downtown Topeka and at Washburn University.

The mission of the Ad Astra Kansas Foundation is to promote and encourage youthful interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) in Kansas by highlighting the space sciences.

Funds donated or pledged for this event will be matched. Anyone interested in sponsorship please contact Jeanette Steinert at [jeanettesteinert@att.net](mailto:jeanettesteinert@att.net)