



Something "Strange" is Coming to the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science

*'Strange Matter' Special Exhibition Presented Locally by HEICO Corporation
Debuts Saturday, February 2*

MIAMI – Discover the secrets of everyday stuff in the new ***Strange Matter*** exhibition, opening **Saturday, February 2, 2019** at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science in Downtown Miami's Museum Park. Located on floors two and three of the museum's West Wing, *Strange Matter*, presented locally by HEICO Corporation, delves into the world of materials science, or the study of "stuff." A dynamic blend of physics, chemistry and engineering, this field of research studies how things are put together, how they might be improved or how they can change to create brand new materials.

From metals to crystals to magnets to glass, *Strange Matter* will give guests the chance to dig into the science behind the materials they use every day. The exhibition uses science to explore the bizarre world of modern materials and provides a glimpse into where the future of these materials might take us.

In *Strange Matter*, guests will interact with over a dozen hands-on activities to investigate the very structure of these materials and discover what gives them their intriguing and remarkable properties. The exhibition captures advanced materials used in high-tech fields such as the space program and cardiac surgery and reveals them in more common places, from the shoes that you wear and the dishes you eat off of to the bike or skateboard you ride.

Highlights of the *Strange Matter* exhibition include:

- **Smash the Glass:** Visitors will discover the amazing properties of heat-tempered glass when they crank up a bowling ball and let it fly. Will it take ten seconds, ten minutes, ten hours, or ten days of repeated impact before the glass will shatter?
- **Amazing Magnetic Liquids:** Ferrofluids are liquids that respond to magnets. In this area of *Strange Matter*, guests will use magnets to manipulate pools of ferrofluids, making them jump and dance.
- **Amorphous Metals:** The unusual structure of amorphous metals makes them incredibly hard. Here, visitors will "test" different metals by dropping ball bearings on five different materials simultaneously.
- **Crystals:** Visitors will see one of the world's largest crystals, learn where crystals are present in everyday objects, and watch the beautiful growth of a crystal's intricate patterns.
- **Foam:** This strange material is present in all sorts of everyday objects. Guests will watch as a foam tower climbs its way toward the ceiling, then compare it to aerogel, the lightest material ever made.

- **Memory Metals:** Here, guests will use a robotic arm to bend and twist a Nitinol metal ribbon, a startling example of a metal with a “memory,” then see it return to its original shape with the addition of a little bit of hot air.
- **Demo Theater:** Frost Science ambassadors will do daily live “Spark of Science” demonstrations and invite guests to join in a lab experiment to discover the ways in which we’re all materials scientists.
- **Touch Table:** At this interactive station, guests will find instruments to help them explore the properties of assorted materials. They can use a microscope to get a closer look at the structure of common materials, experiment with “Tumble Tubes” and watch a solid material flow like a liquid, play tunes on a wooden xylophone and a xylophone of mixed materials and compare the music they create, and more.

Strange Matter is presented locally by HEICO Corporation. *Strange Matter* is produced by the Ontario Science Centre and presented by the Materials Research Society. This exhibition and its tour are made possible by the generous support of the National Science Foundation, Dow, Ford Motor Company Fund, Intel® Innovation in Education, Rio Tinto Alcan, and the 3M Foundation.

Strange Matter will be on view from **Saturday, February 2, 2019** through **Sunday, October 13, 2019** on floors two and three in the West Wing of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science. Admission to *Strange Matter* is included in all museum admission tickets. Additional information on the exhibition can be found at frostsience.org/strangematter.

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About the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science (Frost Science)

Located in Downtown Miami’s Museum Park, the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is a leading science museum dedicated to sharing the power of science, sparking wonder and investigation, and fueling innovation for the future. Sitting on four acres, the 250,000-square-foot museum is divided into four buildings: the Frost Planetarium, Aquarium, and the North and West Wings. At Frost Science, visitors can explore the world of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in an experiential setting with interactive exhibitions and unique shows. Frost Science is supported by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County. This project is supported by the Building Better Communities Bond Program and the City of Miami. It is sponsored, in part, by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers. Learn more at frostsience.org. Follow Frost Science on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @frostsience.

About HEICO Corporation

HEICO Corporation designs, manufactures, services, and distributes products and services to certain niche segments of the aviation, defense, space, medical, telecommunications and electronics industries. HEICO's customers include a majority of the airlines & overhaul shops worldwide and numerous defense and space contractors and military agencies worldwide, in addition to medical, telecommunications and electronics equipment manufacturers. HEICO is headquartered in Miami and employs over 5,500 Team Members worldwide. For more information, please visit our website at heico.com.

About the Materials Research Society

The Materials Research Society is a not-for-profit scientific association founded in 1973 to promote interdisciplinary goal-oriented research on materials of technological importance. Membership in the Society consists of more than 14,600 scientists from industry, government, academia and research laboratories in the United States and nearly 50 other countries.