



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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21ST ANNIVERSARY SCIENCENTER EGG DROP CHALLENGES INVENTORS

Calling all inventors – are you ready for a challenge? Find your way to Center Ithaca, on Sunday, April 2nd, for the Sciencenter’s 21st Anniversary Egg Drop event. As in the past, there will be a morning and afternoon drop. Melissa Hines, Director of the Cornell Center for Materials Research, is the emcee for the 11 a.m. contest, and Jim Bell, Associate Professor of Cornell University’s Department of Astronomy, will host the 3 p.m. drop.

Contestants will have the opportunity to egg-cell in both the sciences and the arts by designing an impact-resistant carrier to protect a raw egg from a drop of eight meters (3 floors) to the concrete floor beneath. The Sciencenter is challenging individuals and groups to compete in this free community event. Last year, an estimated 350 participants accepted the challenge, with approximately 60 percent of the entries surviving the drop. The unsuccessful efforts are crowd pleasers, with a special winning category dedicated to those contestants who dare to dream big, but who may end up with a spectacular “splat.”

Prizes are awarded in five additional categories: best engineering design, best free fall, best parachute/slow descent, most artistic, and best in age category. Contestants can enter in various age groups, including pre-school to first grade, second to third grade, fourth to fifth grade, sixth to eleventh grade, twelfth grade to adult. Group and family entries are encouraged.

Contestants should bring their labeled entries to Center Ithaca on April 2nd and register with a Sciencenter representative. Registration is from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for the 11 a.m. drop, and from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. for the 3 p.m. drop.

The Sciencenter Egg Drop is coordinated entirely by volunteers. The event is made possible with the generous support of primary sponsor, M & T Bank, and media sponsor, The Ithaca Journal. Special thanks to Wegmans, The Cornell University Chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Cayuga Radio Group, Center Ithaca TSD Assoc., Cornell University Materials Research Society, and the Cornell Juggler’s Group. For Egg Drop registration information and contest rules visit www.sciencenter.org

For more information and contest rules, visit www.sciencenter.org or call 607-272-0600.

The Sciencenter is a hands-on science museum for people of all ages with over 200 exhibits, educational programs, a gift shop, an outdoor science park, and a seasonal 18-hole miniature golf course. The museum is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on Sunday from noon-5 p.m. The museum is closed on Mondays. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children 3-17 years, and free to members and children under 3. The Sciencenter is a proud member of Ithaca’s Discovery Trail, more information can be found at www.DiscoveryTrail.com.

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