

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Pensacola MESS Hall installs posters of women scientists**

The Pensacola MESS Hall will host a free, adult-oriented reception on February 16 at 5 PM to celebrate the installation of twelve posters of women scientists on the outside of our facility. These posters highlight a diverse mix of women scientists, pursuing research in a variety of scientific fields. Registration for the event is requested and is available at <https://pensacolamesshall.org/women-in-science-celebration/>. Women scientists are encouraged to attend and be recognized.

The featured scientists are part of the IF/THEN® Collection, the largest free resource of its kind dedicated to increasing access to authentic and relatable images of real women in STEM. IF/THEN is rooted in the idea that IF she can see it, THEN she can be it. The poster installation and reception are supported by funding from IF/THEN®.

Additional programming at the MESS Hall this spring:

**Curiosity Days** - Each month we dive deeper into different scientific topics during Curiosity Days. Special facilitated stations aligned with the topics are available for exploration from 1 PM – 4 PM. Programs are included with admission. Programs are recommended for ages 7 and up.

Monthly themes are:

- Fossils – February 11
- Water – March 25
- Weather – April 15
- Flowers – May 13

**Homeschool Field Trips** - A MESS Hall field trip is an opportunity to engage in a special topic with other homeschool learners. Experience the type of program that is only available to school groups that will get your scientific brain going.

Monthly themes are:

- Double Trouble – February 14
- March 9 – Astronomy
- April 5 – Where Does It Fit?
- May 5 – Explore the Shore

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**Science Story Time** - Beginning with a story and followed by hands on activities, Story Time is designed for young learners ages 3+ and their caregivers. Programs are included with admission.

Monthly themes are:

Freight Train – January 28

Block City – March 4

Balancing Act – April 22

In addition to the special activities each month, visitors will have the opportunity to explore exhibits and mess kits that inspire curiosity for the entire family. Admission to the museum, which includes the Curiosity Day and Science Story Time activities, is \$12 for adults and children ages 3 and up. Members of the MESS Hall always receive free admission.

## **ABOUT THE MESS HALL**

Founded in 2012 and located at 418 E. Wright St in Downtown Pensacola, The Pensacola MESS Hall is not a typical science museum. It's all hands-on science. Visitors enjoy exploring math, engineering, science, and stuff with an ever-changing menu of mess kits, activities and exhibits. For more information about the MESS Hall, visit [pensacolamesshall.org](http://pensacolamesshall.org).

## **ABOUT IF/THEN®**

IF/THEN® is part of Lyda Hill Philanthropies®' commitment to fund game-changing advancements in science and nature. IF/THEN® seeks to further advance women in STEM by empowering current innovators and inspiring the next generation of pioneers. Rooted in a firm belief that there is no better time to highlight positive and successful female professional role models, IF/THEN® is designed to activate a culture shift among young girls to open their eyes to STEM careers by: (1) funding and elevating women in STEM as role models, (2) convening cross-sector partners in entertainment, fashion, sports, business, and academia to illuminate the importance of STEM everywhere, and (3) inspiring girls with better portrayals of women in STEM through media and learning experiences to pique their interest in STEM careers. To learn more, visit [www.ifthenshecan.org](http://www.ifthenshecan.org).

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