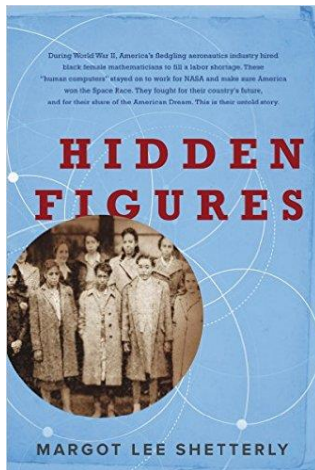




BOOKS

***Hidden Figures* Debuts on Bestseller List with Major Feature Film to Follow**



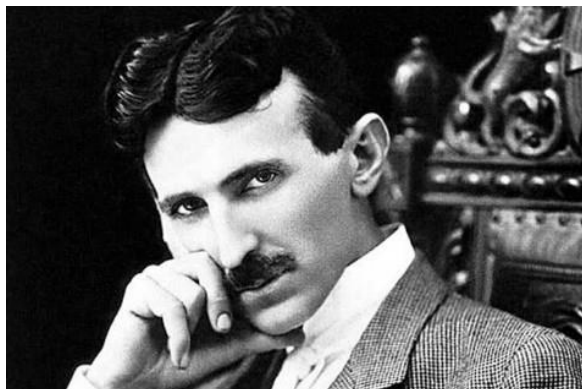
[*Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*](#) by Margot Lee Shetterly was published on September 6 by Harper Collins, [debuting at number seven](#) on the *New York Times* non-fiction hardcover [bestseller list](#). *Hidden Figures* profiles four of the African-American female scientists who worked on NASA's space program in the early 1960s and were responsible for many of the program's achievements. Katherine Johnson, one of the mathematicians, was awarded the [Presidential Medal of Freedom](#) in 2015 for her role in calculating the trajectories for many important missions, including the moon landing.

Supported by a Sloan grant to first-time author Shetterly in 2014, the surprise bestseller has been covered in major media outlets including the [New York Times](#), the [Guardian](#), and the [Washington Post](#).

It has been adapted into a highly anticipated film already generating Oscar buzz and featuring an all-star cast, including Janelle Monáe, Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Jim Parsons, Kevin Costner, and Kirsten Dunst, with Pharrell Williams as a producer and songwriter. Scenes from the film were screened at the Toronto International Film Festival, and the film will be in limited release starting December. Sloan will host a special preview screening on the West Coast in mid-December.

TELEVISION

American Experience's *Tesla* Premieres October 18



[Tesla](#), the latest Sloan-supported American Experience documentary, will premiere on October 18th from 9:00-10:00 pm EST. The film explores the life and work of Nikola Tesla (1856-1943), the physicist and inventor who was instrumental in creating the alternating current (AC) electricity supply system and had nearly 300 patents during his lifetime. Tesla's contributions to science have taken on greater significance and attracted more interest in recent year as his prescient vision of the future and its technologies—including robots, radio,

radar, remote control, the wireless transmission of messages, and wind and solar power—has been realized. WGBH is the recipient of a current grant to produce and broadcast four new documentaries on the role of science and technology in history on PBS's American Experience.



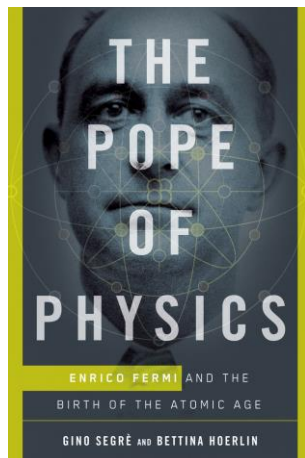
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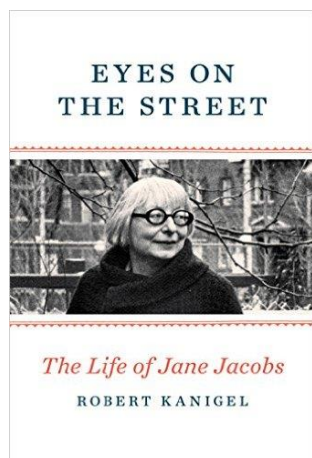
BOOKS

***The Pope of Physics: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age* to be Published in October**



The Pope of Physics: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age by Gino Segrè and Bettina Hoerlin will be published on October 18 by Henry Holt and Co. The book depicts the life and legacy of the famed Italian physicist, whose work led to weapons of mass destruction and also to life-saving medical technologies. After receiving the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1938, Fermi fled Italy with his family and settled in New York. He went on to help create the first nuclear reactor, Chicago Pile-1, in 1942. Gino Segrè is the recipient of a grant for the research and writing of this biography.

***Eyes on the Street*, Robert Kanigel's Biography of Jane Jacobs, in Bookstores Now**

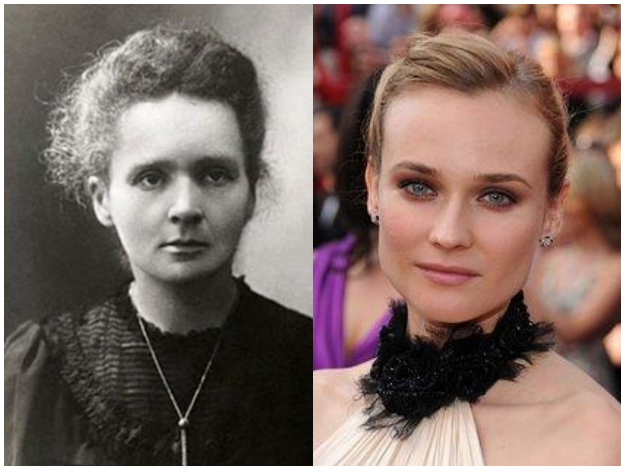


Robert Kanigel's [*Eyes on the Street: The Life of Jane Jacobs*](#) was published by Random House on September 20. This [definitive biography of Jacobs](#) chronicles the life of the influential urban planner and activist from her elementary school days and her early career in journalism to her evolving role as a leader in her field and her well-known public battles with Robert Moses over his proposed expressway through Greenwich Village. Kanigel was a recipient of a 2013 book grant for the research and writing of the first major biography of Jane Jacobs. He is the author of three previous Sloan-supported books: *The One Best Way*, a biography of Frederick Taylor; *Faux Real* about the material and cultural history of leather; and *The Man Who Knew Infinity: A Life of the Genius Ramanujan*, the biography of Indian mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan that is now a major feature film.



FILM

High-Volume Productivity from the Sloan Film Pipeline



Seven films developed at multiple stages by the Sloan film program are shooting or in post-production this fall. [Hedy: The Untold Story of Actress and Inventor Hedy Lamarr](#), a Sloan-supported *American Masters* documentary produced by Susan Sarandon, will begin a festival run this winter, with a theatrical release to follow. [A Noble Affair](#), a film about Marie Curie supported through the Sloan/TFI Filmmaker Fund, will begin filming this fall with Diane Kruger in the lead role. [The Catcher Was a Spy](#), about the plot to kill Werner Heisenberg during World War II and also funded through the Sloan/TFI partnership, will start production soon with Paul Rudd in the lead and

producer Jim Young (*The Man Who Knew Infinity*). [House of Tomorrow](#), based on a novel about a boy who lives according to the theories of inventor Buckminster Fuller, was [shot in Minnesota this summer](#). The film, which received a Sloan/Tribeca Film Institute Filmmaker Fund Award in 2015, stars Ellen Burstyn, Maude Apatow, and Nick Offerman.

Additionally, two past Sloan/NYU First Feature Award-winning projects will begin shooting this fall: Ginny Mohler and Brittany Shaw's [Radium Girls](#), based on the true story of 1920s teenage girls who were poisoned while painting luminous watches in the US Radium factory, and Shawn Snyder's [To Dust](#), also awarded the Sloan/TFI Student Grand Jury Prize, about a Hasidic cantor who copes with the loss of his wife by obsessively studying how the body decays. Finally, *The Earth Moves*, a Sloan-supported feature-length documentary on Robert Wilson and Philip Glass's historic opera, [Einstein on the Beach](#), is wrapping up production and will soon be distributed for international theatrical release and television broadcast.



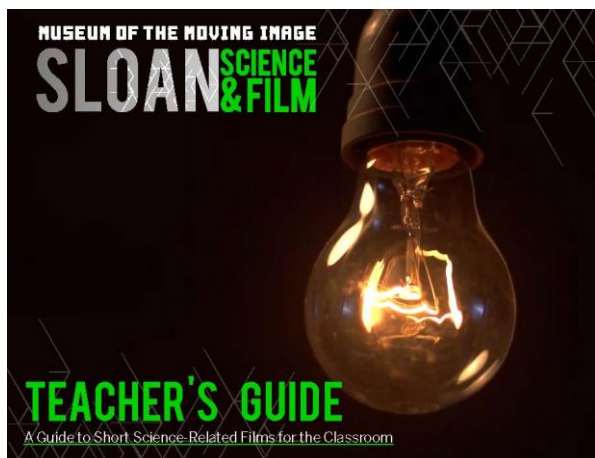


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Museum of the Moving Image Releases Teacher's Guide for Sloan-Funded Short Films



The Museum of the Moving Image's (MoMI) [Science & Film site](#), the comprehensive, go-to site for Sloan's nationwide film program, released a [teacher's guide](#) for 46 Sloan-funded short science films supported through the Sloan film school program. All 46 films are [available to stream](#) for free on the Science & Film website, where the guide is also available. For each film, the guide includes a plot summary, specific science subjects addressed, appropriate grade ranges, suggested questions for class discussion, links to additional resources, and integration with New York City, New York state, and national learning standards.

Science fields covered in the guide include biology, chemistry, genetics, mathematics, physics, and technology, among others. MoMI is the recipient of a current grant to maintain and develop the Science and Film site for the nationwide Sloan Film program, its participating partners and the over 500 Sloan-supported film projects.

Particle Fever Wins Inaugural Stephen Hawking Medal for Science Communication



Particle Fever, a Sloan-supported documentary about the Large Hadron Collider and the Higgs boson, won the Inaugural Stephen Hawking Medal for Science Communication in the film category. Hawking selected the awardees for their "outstanding contributions in the articulation and portrayal of science to the public" and presented the medals at the Starmus Festival, a science and music festival, in Tenerife this June. Other winners were composer Hans Zimmer and physicist Jim Al-Khalili. The Foundation supported *Particle Fever* with a major distribution grant in 2014.



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THEATER

Ensemble Studio Theatre Receives \$2.75 Million from New York City to Add New Stage



In July, [Ensemble Studio Theatre](#) (EST) secured \$2.75 million from New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs, the mayor's office, and the New York City Council. The city funds, combined with private donations, will help pay for a [\\$4.2 million renovation project](#) for the theater as it is enjoying a new level of success and recognition. The planned work includes building a new 99-seat theater on the first floor of the EST's current building and converting the current 74-seat theater into a 60-seat studio space. Ensemble Studio Theatre, Sloan's flagship theater partner, is the recipient of a current grant to commission, develop,

produce and disseminate new science plays in New York and across the country. Recent EST/Sloan productions include Deborah Zoe Lafer's *Informed Consent*, Frank Basloe's *Please Continue*, and Anna Ziegler's *Boy*. In 2015, EST received a special Drama Desk Award for its "unwavering commitment to producing new works" and five Tony nominations for the original production *Hand to God*.

RADIO

Planet Money Produces Special Field Report on Oil



NPR's *Planet Money*, an award-winning Sloan-supported podcast on economics, produced a five-part series, "[Planet Money Buys Oil](#)," on the role of oil in the American economy. To produce the series, *Planet Money* purchased 100 barrels of crude oil and traced them from purchase through to production and sale, with the goal of demystifying oil's influence on our world today. Each of the five episodes in the series considers one aspect of the myriad economic ramifications of oil—from the widespread use of fracking, to the price of a barrel of oil, to the omnipresence of petroleum by-products in everyday objects.

This series follows on the success of the innovative 2013 "[Planet Money T-shirt Project](#)" that explored the economics of clothing manufacturing in a similar way. NPR is the recipient of a current grant to support *Planet Money's* coverage of economics via multimedia journalism and enterprise radio reporting.



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PRX Opens Podcast Garage in Boston to Reach Next Generation of Producers and Audiences



On August 3, The Public Radio Exchange (PRX) [opened](#) the [Podcast Garage](#) in Boston as a resource for the local community, providing recording space and educational resources to train users in audio and media arts and to reach the next generation of producers and audiences. PRX will host free events at the Garage, such as audio production workshops, podcast training sessions, networking events, and storytelling events. Several organizations will partner with PRX on programming in the space, including the Center for Documentary Studies, Center for

Investigative Reporting, Radiotopia, Women Audio Makers, WBUR, WGBH, and Harvard. PRX is the recipient of a current grant to expand science-themed audio content for radio broadcast, podcast, and video.

TELEVISION

PBS *NewsHour* Nominated for News and Documentary Emmy Award



PBS *NewsHour* was nominated for six News and Documentary Emmy Awards this year, including a nomination in the Outstanding Business and Economic Reporting in a Regularly Scheduled Newscast category for “Get Ready For Another Round Of The Foreclosure Crisis,” a segment on the Sloan-supported weekly Making \$ense feature. *NewsHour* is supported by a current grant for the weekly broadcast of Paul Solman's economic and business coverage Making Sen\$e and to support online, social media, and digital content to educate the American public about the fundamentals of economics and finance.



Sloan Participates on Panel about STEM, Diversity, and the Entertainment Industry



As part of the Public Understanding program's efforts to increase the depiction of under-represented minorities in popular, STEM-themed media, Vice President, Programs and Program Director Doron Weber spoke at an "Image of STEM" event in Atlanta on September 19. Associate Director for Science at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Jo Handelsman opened the event and, OSTP Senior Advisor Knatokie Ford hosted the panel discussion. The event brought together 200 entertainment media

professionals, educators, and representatives from the non-profit and private sectors to discuss how storytelling and depictions in popular culture can promote greater diversity in the STEM workforce. Other speakers included leaders from Turner Broadcasting System, Savannah College of Arts and Design, and the National Science Foundation. The panel discussed, among other things, Sloan-supported works that tell the stories of women and under-represented minorities, such as the recently published book *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly.

NEW MEDIA

Science Festival Alliance Launches Accelerator Program for New Festivals



The MIT-based [Science Festival Alliance](#) (SFA), a group currently comprised of 48 science festival members that works to foster a professional community dedicated to more and better science and technology festivals, opened applications for its Science Festival Accelerator program in September. The new Accelerator program will select nine new, independently organized science

festivals to receive up to \$10,000 in matching funding, an additional \$3,000 for professional development, and support from experienced professionals. SFA is partnering with three established science festivals—Flagstaff Science Festival, Indian River Lagoon Science Festival, and Maine Science Festival—to provide mentorship and professional development to the nine new festivals. The SFA is the recipient of a current grant to support the growth of nine new science festival initiatives in communities across the country with small resource bases.



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UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

Recollection Wisconsin Joins Digital Public Library as 21st Service Hub



1964 poster promoting the boycott of Milwaukee Public Schools to encourage desegregation of the school system. From the Collection of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries

Recollection Wisconsin [joined the Digital Public Library](#) (DPLA) as the newest service hub in August, bringing the total to 21 service hubs in the DPLA network representing 23 states and the Caribbean. DPLA service hubs are state, regional, or other collaborations that bring together digital objects from a group of libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions. Recollection Wisconsin, led by seven Wisconsin institutions, has approximately 400,000 records from 200 collections. Highlights include historical documents from the Civil War era, documents from the Menominee Nation's 1950s fight to be recognized as a tribe by the federal government, and posters,

photos, and other visual resources from the Civil Rights Movement and key moments in LGBT history. The DPLA is the recipient of a current grant to complete its Nationwide Service Hub Network and to pilot an eBooks distribution program.

Program Team: Doron Weber, *Vice President, Programs and Program Director* | Eliza French, *Program Associate* | Delia DiBiasi, *Senior Program and Investments Assistant*