



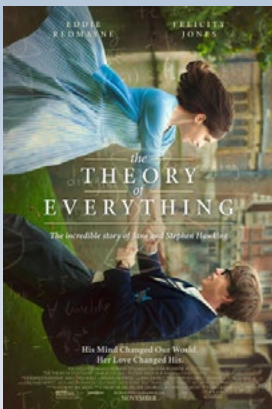
## Hamptons Film Festival Celebrates 15 Years of Sloan Support with *Imitation Game*



The 2014 Hamptons International Film Festival will celebrate the culmination of fifteen years of Sloan support highlighting science and technology films and developing science and technology screenplays. The festival, taking place October 9-13 in East Hampton, will turn the annual Chairman's reception into a special event honoring Sloan's 15 year partnership on Saturday, October 11, where it will showcase the impressive slate of feature films Sloan has awarded prizes to--from *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* to *Decoding Annie Parker*. This year's [Sloan Feature Film Prize](#) winner is [The Imitation Game](#), a dramatic biopic that stars Benedict Cumberbatch as the British mathematician and cryptographer Alan Turing, which also received a Sloan post-production award through Tribeca Film Institute. The film, which took home the [People's Choice Award](#) at its [premiere](#) at the Toronto International Film Festival, a prize which has predicted the Oscar winner in years past, will be followed by a distinguished panel that includes Physics and Astronomy professor Janna Levin, Radu Sion Professor at Stony Brook University, and Dan Guido, Hacker in Residence at NYU Poly. Sloan is also supporting two science and technology screenplays at the Hamptons Labs this year--*Palimpsest* by Ben Nabors and Michael Tyburski, and *Televisionaries*, by Evan Schwartz--which will be read by leading actors during the festival. The Hamptons International Film Festival is the recipient of a final one-year Sloan grant to commission and spotlight science and technology films and to develop science and technology screenplays.

FILM

## The Triennial Sloan Film Summit will be hosted by Film Independent in November



The [2014 Sloan Film Summit](#) will be hosted by Film Independent from November 14-16 in downtown Los Angeles. This is a triennial [event](#) that brings together members from Sloan's thriving nationwide film program--featuring the exciting new work of 150 emerging screenwriters and filmmakers from the six film schools, three film festivals, and four screenwriting development programs as well as affiliated distribution, community building, and theatre partners funded by Sloan. The event will be bookended for the first time ever by public screenings of the new Stephen Hawking biopic *Theory of Everything* with actor Eddie Redmayne and physicist and producer of *Particle Fever* David Kaplan present for a Q&A; and the Sloan-funded film about Alan Turing, *The Imitation Game*--two of the early Oscar contenders for 2015. The three days will also feature updates and success stories from Sloan grantees, a Keynote address by Sloan-supported writer Beau Willimon (*House of Cards*), industry networking opportunities, public screenings and sneak previews of Sloan films in development such as *The Man Who Knew Infinity* and *Basmati Blues*, staged readings, and panels featuring leading scientists and filmmakers. A new \$50,000 Sloan Distribution Grant will also be announced at the Summit, to be awarded by Film Independent to eligible finished films previously supported by Sloan's Film Development Pipeline.

## The 2014 EST/Sloan First Light Festival Showcases Exciting New Work

The Ensemble Studio Theatre's 2014 EST/Sloan First Light Festival, featuring Sloan-supported workshops, staged readings, and rough cut productions, starts next month. The festival will open on November 2 with the annual EST/Youngblood Science Brunch showcasing Obie Award-winning playwrights under 30 writing about science. An invitation-only satellite event held at New York Theatre Workshop will feature the Sloan-commissioned play *Spill*, by Leigh Fondakowski which explores the lives of those impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Other highlights include a production of Anna Ziegler's (*Photograph 51*) new play about gender change, *Boy*, and Lloyd Suh's play *Franklinland*, about growing up as the only son of Benjamin Franklin. Because of an exciting partnership with Primary Stages, this year's mainstage production, the Sloan-commissioned play *Informed Consent* by Deb Laufer, will premiere in summer 2015. EST is the recipient of a current three-year Sloan grant to commission, develop, produce and disseminate new science plays in New York and across the country.

## James Cameron's Deepsea Challenge 3D Opens in Theatres

The Sloan-funded film about James Cameron's [pioneering dive](#) to the deepest part of the ocean, *James Cameron's Deepsea Challenge 3D*, opened in [theatres](#) across the country in August, 2014. This [film](#), made in partnership with National



Geographic Cinema Ventures, chronicles the extensive preparations and rigors of engineering that led up to Cameron's history-making expedition. The much anticipated IMAX version of this film will make its debut at the end of 2014. National Geographic is the recipient of a current three-year Sloan grant to provide partial funding for a television documentary, 3D film, IMAX film, educational materials, and digital outreach on Cameron's historic dive and scientific expedition to the deepest part of the ocean.

## New Slate of Cinemas Wins Grants to Host Science on Screen Program

In 2014 Sloan's partnership with the Coolidge Corner Theatre's *Science on Screen* initiative awarded 23 independent nonprofit cinemas grants of up to \$8,500 to develop or sustain their own *Science on Screen* programs. [Science on Screen](#) pairs feature films with talks by working scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. The Foundation has supported the expansion of this program to art house cinemas nationwide--awarding 71 grants to 38 independent cinemas



to date--each of which shows at least one Sloan film per year providing a unique distribution opportunity for Sloan-funded films. This year, the 23 [grantees](#) include the Moxie Cinema in Springfield Montana, the Belcourt Theatre in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Jacob Burns Film Center, in Pleasantville, New York. The Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation is the recipient of a current two-year Sloan grant to support the theatre's *Science on Screen* program and expand its reach to another 40 theatres nationwide

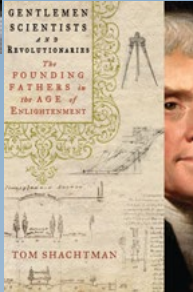
## The Imitation Game, about Mathematician Alan Turing, Premieres in November

[The Imitation Game](#), a new feature film about pioneering British mathematician and code-breaker Alan Turing, which received post-production support from Sloan through the Tribeca Film Institute and the Feature Film Prize at Hamptons, opens in theatres on November 21, 2014. The film, a hit [premiere](#) at the Toronto and Telluride film festivals, stars Benedict Cumberbatch and Kiera Knightly and is the first commercial film to portray the life of the famous scientist who conceived of the modern computer and broke Nazi Germany's Enigma Code during World War II. The film, acquired by Harvey Weinstein, is already generating Oscar buzz and has received uniformly rave reviews. [The Independent](#) gave it five stars, and [The Wall Street Journal](#) calls the film "an urgent and stirring portrayal of an eccentric genius at work."

## Two New Sloan-Supported Books are Published



*Life's Blueprint: The Science and Art of Embryo Creation*, by molecular geneticist Benny Shilo, will be published by Yale University Press on October 28, 2014. The book, the recipient of a 2013 Sloan officer grant, is beautifully illustrated and employs visual metaphors to explain developmental biology in new ways.



Also supported by a Sloan grant, author Tom Shachtman has just published *Gentlemen Scientists and Revolutionaries: The Founding Fathers in the Age of Enlightenment*, which looks at the [scientific passions](#) and experiments of America's founding fathers from Thomas Paine's invention of smokeless candles and underwater bombs to John Adams' love of astronomy.

## New Sloan Play to Open on Broadway



The American premiere of Sloan-supported playwright Nick Payne's *Constellations* will open on Broadway in January, 2015 at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre, with production support provided by Sloan through its [partnership](#) with the [Manhattan Theatre Club \(MTC\)](#). *Constellations* will star Jake Gyllenhaal as a beekeeper falling in love with a quantum physicist. Their love story unfolds "...as an exploration of the quantum-mechanics theory of coexisting parallel universes," says [Variety](#). MTC is the recipient of a current five month Sloan grant for production support for its science-themed Broadway play featuring a theoretical physicist as a main character.

## *I Origins* Opens in Theatres



*I Origins*, Mike Cahill's new feature film starring Michael Pitt and Brit Marling as molecular biologists, was released into theatres across the country in summer 2014. The film was the Sloan Feature Film Prize winner at Sundance in 2014. The [LA Times](#) says that *I Origins* continues Cahill's "exploration of science as an engine for emotional storytelling, building from ideas involving iris biometrics...[his] new film exists at the intersection of the headier...aspects of modern science with all-too-human issues of identity, spirituality and love."

## Five New Sloan Films Are Completed in 2014



The Sloan Foundation's film pipeline, made up of multiple program partners giving support to films at various stages of development, has five more exciting films that will have finished shooting by the end of 2014. In addition to *Imitation Game*, the films are: *Experimenter*, directed by Michael Almereyda, starring Peter Saarsgard as Stanley Milgram, the famed social psychologist; *The Man Who Knew Infinity* stars Dev Patel as the famous Indian mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan, alongside Jeremy Irons who plays the British scholar G.H. Hardy; *Basmati Blues* is a Bollywood-style musical about genetically modified rice starring Brie Larson and Donald Sutherland; and John Walters is directing a documentary called *The Earth Moves* about the avant-garde opera *Einstein on the Beach*.

## WNYC's Healthcare Reporting Unit Addresses New Jersey



On October 14, 2014, [New York Public Radio](#) will feature Brick City/Sick City: The Culture of Health in New Jersey's Largest City. The evening will be hosted by award-winning broadcaster Brian Lehrer, and will feature health reporter Kai Wright looking at health and healthcare in New Jersey, as part of WNYC's investigation into the impact of the Affordable Care Act on consumers in New York

and surrounding regions. WNYC has also broadcast the first three [segments](#) by reporter Fred Mogul on health-care cost outliers in these areas, with a focus on end of life care--spotlighting hospice care and living wills. New York Public Radio is the recipient of a current two-year Sloan grant to support a health care reporting unit focusing on the economics and policy of our healthcare system and the impact of the ACA on consumers in New York.

## Open Mind has a New Twenty-Four Year Old Host

The long-running acclaimed PBS program *The Open Mind*, which features thoughtful conversations with leading intellectuals, scholars, politicians, educators, and entertainers, has a new 24-year old host.



[Alexander Heffner](#), grandson of the program's founder Richard Heffner, took over for his grandfather in December 2013, becoming the youngest host on public television. *The Open Mind* has featured Sloan grantees such as DPLA's John Palfrey on Digital Natives and Wikipedia's Sue Gardner on universal access to knowledge. WNET is the recipient of a current seven month Sloan grant to support the broadcast of three public television programs to enhance public understanding of science and technology.

## Public Radio Exchange Discovers New Science Voices



The [PRX-STEM project](#), funded by Sloan to generate new science content, is off to a promising start. The open call for stories received 102 proposals from new producers around the country covering a broad range of science topics that will begin to air this fall. Three women scientists have been selected to host and produce new podcast episodes related to topics such as astronomy and brain science that will be available in 2015. [One story](#), about

new discoveries in fire forensics, supported through the Sloan program in 2013, was just aired on NPR. PRX is the recipient of a current one year Sloan grant to support a three-pronged approach to developing and disseminating new science and technology content for a new generation of radio producers and listeners via nontraditional broad, digital, and mobile platforms.

## Sloan Screenplay Becomes a Book

Cristin Aptowicz, awarded a 2004 Sloan Screenwriting Grant at the Hamptons International Film Festival for her project *Mutter*, has now turned her screenplay into a novel. *Dr. Mutter's Marvels: A True Tale of Intrigue and Innovation at the Dawn of Modern Medicine*, was published in September 2014. The book received starred reviews from [Publishers Weekly](#), [Kirkus](#), and [Library Journal](#), which called it a "fast-moving and popular history of the early to mid-19th-century American and Parisian medical worlds...Written for the general public, this will be of great interest to large public libraries..."

## Three Sloan-Supported Programs Nominated for Emmy Awards



PBS's *The NewsHour*, hosted by award-winning economics reporter Paul Solman and supported by Sloan to enhance public understanding of economics, was nominated for two News & Documentary Emmys in 2014. The Sloan-supported NOVA won an Emmy for "Manhunt," about the technology used to track the Boston Bombers, and NPR's Sloan-supported broadcast *Planet Money* won for their "Make a T-Shirt" interactive documentary chronicling how a t-shirt is made across four continents. Director Ken Burns, nominated for *The Central Park Five*, is currently working on a Sloan-funded six hour PBS film called the *Story of Cancer*, based on Siddhartha Mukherjee's best-selling book *The Emperor of All Maladies*, that will premiere in the spring of 2015.

## Particle Fever Wins the Grand Helix Prize at the Jackson Hole Science Media Awards



Two Sloan-supported films were nominated for the 2014 Jackson Hole Science Media Awards, out of 480 entries. *Particle Fever*, a documentary about the Large Hadron Collider which features the work of three Sloan Research Fellows, took home the prize for the 2014 Grand Helix/Best of the Festival Award, the Best Physical Sciences Program, and the Best Editing. *The American Experience's* documentary, *The Poisoner's Handbook*--based on the Sloan-funded book of the same name by Deborah Blum--was nominated in the Best Medical Science Program category.

## The Library Foundation of Los Angeles Reinvestigates *The Odyssey*

The [Library Foundation of Los Angeles](http://www.libraryfoundationoflosangeles.org) is hosting a month-long multi-platform festival reinvestigating Homer's *The Odyssey* from a literary, historical, and scientific standpoint. Events include "An Odyssey of the Odyssey" at the Hammer Museum, bringing together a computer scientist and an ecologist with artists, designers, researchers, and actors to explore the creative legacy of the epic. Neuroscientist Daniella Schiller whose work focuses on traumatic memories in the brain and their

emotional impact will examine how, when Odysseus returns to his homeland after 20 years of war, he is most likely suffering from PTSD. The Library Foundation of Los Angeles is the recipient of a current Sloan officer grant to support a science essay, panels with scientists, and the scientific underpinnings of *The Odyssey*, part of a series of programs, lectures, and events using libraries to bring the two cultures together around great works of literature.

THE L.A.  
ODYSSEY  
PROJECT

## The World Science Festival Discusses the Science of Justice



On September 10, 2014 the Sloan-supported World Science Festival partnered with the New York Hall of Science to host “The Science of Justice: A Matter of Opinion?” based on the Sloan funded interactive ebook “False Conviction: Innocence, Guilt & Science” about the science behind false convictions and the [Innocence Project](#). The evening was moderated by journalist and legal affairs analyst Jami Floyd, and featured Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist and author of *False Conviction*, Jim Dwyer, along with lawyer Peter Neufeld, forensic scientist Mechthild Prinz, and others. The full discussion is available to watch [online](#).

## DPLA Receives \$1 Million Grant from IMLS plus New Content from Three Major Institutions



The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), the thriving year-old institution of which Sloan is a founding sponsor and which aims to be the nation’s online repository for all knowledge, keeping it free and open to the public, is garnering more support. The Institute of Museum and Library Services ([IMLS](#)), which provides federal support to libraries and museums advancing innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement, just pledged a one million dollar grant to DPLA to grow its service hubs network,

with the hope that eventually each state will be able to supply content to the DPLA. The number of contributing institutions has more than doubled since last year and the DPLA’s collection has tripled in size. Most recently the Getty Research Institute, the Medical Heritage Library, and the Government Printing Office each contributed a significant number of items to DPLA. The DPLA is the recipient of a current two-year Sloan grant to launch the DPLA as an independent, national organization and to support its executive director and two staff to begin operation and scale up.

### *PROGRAM TEAM*

*Vice President, Programs: Doron Weber*

*Program Associate: Sonia Epstein*

*Program Assistant: Delia DiBiasi*