



**California Academy of Sciences highlights global pandemic research
with six-day science festival from September 24-29**

Brilliant!Science: Pandemic features author talks, evening events, and family activities

SAN FRANCISCO (August 28, 2014)—From influenzas to zoonotic diseases, pandemics have altered the course of human history and changed the way we think about preventative medicine in the modern age. In this installment of Brilliant!Science, hear from top microbiologists and epidemiologists pioneering next-level research, trace the fascinating life cycle of historic outbreaks, learn what happens when these illnesses jump from other animals to humans, and find out what experts are doing to prevent or limit the impact of future pandemics. See below for a full list of festival events and programs or visit www.calacademy.org/brilliantscience.

Pritzker Lecture: The Remedy

Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 7 pm | African Hall

Featuring Thomas Goetz, science writer and author

Join Thomas Goetz, author of *The Remedy* and former executive editor of *Wired* magazine, for a riveting look at tuberculosis, the world's most lethal disease. Goetz will discuss the history of this 19th century "death sentence;" how two doctors' unprecedented research led to our understanding of germs as transmitters of disease; and our quest to control the spread of such diseases in the 130-plus years since.

Reservations: \$12, general; \$10, seniors; free for members. Seating is limited and advanced ticketing is required. For tickets, please visit www.calacademy.org/lectures or call (877) 227-1831.

Outbreak NightLife (ages 21+)

Thursday, Sept. 25 from 6 – 10 pm

Music by Grown Kids Radio featuring a live set by Teeko

Explore the fascinating and frightening history of pandemics as NightLife takes a look at the dynamic diseases that have shaped the world we live in. Pick the brains of Bay Area scientists during *Emergence: The Potential for Pandemic*, lightning talks featuring Academy microbiologist [Dr. Shannon Bennett](#), Academy Fellow [Dr. Vance Vredenburg](#), and [Dr. Andrea Swei](#) of SF State University, along with others who spend their careers studying diseases and the ways they spread. Consider yourself a "pop culture pandemic" guru? Put your knowledge to the test during a round of pandemic-themed pub trivia by Brainstormer. Then, meet [Dr. Matt Lewin](#), the Academy's resident expedition doc who prepares scientists for research trips to some of the world's most remote and dangerous hotspots. Hear his captivating stories from the field and learn about what it takes to work in emergency medicine. Plus, discover how tiny flies can pack serious illnesses (like malaria) and how these diseases are transmitted with [Stanford University Postdocs](#). Then, sip on botanically-derived beverages to cure what ails you in an elixir lounge hosted by [Brilliant Elixirs](#). In the Piazza, groove to a DJ set by [Grown Kids Radio](#), featuring a live performance by world-renowned turntablist [Teeko](#).

Reservations: \$12, general; \$10, members. Tickets can be purchased online at www.calacademy.org/nightlife or at the door. This event is for adults 21+.

Pandemic Family Festival

Saturday, Sept. 27 from 10 am – 4 pm | Academy Piazza

Join the Academy for a day of family-friendly programming, including interactive demonstrations, chats with scientists, educational games, and more. Festival participants include:

The Academy's Animal Health Department

Meet the team that keeps our 38,000 live animals healthy and happy—from African penguins and rainforest birds to tropical reef fishes and invertebrates.

National Park Service Office of Public Health

Meet Lt. Tara Carolfi from the NPS Office of Public Health to learn more about public initiatives that encourage active lifestyles through exploration of our parks and protection of animal health.

Wildlife and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Join the Academy's Dr. Shannon Bennett and Maxine Zylberberg for "Take a Walk on the Wild Side with Viruses and Other Microbes!"—an informal talk.

Stanford School of Medicine

Curious about the forms viruses take and the functions their structures serve? Join Dr. Robert Siegel, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, and students to create three-dimensional models of viruses.

Cal STAPH

Learn how this student-led group from UC Berkeley trains graduate students to provide support for state and local health departments during outbreaks and other public health emergencies.

Additional Participants: The Charles Chiu Lab, the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District, and The Skoll Global Threats Fund's Pandemics Team.

Film Screening: Contagion

Sunday, Sept. 28 at 6 pm | Morrison Planetarium

Moderated by Dr. Shannon Bennett, the Academy's Associate Curator of Microbiology

Step inside the world's largest all-digital planetarium for a special Sunday evening screening of Contagion (2011; rated PG-13), a fictional thriller that follows the rapid spread of a lethal airborne virus.

Reservations: \$12, general; \$10, members. Tickets can be purchased online at www.calacademy.org/brilliantscience.

Nerd Nite East Bay

Pandemic: Extreme Medicine

Monday, Sept. 29 at 8 pm | The New Parkway, Oakland

Featuring Dr. Matt Lewin, Director of the Center for Exploration & Travel Health and Fellow, California Academy of Sciences

Throughout his career, Dr. Matt Lewin has treated patients and scientists in some of the world's most remote locations and under the harshest conditions. Lewin, along with an international group of colleagues, made headlines recently for their pioneering approach to the treatment of venomous snakebites using a nasal spray. This novel technique is the first step toward finding a universal antidote for snakebite—one of the world's most neglected tropical diseases, affecting nearly 5 million people annually. Hear Lewin's exciting tales from the field during this special edition of Nerd Nite. Held monthly in more than 70 cities around the globe, Nerd Nite is where

science nerds take the stage to deliver fun and informative presentations, while audience-nerds drink along.

Reservations: \$8, all ages. For tickets, please visit eastbay.nerdnite.com. The New Parkway is located at 474 24th St., Oakland. Doors open at 7 pm.

The California Academy of Sciences is home to an aquarium, planetarium, natural history museum, and research and education programs, which engage people of all ages and backgrounds on two of the most important topics of our time: life and its sustainability. Admission to the Academy is: \$34.95 for adults; \$29.95 for youth ages 12 to 17, Seniors ages 65+, and students with valid ID; \$24.95 for children ages 4 to 11; and free for children ages 3 and younger. Admission fees include all exhibits and shows. Hours are 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Saturday, and 11:00 am - 5:00 pm on Sunday. During peak periods, including some holiday weekends, extended hours may apply. Visit www.calacademy.org or call (415) 379-8000 for more.

###