

# **Dr. Marianne Mader**

**Managing Director, Earth & Space/Fossils & Evolution, Royal Ontario Museum at Co-Founder & Board Member, STEAMLabs Community Makerspace**

Toronto, ON, CA

Cultivating curiosity. Inspiring passion for exploration. Empowering people to engage with science & tech.

[www.mariannemader.com](http://www.mariannemader.com)

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## **Biography**

Marianne Mader has dedicated her career to sharing her love for space exploration through innovative public engagement, participatory education, planetary science research, and science communication. Currently the Managing Director of Earth & Space / Fossils & Evolution at the Royal Ontario Museum, she strives to foster curiosity through learning experiences for all ages. As part of her mission to make education accessible and engaging, Marianne co-founded STEAMLabs, a non-profit community makerspace. STEAMLabs is located in Toronto's Centre for Social Innovation, and acts as a creative hub where people of different ages and abilities come together to learn and create using digital fabrication, coding, and more.

A leader in the space industry with over 13 years of research and field experience, Marianne has worked with the Canadian Space Agency, NASA, and MDA (Canada's largest space company). She has been a Visiting Lecturer at the International Space University, and her education includes a PhD in Planetary Science, MSc in Space Studies, and an MSc in Earth Sciences. A talented connector of networks, Marianne has the rare experience of managing teams and collaborating at the intersection of space agency, academic, industrial, and community stakeholders.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Museums and Institutions, Aerospace, Education/Learning, Program Development

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Space Exploration, Planetary Science, Science Communication, Maker Culture, Leadership, STEAM Education, Science Outreach to the Public, Makerspace, 21st Century Learning, Citizen Science, Museums, STEM Education, Participatory Engagement, Hackathons, Innovation, Innovating Learning, Geology

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## **Affiliations**

Co-Founder & Board Member, STEAMLabs

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## **Event Appearances**

**Speaker: STEAMLabs' Motivation**

Chris Hadfield's Generator Show

**Keynote Presentation: Punching above our weight: Increasing space outreach impact**  
2017 SEDS Ascension Conference

**Invited Speaker: Hunting Meteorites at the End of the World**  
2017 & 2016, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Monthly Meeting

**Presenter: Museums & Planetary Missions**  
2017 Lunar and Planetary Science Conference

**Keynote Presentation: Millennial Engagement - 21st Century Science Outreach**  
2016 Students for the Exploration of Space & Development Conference

**Presenter: The Maker Movement (in Museums)**  
2016 Toronto Maker Festival

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## **Education**

**Western University**  
PhD Planetary Science & Exploration

**International Space University**  
MSc Space Studies

**Memorial University**  
MSc Geology

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## **Accomplishments**

**Advisory Board Member, Space Apps Challenge**  
Every year over one weekend, developers, makers, engineers and entrepreneurs take on NASA-designed challenges, creating solutions that range from silly to serious, fantastical to feasible.

See: <http://spaceappstoronto.com>

**Visiting Lecturer International Space University**  
The International Space University is an educational organization located in France that develops future leaders of the global space community. Marianne was a Visiting Lecturer for the graduate level professional development Space Studies Program in 2014 and 2015.

**US Antarctic Service Medal**  
Awarded in 2013 for research contributions to the Antarctic Search for Meteorites (ANSMET). Marianne is one of only 3 Canadians selected for this intensive research program since it began in 1976.

## **NSERC Scholarships**

2012: PhD Fellowship, NSERC CREATE Technologies and Techniques for Earth & Space Exploration

2009: Postgraduate Scholarship (PGS-D)

2002: Postgraduate Scholarship (PGS-M)

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