

Todd R. Boyette, Ph.D.

Director, Morehead Planetarium and Science Center at UNC-Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Todd Boyette is an expert in university-based informal science education and a co-founder of the North Carolina Science Festival.

Description

North Carolina native Todd Boyette has built a lifelong career in science education, beginning as a high school chemistry teacher and as a project coordinator for NCSU's Science House and later serving as chief executive officer for three of North Carolina's informal science education centers across the state – Imagination Station in Wilson, The Health Adventure in Asheville and Morehead Planetarium and Science Center in Chapel Hill.

He has been a catalyst for expanding Morehead's outreach programs, which now serve all 100 counties in North Carolina. He is also a founder of the North Carolina Science Festival, the first statewide science festival in the United States. In its first five years, the Festival delivered science programming to more than one million North Carolinians through a network of community-based organizations.

Boyette led efforts to convert Morehead's historic planetarium from an outdated analog projection system to a state-of-the-art fulldome digital system, one of the largest in the United States. Morehead now produces fulldome planetarium shows that have been leased by more than 60 different planetariums in the U.S. and in seven countries internationally.

Boyette serves as president of the Association of Science Museum Directors and is a former president of the North Carolina Grassroots Science Museums Collaborative.

Availability

Keynote, Moderator, Panelist, Host/MC

Topics

Global leadership in university-based science outreach, Working with scientists to engage the public, Astronaut training at Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, Informal science education, Science centers and museums in North Carolina, Building support for a science festival

Past Talks

"Go Big or Go Home: Large-Scale Spectacles"

Association of Science-Technology Centers conference

Leveraging Your Local University at Your Science Center

Association of Science-Technology Centers conference

Education

NC State University
Ph.D. Science Education

NC State University
M.S. Science Education

NC State University
B.S. Science Education

NC State University
B.A. Chemistry

Accomplishments

Michael C. Jackson Distinguished Service Award

The 2014 Michael C. Jackson Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Todd Boyette at the 25th Anniversary Celebration held in Chapel Hill on April 12th, 2014. This award is named for Michael C. Jackson for his many contributions over the years to science education in North Carolina. The award is generously sponsored by Fisher Scientific.

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