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Ambassadors of Science Literacy honored at Kentucky Science Center's Annual Gala
Honorees Christopher Cprek of Louisville's LVL1 Hackerspace, Barbara James, principal of Coral Ridge Elementary, and Dr. Lee Todd, Jr., former President of University of Kentucky

Louisville, KY (January 27, 2014) – The Kentucky Science Center honored its 2013 Ambassadors of Science Literacy on January 25 in conjunction with its annual fundraising gala, *Science with a Twist: It's All Fun & Games*, presented by Brown-Forman.

This year's event ran from 7:00 p.m. – midnight at the Science Center and featured interactive games, dancing, strolling hors d'oeuvres and cocktails all inspired by and in support of their ongoing early childhood education initiatives.

The 2013 Ambassadors of Science Literacy are:

Christopher Cprek, Co-Founder of LVL1 Hackerspace – Christopher Cprek is a Maker, Maker education evangelist and co-founder of LVL1, a 501c(3) hacker space and Maker community in Louisville. Since its founding in 2009, LVL1 has grown into a celebrated community of Makers, engineers, scientists, educators and artists. From mind-controlled watermelon explosions to trans-Atlantic robotic balloon flights, LVL1 is providing Louisville with a new type of venue to explore engineering as entertainment. Makerspaces for young students provide the resources needed to explore technology in creative ways and develop STEM identities. Christopher believes Makerspaces should be accessible to every student in Louisville, so they can be successful innovators of tomorrow.

Barbara Jones, Principal of Coral Ridge Elementary – Barbara James has been an elementary school teacher and principal in the Henry and Jefferson County public school systems for over 20 years. Every year she brings her entire school — from students and staff to administrators and maintenance staff — to the Kentucky Science Center on Halloween. A teacher who understands the importance of providing inspirational experiences to burgeoning scientists of all ages, she knows how to blend science, learning and fun!

Dr. Lee Todd, Jr., former President of University of Kentucky – Lee T. Todd, Jr. served for 10 years as the president of the University of Kentucky where he is currently a faculty member in Electrical Engineering. Dr. Todd received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from UK and his MS and PhD degrees from M.I.T. where he received six U.S. Patents in the area of large-screen, projection displays. Todd founded two technology companies based on his research: Projectron, a developer of high-resolution projection CRTs for flight simulators, and DataBeam, a developer of teleconferencing systems and software. Todd served as Senior Vice President of IBM's Lotus Development Company before becoming President of UK in 2001.

Previous Ambassadors of Science Literacy have included Kris Kimel, President of Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation, Former Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, David Jones, Sr. and his son Dan Jones, of 21st Century Parks.

About Kentucky Science Center (KYScienceCenter.org)

Kentucky Science Center is a nonprofit educational institution that encourages people of all ages to enjoy science, mathematics and technology in a stimulating and engaging environment that is educational as well as entertaining. Designated the "State Science Center of Kentucky" by the 2002 Kentucky General Assembly, Kentucky Science Center features interactive exhibits and engaging programs for children, families and adults. Kentucky Science Center is committed to growing a scientifically literate community that investigates, questions, and challenges.

