

Leadership Award: Bonnie Stevens
Website: www.bonniestevenspr.com

As an author, broadcaster, writer, producer and public relations professional, Bonnie Stevens has a passion for science education and possesses a unique ability to unite scientists, motivate volunteers and facilitate science education to inspire our future scientists, foresters, doctors, innovators and engineers while encouraging lifelong learning. In 2011 Bonnie's efforts were instrumental in putting Flagstaff's global scientific and environmental contributions in the local, regional and national spotlight, promoting science education to the general public through:

- "Illuminating Science" the 2011 Flagstaff Festival of Science, Sept. 23 – Oct. 2.
Bonnie has served as the Flagstaff Festival of Science Coordinator for the past 17 years. She has brought the ideas of the Flagstaff Festival of Science's Board of scientists and environmental educators into a cohesive whole by coordinating organizations, individuals, activities, fundraising, publicity and myriad loose ends. Through her light touch, the Flagstaff Festival of Science--10-days of science activities that are free and open to all--has emerged as the premiere science event in northern Arizona that we are so proud of today!
The 2011 Flagstaff Festival of Science opened laboratory doors, unveiled cosmic chaos and trekked through the world's largest ponderosa pine forest. Space walking astronaut and physicist Dr. John Grunsfeld offered Flagstaff a front-row seat peering into the far reaches of the universe from the Hubble Space Telescope. Through Bonnie's efforts, more than 70 activities including open houses, interactive presentations and star parties at observatories brought science to life for more than 12,000 people including Flagstaff's families and visitors. The Festival attracted national attention as the National Public Radio program *ScienceFriday* with Ira Flatow was broadcast live from the NAU campus on the opening day of the Festival.
As with other years, the 2011 Flagstaff Festival of Science owes much of its success to Bonnie's tireless efforts and ability to get everyone collected and heading in the same direction! This year, as in previous years, Bonnie orchestrated the production of (and did most of the writing/editing for) the Festival's *Passport* and tabloid. (Please see www.scifest.org)
- Forests Under Fire: The Race to Restore the American West documentary.
In 2011, Bonnie traveled to remote regions of the West to research, write, produce and premier this 30-minute video showcasing individual and collaborative approaches to saving our nation's wildlands from catastrophic firestorms, unprecedented insect infestations, deadly disease

outbreaks and climate change. This captivating film explains ecological processes, changes to forests during the last century and the growing movement to restore resiliency to landscapes. In early November, Bonnie debuted the documentary at the Society for American Foresters Annual National Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. The final product is slated for completion in December 2011. The DVD will be distributed to college classrooms throughout the nation, facilitating the understanding of ecological processes and today's forest issues. The documentary is expected to air on PBS stations throughout the West. (*draft documentary can be found at <http://vimeo.com/31275622>*)

- Inquiring Minds, KNAU Arizona Public Radio.
Through topics such as mirror neurons, carbon sequestration and molecular epidemiology, Bonnie has brought awareness, interest and understanding to complicated science research occurring on the Northern Arizona University campus and in the local scientific community. The two-minute KNAU program, *Inquiring Minds*, reaches a broad regional audience with educational and entertaining segments, explaining the importance of science and highlighting the work and global impacts of local researchers. (www.kнау.org - click on News for *Inquiring Minds*)
- NAZ Today and Inside NAU Television.
Reaching more than 2.5 million households in eastern Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and western California, Bonnie promotes the understanding of environmental science issues and research through television programs such as *NAZ Today* and *Inside NAU*. Topics include bed bug research, flooding after unnaturally intense wildfires and wildlife habitat protection. (www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZAF4aowRpM)
- Forest Issues E-Newsletter.
Working with land managers, researchers, scientists, elected officials and environmentalists, Bonnie has created a comprehensive Forest Eco-Issues E-Newsletter, *Restoring the American West*, which was released in the fall to those working in forest health along with elected officials, educators and science writers nationwide to inform a broad audience about current issues (and solutions) facing western landscapes. The online newsletter also features video news stories. (*please see attachment: ERINEWS11BonnieStevens*)
- Arizona Daily Sun special submissions
Bonnie contributes science education news articles regularly to the *Arizona Daily Sun* to aid in the understanding and awareness of compelling issues and science research. Articles include wildlife corridors, impacts of destructive wildfires and bed bug infestations.

http://azdailysun.com/news/local/waging-sonic-warfare-on-bed-bugs/article_5c282505-073a-5878-a2b7-663921672e7a.html

Recent Accomplishments/Honors:

- 2011 Flagstaff Cultural Partners Viola Awards Nomination – Literature
- 2010 Rocky Mountain Emmy Nomination – *Let's Restore the American West* PSA
- 2010 Society of American Foresters Outstanding Contribution to Forestry from Outside the Profession
- 2008 Coconino Community College Outstanding Employee of the Year for Leadership
- 2007 Athena Awards nomination (business, leadership and mentor of young women)
- **2004 Northern Arizona Book Festival, featured author of the children's book *Quaking Aspen***