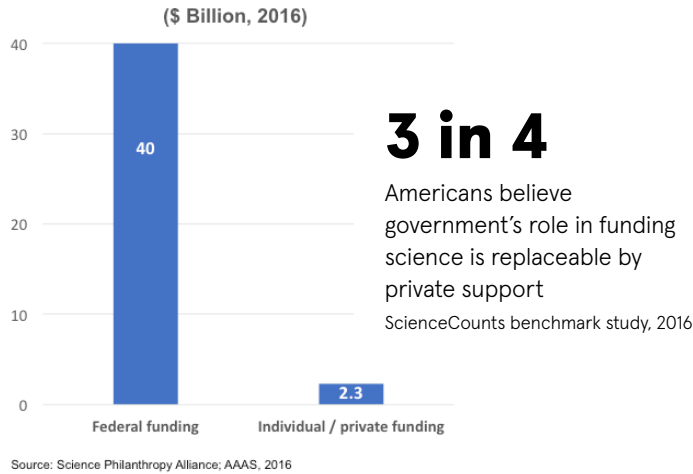


# Making the Case for Science in Civic Life

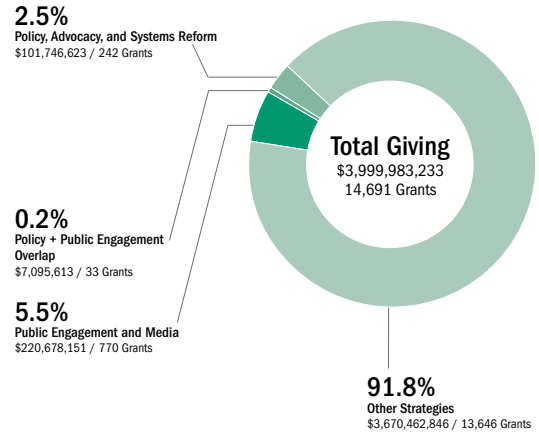
As we accelerate into a future of virtual reality, climate change, gene editing, artificial intelligence, and powerful struggles over democratic values and strategies, we are encouraged by a widening recognition of the imperative of building engagement with science beyond the realm of scientists. This sampling of data points, observations and questions is meant to seed dialogue about how funders can deepen our impact together in support of science, democracy and their many intersections, linked together by a commitment to meaningful engagement on all sides.

—Elizabeth Christopherson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Rita Allen Foundation

## Science relies on public support. How can private funders most effectively leverage their resources to foster a vibrant scientific environment?



### Foundation Funding for Science by Support Strategy, 2011-2013

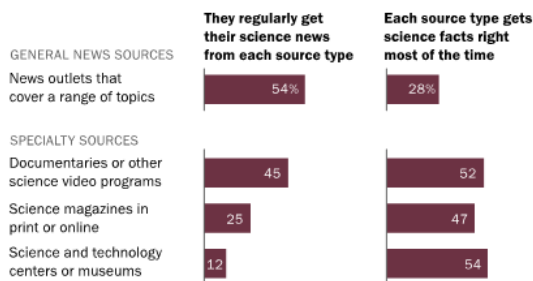


## STEM education—what happens after school? What inspires confidence in scientific evidence?

**<5%** amount of the average American's lifetime spent in a classroom  
Falk and Dierking

**67%** of U.S. adults now get news from social media  
Pew Research Center

% of U.S. adults who say ...

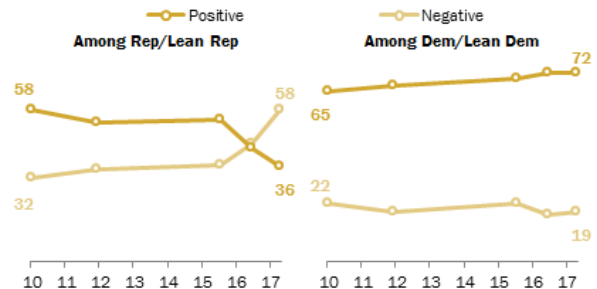


Note: "Most of the time" combines those who said "almost all" or "more than half" of the time. Respondents who gave other responses or who did not give an answer are not shown. Other source types rated are not shown.  
Source: Survey conducted May 30-June 12, 2017. "Science News and Information Today"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## How do funders of science engagement navigate differences in belief and identity?

% who say colleges and universities have a \_\_\_ effect on the way things are going in the country



Note: Don't know responses not shown.  
Source: Survey conducted June 8-18, 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## The majority of Americans see benefits in science. How can we ensure that value continues?

**79%** of U.S. adults say science has made life for most people easier  
Pew Research Center

## "Science Is Hope"

a highly effective message about science across demographic groups  
ScienceCounts

**What are funders currently doing to advance science in civic life? What are new horizons? How can we help each other? How can we collaborate?**

## **Foundation Approaches to Advancing Science Engagement and Evidence-Based Policy**



Building **new fields of inquiry** relevant to policy formation



Conducting, commissioning, or supporting **research to inform policy questions**



**Catalyzing and brokering dialogue** between scientists, policymakers, and other key stakeholders



Coordinating and participating in efforts to **advance policy**



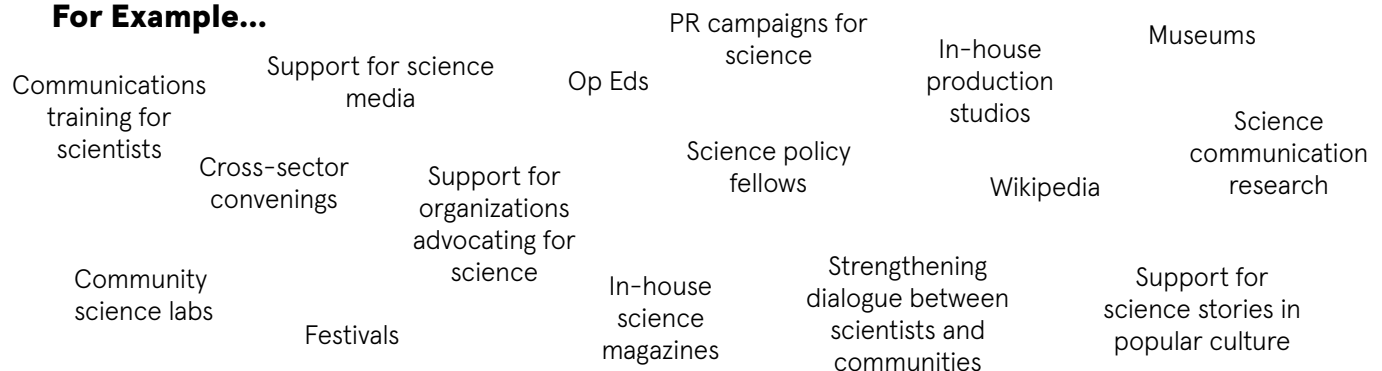
**Promoting engagement** to expand public understanding and acceptance of science



**Assessing the impact** of science engagement and policy-influencing efforts

Oxford Handbook of the Science of Science Communication

### **For Example...**



### **Select Resources to Inform and Provoke**

#### **Communicating Science Effectively: A Research Agenda**

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 2016

#### **The Public Face of Science**

American Academy of Arts and Sciences, ongoing

#### **The Oxford Handbook of the Science of Science Communication**

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Dan Kahan and Dietram A. Scheufele, Editors, 2017

#### **Science & Civics: A Guide for Collaborative Action**

Aspen Institute Citizenship and American Identity Program, 2016

#### **The 95 Percent Solution: School Is Not Where Most Americans Learn Most of Their Science**

John H. Falk and Lynn D. Dierking, American Scientist, 2010

#### **The Evolving Culture of Science Engagement**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Culture Kettle, 2013