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**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY NAMES DR. RABIAH MAYAS THE DAVEE FOUNDATION VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION AND GUEST EXPERIENCE**

**CHICAGO (October 23, 2019)** – The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) is pleased to announce that Dr. Rabiah Mayas has joined MSI as The Ruth D. and Ken M. Davee Vice President of Education and Guest Experience. Dr. Mayas will assume her new role on October 28, and report to President and Chief Executive Officer David Mosena.

“Education is core to the Museum’s mission and vision and there are few as passionate about science and science education as Rabiah,” said Mosena. “We look forward to Rabiah’s expertise and experience as MSI looks to continue creating unique, engaging ways to help deepen guest and student learning.”

In her role, Dr. Mayas will have a broad range of responsibilities, overseeing the strategic direction of MSI’s groundbreaking Welcome to Science Initiative – a suite of education programs dedicated to removing barriers to science education. She will also be responsible for the guest experience, ensuring the Museum continues fostering science learning through MSI’s hands-on, interactive exhibits and experiences.

“I believe that all children have the right and the ability to learn, and there is no institution more committed to providing a strong foundation in the critical thinking STEM provides than MSI,” said Dr. Rabiah Mayas, Davee Foundation vice president of education and guest experience, MSI. “The experiences MSI provides inside the Museum and out in the community have the power to open eyes and minds to what science makes possible, and I am thrilled to lead these critical functions at such an exciting time in the institution’s history.”

Dr. Mayas rejoins MSI from Northwestern University, where she spent two years as the associate director of Science in Society, a research center dedicated to K-12 STEM education and community engagement. Dr. Mayas held various roles at MSI from 2008-2017, most recently as director of science and integrated strategies where she oversaw the Wanger Family Fab Lab, led educational research and evaluation, developed partnerships with universities and community organizations and created signature educational programs and events.

She is active in STEM learning organizations, including the Center for the Advancement of Informal Science Education, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Advancing Research Impacts in Society. Dr. Mayas is also active in the Chicago community, where she is involved with the Chicago Learning Exchange, the EvanSTEM learning ecosystem, and the Chicago Children’s Museum, where she serves on the advisory board.

Dr. Mayas received her B.S. in biochemistry and molecular biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from The University of Chicago.

Dr. Mayas was selected after a nationwide search led by Koya Leadership Partners, a national retained executive search firm dedicated exclusively to serving clients in the nonprofit sector.

**About MSI**

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI), one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and uniquely interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can't be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make you the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Welcome to Science Initiative, the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family educational programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI's larger vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. The Museum is exceptionally grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org) or call (773) 684-1414.

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