

Greater Good Science Center and The Jim Henson Company Unite to Explore the Science of Awe in PBS KIDS' Wowsabout

Free Virtual Event Features Screening of New Preschool PBS KIDS Special "Wowsabout" and Live Q&A with Creators and Scientists



Berkeley, California Apr 17, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](http://www.IssueWire.com)) - GREATER GOOD SCIENCE CENTER AND THE JIM HENSON COMPANY UNITE TO EXPLORE THE SCIENCE OF AWE IN PBS KIDS' *WOWSABOUT*

Free Virtual Event Features Screening of New Preschool PBS KIDS Special "Wowsabout" and Live Q&A with Creators and Scientists

The Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley and The Jim Henson Company will host a free virtual screening and live conversation on May 13, 2026, from 9:00-10:30 AM PT / 12:00-1:30 PM ET, bringing together the creators of the new PBS KIDS preschool special *Wowsabout* and leading emotion scientists to explore the power of awe in children's lives.

The virtual event, titled *Jim Henson's Wowsabout: Bringing Awe to Life*, pairs a screening of *Wowsabout*—The Jim Henson Company's brand-new, half-hour live-action preschool special filmed on

location at Sequoia National Park—with a live panel discussion on storytelling, child development, and the science of wonder. The panel will feature *Wowsabout* co-creators Halle Stanford and Dorien Davies; Dacher Keltner, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Psychology at UC Berkeley, Faculty Director of the Greater Good Science Center, and author of *Awe: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life*; Vicki Zakrzewski, Ph.D., GGSC's founding Education Director; and Maryam Abdullah, Ph.D., GGSC's Parenting Program Director. The event will be moderated by Sarah Bracken, GGSC's Education Outreach and School Partnerships Manager. Registration is free and open to parents, educators, and caregivers worldwide.

Wowsabout follows Roxy, a free-spirited singing hedgehog, and Ronald, an overprepared, tree-loving pig. She's chasing "magical giants," he's after a Junior Ranger badge. Through nature's AWE, plus music and art, they discover unexpected friendship in a hilarious, heartwarming musical adventure! Created and written by Halle Stanford, Emmy® Award-winning executive producer (*Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock*), and Dorien Davies, executive producer, writer, and principal puppeteer (*Word Party*, *Julie's Greenroom*), the special was developed in close consultation with UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center.

"In *Wowsabout*, our mission is to spark wonder and awe in kids and inspire them to care for each other and the world," said Halle Stanford, Co-Creator, Writer, and Executive Producer of the special. "This is a one-of-a-kind special and an open invitation for families to discover awe in the national parks and go on their own Wowsabouts together.

"There is so much research about the benefits of exposing children to awe, and Dr. Keltner's studies about this emotion make it very clear that awe is a pathway to collaboration and compassion," said Dorien Davies, Co-Creator, Writer, Executive Producer, and Puppeteer of Roxy the hedgehog. "Awe can be such a uniting force, and it's something we need a lot more of today."

At a time when many children are navigating stress, distraction, and disconnection, cultivating awe may be one of the simplest and most powerful tools available to help them reconnect—to themselves, to one another, and to the world around them.

Event Details

Date: May 13, 2026 Time: 9:00-10:30 AM PT / 12:00-1:30 PM ET

Cost: Free

[Register Here](#)

About the Greater Good Science Center

Based at the University of California, Berkeley, one of the world's leading institutions of research and higher education, the Greater Good Science Center (GGSC) explores the roots of happy and compassionate individuals, strong social bonds, and altruistic behavior—the science of a meaningful life. Since 2001, we have done trailblazing work to disseminate this science to the public, translating it into terms and resources that are accessible, practical, and uplifting.

About The Jim Henson Company

The Jim Henson Company has remained an established leader in family entertainment for over 70 years

and is recognized as an innovator in puppetry, animatronics, and digital animation. The Company's most recent credits include the hit holiday special for Apple TV, *The First Snow of Fraggle Rock*, as well as the Emmy-nominated *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Road Trip* for Disney+, the Oscar®-winning *Guillermo Del Toro's Pinocchio* for Netflix, and the Emmy®-winning *Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock* for Apple TV. Other television credits include *Slumberland* and *Harriet the Spy* for Apple TV; *Dinosaur Train*, *Splash and Bubbles*, and *Sid the Science Kid* all for PBS; *Earth to Ned* for Disney+; and the Netflix series *Word Party* and the Emmy-winning *The Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance*. Iconic catalogue titles include *Fraggle Rock*, *The Storyteller*, *Farscape*, and the groundbreaking fantasy classics *The Dark Crystal* and *Labyrinth*.

Headquartered in Los Angeles with additional locations in New York and London, the Company is also home to Jim Henson's Creature Shop™, a pre-eminent puppet and creature-building group and industry leader in puppeteered digital animation, with international film, television, theme park, and advertising clients.

CONTACT

Lauren Lee

Director of Marketing and Partnerships

Greater Good Science Center

lauren.k.lee@berkeley.edu

Sarah Bracken

Education Marketing and Partnerships Manager

Greater Good Science Center

sarahbracken@berkeley.edu

Nicole Goldman

The Jim Henson Company

(323) 802-1608

ngoldman@henson.com



Media Contact

Greater Good Science Center

*****@berkeley.edu

2015 Addison St

<http://ggsc.berkeley.edu>

Source : Greater Good Science Center

[See on IssueWire](#)