

# Fall 2011: Cosmic Café Season

So it turns out that if you find a comfortable room, skip the slides and laser pointer, add some food and coffee or beer, and find a very personable scientist you have a pretty good chance of hosting a lively discussion about the impact of science. Science cafés are cropping up all across the US doing just that. With topics like *The Science of Love and Sex*, *Man vs. Machine*, and *CSI: The Fact Behind the Fiction*, these informal events held in restaurants, coffee shops or bars are drawing nonscientists to science events that don't involve even a hint of extra credit.

This fall SPS is partnering with NOVA to host a national science café blitz during the month of November, in conjunction with the premier of NOVA's four-part series *Fabric of the Cosmos* on Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 9 PM. The series, based on Brian Greene's bestselling book of the same name, explores the strange nature of space, time, and the universe. Together, NOVA and SPS created a special set of "Cosmic Café" resources especially for SPS chapters that want to host a café this fall. Visit the SPS website today to find out more and plan your Cosmic Café!

[www.spsnational.org/science-cafe](http://www.spsnational.org/science-cafe)



Brian Greene, author of *Fabric of the Cosmos*, is also host of the 4-part series.

Photo courtesy of WGBH Educational Foundation



SPS intern Anish Chakrabarti introduced Dr. James Gates, who participated in the first ever Cosmic Café.

Photo by Courtney Lemon