

# **Santa Fe Science Café For Young Thinkers**

## **“Exploring Complex Systems through Games and Computer Models”**

***Irene Lee, Santa Fe Institute - Project GUTS***

*Monday, March 17*

*6 – 8 PM*

*Georgia O’Keeffe Museum Education Annex  
123 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe*

Some of the most daunting problems we face today, ranging from climate change to loss of biodiversity to pollution, are studied as complex systems, systems that are made up of numerous interacting parts. Scientists recreate these systems in a “virtual world” where they are able to run many experiments without impacting the real world. In this Science Café, students will actively participate in games that demonstrate various aspects of complex systems. Students will play a hands-on game, take part in a simulation using handheld computers, and learn to run experiments using a computer model of a complex system. Through these activities students will find complex systems more accessible and may learn to identify them in the real world.

The Café is sponsored by the Santa Fe Alliance for Science, the Santa Fe Institute, the Santa Fe Public Schools, the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum and the N.M. Public Education Department.

**Admission is Free.** Youth (ages 13-19) seating a priority. Light refreshments will be served. Ms. Lee will also appear on The Santa Fe Radio Café with host Mary-Charlotte Domandi at 8:30 am on Monday, March 17, on KSFR 101.1 FM, streaming on the web live at <http://www.ksfr.org>.

Ms. Lee is director of Project GUTS at the Santa Fe Institute and is associated with other educational entities in New Mexico. She has been a contributor to computer graphics, video games, educational software, and, for many years, science education for young people in New Mexico.