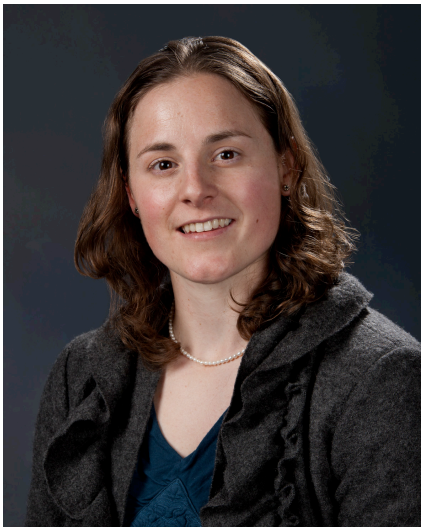
Santa Fe Science Café for Young Thinkers

"Discovering the Atomic Structure of the World Around Us"



Katharine Page
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Wednesday, February 26
6:00-7:30 PM

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

You may have observed that snowflakes often have six arms - but do you know why? The appearance or shape of a snowflake is a result of the patterns water molecules adopt as they freeze. The particular arrangement of atoms in a material sometimes influences a shape you see, and it often determines many other properties that are very important to your daily life. Since 1914 scientists have applied *crystallography* to examine the arrangements of atoms in solids in order to understand and control their physical and chemical properties. Los Alamos is the home of one of the world's leading centers for these studies. We will discuss some of the ways that work there is leading to better lives for everyone.

Admission is Free. Youth (ages 13-19) seating a priority. Light refreshments will be served.

Katharine has been a staff scientist at the Lujan Neutron Scattering Center at LANL since 2010. She grew up in the northeast and completed her PhD in California. She is also a three-time collegiate national champion in Olympic-style weight lifting. She and her family live in Los Alamos.

Sponsors: Santa Fe Alliance for Science; Santa Fe Public Schools; Georgia O'Keeffe Museum; Santa Fe Institute. Call 603-7468 for more information.