



Reader nomination

Making science user-friendly: Monica Metzler is on a mission to put Chicago on the map as the City of Big Science while making science accessible to adults. Monica, despite having no formal science education, believes sciences and technology can

strengthen Chicago's economy and foster its entrepreneurial spirit. Plus, she knows how to make science fun!

She established the Illinois Science Council, a group that promotes fun and interesting opportunities for adults while high-

lighting the depth and breadth of science activities existing here.

The Illinois Science Council has hosted programs including "Chemistry of Chocolate," "Science of a Cocktail Party" and a Pi Day fun run March 14.

Monica did not set out to create and then run a science nonprofit. After growing up in Aurora and graduating from Northwestern University, she earned her law degree from Duke University School of Law and a master's degree from Duke's Sanford School of Public

Policy. She returned to Chicago and took a position in intellectual property law with Winston & Strawn.

But it is science that made her an evangelist. She is dedicated to promoting science to increase understanding and to promote economic growth.

The Illinois Science Council brings back its "Chemistry of Chocolate" program at 6:30 p.m. May 28 at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Tickets are \$35. Go to illinoisscienc e.org.

— Excerpt from Barbara Power's nomination