



For Immediate Release: Jan. 23, 2012

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# **Nature of Things Speaker Information**

**Speaker Name:** Dr. Brian Greene

**Speaker Affiliation/Title:** Columbia University, Professor Physics and Math

**Lecture Title:** Why Science Matters

**Date:** February 29, 2012, 7:00 pm.

**Location:** Kingsbury Hall

## **Lecture Synopsis**

Dr. Brian Greene can distill impossibly complex theoretical physics, like the concept of the multiverse, into a form we can all understand. He is dedicated to sharing science stories with broad audiences to combat perceptions of science as cold, distant, or irrelevant. Understanding the transformative power of science, he argues, like great music, art, or literature, should be considered an indispensable part of what makes life worth living. In his lecture, *Why Science Matters*, Greene takes a whirlwind exploration of one science story -- the quest to unravel some of the biggest mysteries of space and time -- and come away with a visceral understanding of why science matters.

### Speaker Bio

Physicist, string theorist and author of *The Elegant Universe*, Brian Greene is one of the world's leading theoretical physicists and a brilliant, entertaining communicator of cutting-edge scientific concepts. *The Washington Post* described him as "the single best explainer of abstruse concepts in the world today." In addition to writing best-selling books, Greene shares science stories through a range of interdisciplinary media. He co-founded the World Science Festival, an annual celebration of science from cutting-edge research to works in theatre, film, and the arts inspired by scientific ideas. A graduate of Harvard and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Greene is a professor in both Physics and Mathematics at Columbia University.

#### **Authored**

The Hidden Reality (Vintage, November 1, 2011)

Icarus at the Edge of Time (Knopf Doubleday, September 2, 2008)

The Fabric of the Cosmos (Vintage, February 8, 2005)

The Elegant Universe (Vintage Books, February 29, 2000)

# **Relevent Links**

http://www.briangreene.org/ http://worldsciencefestival.com/