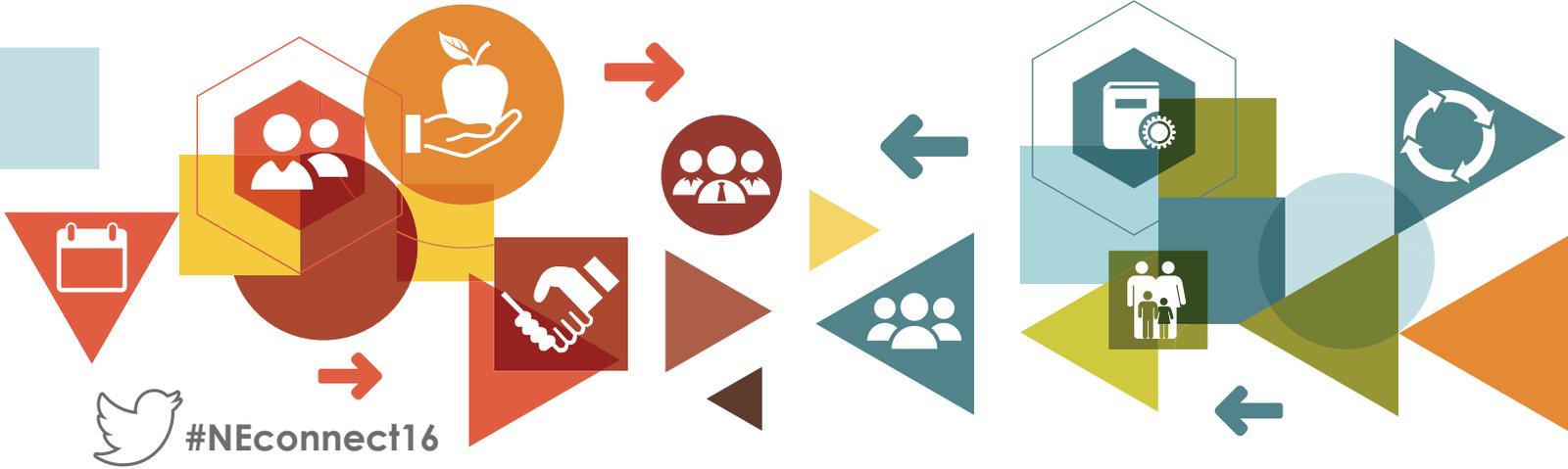




# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



## GetConnected

2016 Nebraska Afterschool Conference

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2016**

Embassy Suites Conference Center | La Vista, Nebraska

### Dr. Jeff Goldstein

Center Director, National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSE), <http://ncesse.org>  
Institute Director, Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Space Education, <http://clarkeinstitute.org>

#### Human Exploration – It’s Not a Book of Knowledge ... It’s a Journey

Every parent remembers that magical time when our children first began to speak, that moment marking the beginning of unending questions. In our children we can see our humanity — our innate curiosity — and recognize the obvious ... that we are born to explore!

Science and more generally STEM, in all its seeming complexity, is nothing but a means to organize curiosity. A way to empower one’s self to ask the gift of a question, and to hone the art that allows navigation

through the noise of the universe around us in quest of an answer. It is an emotional, joyful, and wondrous journey that hopefully allows the traveler to pull back the veil of nature just a little, see how she operates, and celebrate the accomplishment.

STEM education is no different. It is the means by which we immerse our children in the act of journey by letting them do science, and acknowledging it is their journey. As educators, our sweet reward is seeing the joys of learning wash over them. And as educators, we are charged with nothing less than patiently and gently launching the explorations of an entire generation.



<http://www.education.ne.gov/21stcclc/Conference2016.html>