

It isn't rocket science: Bill Nye on how to change the world

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"Science is all about the joy of discovery," Bill Nye "The Science Guy" told an avid audience in McAlister Auditorium on the uptown campus on Monday (Sept. 14). "Never forget to look in the world around you." (Photo by Ryan Rivet)

By 6 p.m. on Monday (Sept. 14), the line to enter McAlister Auditorium stretched around the corner and past two residence halls. It was two hours before [Bill Nye](#) would give a talk at Tulane University, and the turnout was overwhelming.

Many know Nye for his popular PBS children's show "Bill Nye the Science Guy" that

aired in the "90s, but he is also a renowned scientist, engineer, author and executive director of the Planetary Society, the world's largest space interest organization.

During his talk, Nye discussed how his parents got him interested in science and how this inspired him to get younger generations interested in science as well.

"I want to inspire people to appreciate our place in space," Nye said. "We need a generation that is optimistic and ready to take on the future."

Nye discussed his recent research on climate change and how it is a phenomenon that affects us, yet is also affected by us. His goal was to educate Tulane students about solution projects that are being researched and motivate them to drive effective environmental changes. He believes the joy in changing the world comes simultaneously with the joy of discovering the world and how it works.

"What does it say about you if you aren't going to explore?" Nye asked the packed auditorium. "Take the opportunity to discover things; the human will to explore is what separates us from all species."

Even though his television show has ended, Bill Nye is still trying to inspire students and get them to take on the world in full stride.

"We have the power to do great things, and make discoveries that change the world around us for better," Nye reminded students at the end of his speech.

Tulane University Campus Programming hosted the free event for students as part of TUCP's "Direction" series.

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