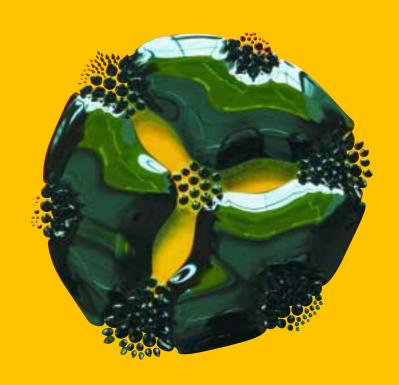
National Science Foundation



America's Investment in the Future



On the cover

Part liquid, part magnet, this ferrofluid serves as a symbol of NSF's dual mission—research and education. Precisely ground particles of magnetite in the ferrofluid remain loose and suspended in an oil. When the ferrofluid is placed in a magnetic field, it recalls its magnetic heritage. Here, a drop of ferrofluid rests on a glass sheet placed above a piece of yellow paper. Photographer Felice Frankel then placed seven small magnets under the paper. The attraction between the magnetite and the magnets creates the beautiful flower-like form.



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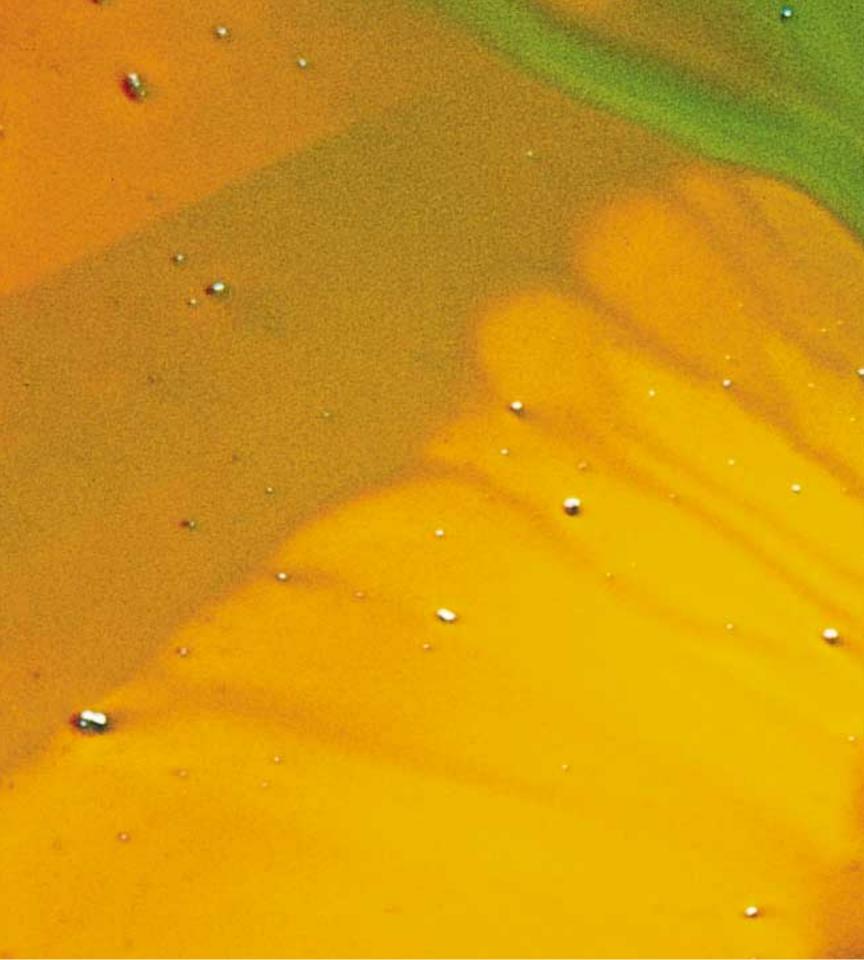
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