



IGNITE

THEIR

CURIOSITY

See your support
in action.



Impact Report
Fall 2017



Pacific Science Center ignites curiosity in every child and fuels a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us.

Thank you for your generous support of Pacific Science Center. As I am sure you know, the past six months have been an exciting and busy time for us. In April, we hosted the world-premiere of *Terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor* created by our incredible exhibits team in partnership with The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. August 21 brought a remarkable total solar eclipse to our region, and we were excited to host more than 5,000 people under the arches for an unforgettable viewing experience. And each and every day our staff and volunteers have been hard at work to ensure that our community has a safe and fun space to explore the world of science around them.

This fall marks our 55th anniversary, and it is only because of the support of donors like you that we can continue to provide meaningful hands-on science programs and experiences for our community. In the stories that follow, you will hear about how your investments are inspiring curious minds of all ages. You will learn about how your support has helped generate community conversations on current science topics. You will hear from a 7th grader whose camp experience allowed her to follow her passion for science. **And you will see how you have changed the life of a Discovery Corps student.**

We hope you enjoy each of these stories and are as excited as we are about all we have accomplished together so far, and what our future holds.



Will Daugherty

Will Daugherty
President & CEO



Adriane Brown

Adriane Brown
Chair, Board of Directors

Discovery Corps: Changing the Lives of Local Students

Since 2005, Pacific Science Center's youth development program Discovery Corps has been working with local teens to develop the skills they will need to become tomorrow's greatest thinkers. From enhancing their public speaking abilities to completing research internships at local universities, these students' experiences in the program will influence them throughout their lives. Because of your support, Discovery Corps can continue to inspire the next generation of science enthusiasts like Michaela L.

"I have been a part of Discovery Corps for over two years and I can confidently say, without a doubt, that the Discovery Corps program has changed my life. It has helped me develop my passion for education and maintain the love of science I have nurtured for most of my life. Despite many negative classroom experiences with science instruction, Discovery Corps has enabled me to study science in the way I love it. Discovery Corps was the first place I came to where I felt like I could be anyone I wanted to be. It also opened my eyes to the millions of possibilities for my future. I grew up very sheltered and it was really my experiences through Discovery Corps that allowed me out in the real world. My experience in this program has also created many wonderful friends and memories.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Discovery Corps in any way. You have changed my life and I am truly grateful that I had (and continue to have) the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful program."



Camps Inspire Future Scientists

Unlike most kids her age, Peyton knows exactly what career path she wants to travel. "Right now I am fascinated by the human body and its anatomy," so Peyton aspires to one day be a gastroenterology surgeon. This is not an answer you would typically expect from a 7th grader, but Peyton is no typical thirteen-year-old. Fascinated by science, she has been able to nurture this passion for the past 2 years as a participant in a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) program for young girls and women of color organized by the Greater Seattle Chapter of The Links, Incorporated.

Pacific Science Center partnered with Links to provide a week-long remote sensing camp for girls in the STEAM program, which focused on how scientists collect information about objects or areas from a distance. **Because of support from donors like you, we were able to provide Peyton and 18 other science enthusiasts scholarships to attend the camp free of charge.**

During the summer camp, the girls engaged in hands-on science activities, learning skills and concepts that they previously had known little about. Opportunities Peyton and the other girls would otherwise be unable to have if not for the scholarship.

"When you donate to Pacific Science Center, it helps kids get excited about education for the rest of their lives."

—Peyton, 7th grader, future gastroenterology surgeon

Each gift you make to Pacific Science Center inspires children like Peyton to pursue science learning opportunities and provides scholarships for students in need. Thank you for your generous support!





Why I Give

“Even the smallest donation united with others sustains the creative learning opportunities that are available at the Science Center.”

– Barbara P.



“Supporting art and science are crucial when so much is being shifted elsewhere. I know instilling a strong interest in science at a young age is crucial to inspiring the next generation.”

– Anthony M.

“Science education is critical for the future of our students, our community and our planet.”

– Carolyn T.

“Making science fun is essential for developing young and old minds alike.”

– Walter Z.

Do you want to share your story of giving? We want to hear it! Reach out to our Annual Fund Manager Samantha Walter at (206) 269-2139 or swalter@pacsci.org.



Science in the City: Creating Community Conversations

Should doctors tell you that your infant daughter is genetically predisposed to breast cancer? If tests revealed that your toddler has a genetic mutation whose significance isn't clear, would you want to know? During a recent Science in the City program at Pacific Science Center, these tough questions and more were discussed and debated with an engaged audience.

Centered around genetic technology, the talk featured Bonnie Rochman. Bonnie is an award-winning journalist and author of "The Gene Machine," a book that explores the pros and cons of these hot-button issues. Throughout the program, Bonnie and community members discussed the new frontier of gene technology and how it is transforming everything from medicine to bioethics.

Several evenings each month, Science in the City brings scientists and other experts together with members of the community for casual conversations about contemporary research as part of the Portal to the Public initiative. Focusing on engaging public interest in current science and innovation, Portal to the Public works to connect experts to members of our community in a meaningful way. Science in the City provides a great opportunity to learn about scientific and technological achievement in topics that are relevant to our city and region. To learn more about Science in the City and to see a list of upcoming events, visit pacsci.org/science-in-the-city.

Because of your continued support, we are proud to offer most Science in the City events complimentary for members and only \$5 for the general public.



STEM-OST Fights Summer Learning Loss

Summer vacation is a time that children cherish. It signals the start of a few carefree months where the structure of school and homework can be forgotten. But unfortunately, that is not all that is forgotten. According to the National Summer Learning Association, **most children experience significant learning loss in the summer months, losing two months or more of grade level equivalency in math skills and reading achievement.**

For many children, informal learning experiences such as summer camps and internships serve to fill that three-month gap. For others, financial difficulties and limited or no access to such activities stops summer learning altogether. That is where we step in. To help combat summer learning loss, Pacific Science Center's Science On Wheels educators deliver hands-on science learning experiences through the STEM-OST program (Out-of-School-Time) to community centers, summer camps, summer schools, before- and after-school programs, and subsidized family housing drop-in programs in low-income areas of Seattle.

Thanks to the support from donors like you, the STEM-OST program provided workshops free of charge to more than 5,500 students over the last three summers. This year the program included our new workshop series, Digital World, focusing on computer science where students learned about everything from how the internet works to how code become a program—even writing simple code of their own!

Thank you for providing these opportunities to underserved students who would have otherwise been unable to have these educational experiences.



Welcoming All Families: Expanding Access to Science

Since 2016, the Family and Youth Access Memberships at Pacific Science Center have served more than 3,000 families in need throughout our community. Available for just \$19 to any family currently receiving public assistance, the Family Access Membership gives underserved families full membership benefits for an entire year. Foster families and youth experiencing homelessness can also receive those benefits through the Youth Access Membership at no cost to them.

Because of your support, families who otherwise would be unable to afford a trip to the Science Center are now fueling a passion for discovery in their children and themselves. Your generosity has also given opportunities for these families to make unforgettable memories.

On August 21, millions of people across the country were waiting to catch a glimpse of the total solar eclipse. Here in the Pacific Northwest, we had an especially great opportunity to see the eclipse at its peak. And because of you, more than 250 Family Access Members and their families were able to be a part of the astronomical marvel!

Throughout July and August, hundreds of donors made gifts to the Science Center through our Eclipse Kit campaign. In return for their gift, donors received an Eclipse Kit that included an eclipse-themed book, pinhole viewer, and pair of viewing glasses to ensure an out of this world eclipse experience. And for each kit sent to a donor during the campaign, a Family Access Member received one free of charge.

“Thank you for the eclipse kit that you sent out to our family. My kids and I have spent a lot of time reading the included book, and have enjoyed the materials! My wife and I, and even my folks, have enjoyed the kit too!”

With your continued generosity, Family and Youth Access Memberships will provide families in need opportunities to experience hands-on science exhibits programming while making memories that will last a lifetime—thank you!



By the Numbers

Pacific Science Center serves nearly 1 million people each year—here are some of our favorite examples of what your support helps us to accomplish!



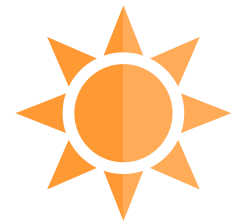
Science on Wheels
558 locations and
150,291 people served
in 2016.



Discovery Corps
405 teens have
participated in the program
since 2005.



Science in the City
70 events held
since August 2016.



Camps for Curious Minds
66 scholarships provided
for underserved students
in Summer 2017.



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