

2014 Annual Report



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Dear Friend of the Museums,

It's not often that people in our roles can prove that the support of one donor makes a tangible difference in the life of a child. But because we keep careful track of such things, we can attest that thousands of kids last year—25% of the total we served, in fact—had Discovery Museums experiences that cost their families little or nothing, and were solely made possible by the generosity of those who support us.

In 2014, we served more than 172,000 children and the adults in their lives with a total budget of less than \$1.5 million. In this Annual Report, you'll see quotes representing the views of our members, voices in our broader community, and industry experts who believe in the power of play and what we do for children. Their testimony is powerful evidence that **through play, we ignite a critically important spark of creativity and curiosity in young kids**, one that sets them on a course for future success whether they are inspired to pursue scientific inquiry, the artistic process, or anything in between.



Board Chair Bill Ryan and CEO Neil Gordon in front of our Our Earth, Our World exhibit.

You may be surprised to know that, above and beyond their support of our daily operations, donors in 2014 committed more than \$1 million in private support to the Campaign for The Discovery Museums. This will help make possible a future expansion of our facilities and top-to-bottom renovation of our campus. The culmination of this project, once we have all necessary funds in-hand, will be the most important moment in this museum's history, and the start of its new future. We are excited and inspired.

Please take a moment to browse through this Annual Report. Read a few of the quotes sprinkled throughout, take note of the ways we were recognized and awarded in 2014, and, if your name appears in one of our donor or volunteer lists, accept our deepest thanks for your stewardship of a place that changes kids' lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil H. Gordon".

Neil H. Gordon, CEO

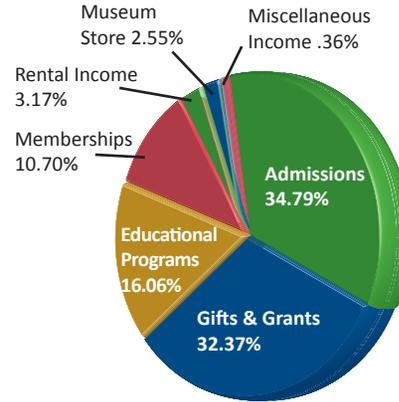
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Ryan".

Bill Ryan, Chair, Board of Directors

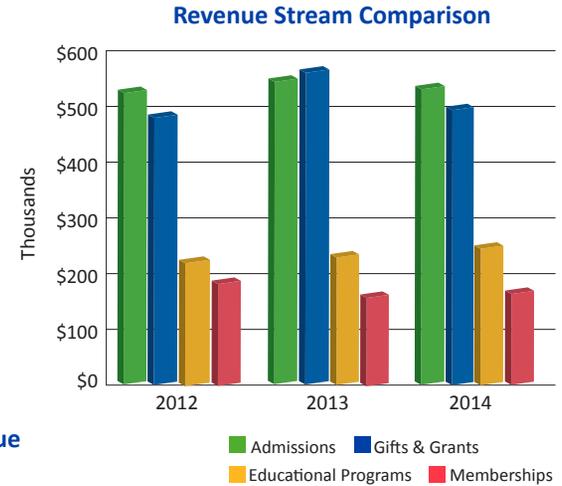
2014 by the Numbers

Preliminary unaudited results

Operating Support & Revenue	2012	2013	2014
Admissions	\$543,727	\$564,315	\$551,586
Gifts & Grants	\$498,375	\$581,787	\$513,290
Educational Programs	\$229,313	\$237,773	\$254,600
Memberships	\$190,164	\$164,846	\$169,623
Rental Income	\$45,824	\$44,538	\$50,302
Museum Store	\$38,350	\$39,395	\$40,469
Miscellaneous Income	\$4,338	\$11,361	\$5,701
Total	\$1,550,091	\$1,644,015	\$1,585,571

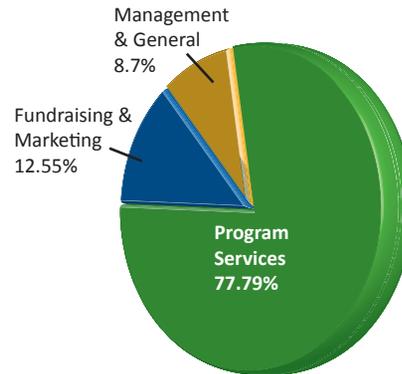


2014 Operating Support & Revenue

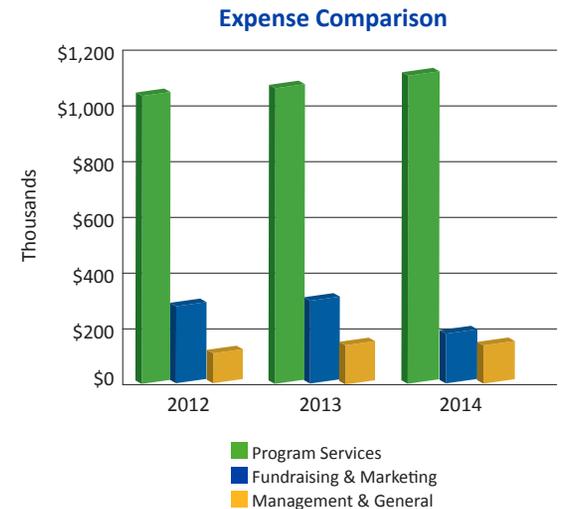


Operating Expenses Not Including Depreciation

Program Services	\$1,075,173	\$1,103,652	\$1,150,142
Management & General	\$111,498	\$146,075	\$142,755
Fundraising & Marketing	\$287,240	\$309,164	\$185,597
Total	\$1,473,911	\$1,558,891	\$1,478,494
Change in Net Assets from Operations Prior to Depreciation	\$76,180	\$85,124	\$107,077



2014 Operating Expenses Not Including Depreciation





Gubernatorial Visit

Governor Deval Patrick, Secretary of Education Matthew Malone, and Commissioner of Early Education and Care Tom Weber visited The Discovery Museums in April to launch the Governor’s “Read, Explore, Learn More” initiative. He also helped us kick off World Autism Awareness Month by painting our dinosaur Bessie blue, in recognition of the “Light It Up Blue” campaign. The Governor closed his visit by saying, “I knew the museum was here but did not realize how robust it is, the number of visitors, and the range of the emphasis on science—which is incredibly important for our young people’s future.” He reflected a moment and said, “I am very proud of the work that The Discovery Museums does.”



Our Supporters

We gratefully acknowledge the individuals, corporations, foundations, organizations, and government agencies whose generosity and goodwill provided critical support for The Discovery Museums in 2014. It is a special honor to recognize those who have shown their loyalty to the Museums by giving for many years consecutively (see key).

Individuals \$7,500 and above

Bruce Enders

\$5,000 - \$7,499

Thomas and Cheryl Beaudoin+

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Marie and Brian Beam
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Barbara Dowds
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Stephen and Susan Giuletta+
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Carleton F. and Mary Ellen Kilmer
Lynne Osborn++
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William and Christine Ryan+
James Shields and Gayle Merling

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Lees and Stephen Stuntz++
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Emily “Paddy” Wade

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Joan and Samuel Appleton+
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Sunindiya Bhalla
Jarod and Mindy Bloom
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\$100 - \$249

Anonymous (1)
Kate Ambash
Peter and Mary Ann Ashton
David and Maureen Christmas
Linda and Bill Clark
Molly and Jeff Eberle
Elizabeth Eldridge+
Stephen Falite
Molly Faulkner and Bob Farrington
George and Lisa Foote+
Davida Fox-Melanson and Leo Melanson++

Consecutive Support Key: + 5-plus years ++ 10-plus years +++ 15-plus years

“It’s so **refreshing** to go somewhere where the kids can create their own fun using their **creativity**. Please don’t change a thing!”

—Irene Stankard, Member of The Discovery Museums since 2011

Marty W. Gilpatrick and
Russell Wolf++
Gail Greenlee+
Karen and Gerard Hartigan
Lenore and Peter Henry++
Stephen and Ann Hogan
Elliot Isen
Jeff Kallas
Edythe Kames+
Sandy Kendall+
Amy Kennedy and
David Sette-Ducati
Johan Kullstam and
Elizabeth Driscoll
Brian and Jeanne Lanigan
Russ Layton and Lee Ann
Hutchinson-Layton
Martin Lueck and
Nancy Traversy
Jeff and Cindy McCarthy
Thomas and Barbara Moloney
Lynne Morrison
J. Kevin Nugent and
Una McGeough-Nugent
David Oran and Silvia Arrom++
Andrew Panagotopoulos+
Christopher and Nancy Pazienza+
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Eileen B. Sullivan
Kevin Thurston
Wilson Tuffin
Walter and Christine
Van Roggen++
Sage and Don Veino
Claudia and Andy Veitch++
Liz and Dave Wei

Up to \$99

Anonymous (many)
Jane Ambash
Irene and Larry Behling
Glenn and Judy Bell
Kristen and Brian Blake
Joseph Blatt and
Leda Zimmerman
Kenneth and Phyllis Bloom
Christine DellaMonaca
Shannin and Pamela Doyle
Fred and Mary Dye
Arthur and Elaine Eisenberg
Mattias and Laura Eriksson
Katie and Mike Fahey
Lori Fassman and David Cohen+
Kristen Gastaldo
Maureen Giffen
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Steve and Lisa Gordon
Mary Hamelin
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Robin and Dennis Hart

Wayne and Mary Henderson
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Karen and Peter Kerns
Rena Kindler-Smith
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Karyn and Steve O’Connor
Tiffany Prunesti and
Richard Thomas
Eric and Kristin Reardon
James Russo and Lisa Lumsden
David and Kathi Santis++
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Owen Smith
Eric and Debra Solomon
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Becky and Sean Turner
Sara and Ian Underwood
Bridget Walker
Emily B. White+
William and Sally Williams
Judy Wolff
Betsy and Dan Yamron
Kitzie Zeidan
Peter and Judith Zolli





2014 Speaker Series

In the second year of our Discovery Museums Speaker Series, we continued to enable meaningful conversations between our community and experts in areas of importance to parents and families. We've clearly hit on an unmet need, as registration waiting lists developed even in venues with capacity of over 200. 2014 Speakers were: Dr. Anthony Rao, nationally recognized child psychologist and author; George Overholser, CEO and co-founder at Third Sector Capital Partners; Heather Jack, founder of The Volunteer Family and Future Philanthropists; and *New York Times* parenting columnist Jessica Lahey.

We are very grateful to our lead sponsors Enterprise Bank and Nuance Communications, along with Middlesex Savings Bank, for making the 2014 series possible; to Congregation Beth Elohim, Oak Meadow School, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, and iRobot for hosting us when we outgrew our space; to Idylwilde Farms of Acton for donating food for our guests; and to the MIT Club of Boston, our partner in offering this series since it began.



Institutions

\$25,000 and above

MathWorks+
Raytheon
Yawkey Foundations

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Biogen Idec
English Family Fund of the
Foundation for MetroWest
Foundation for MetroWest+
GE Foundation
Genzyme Corporation++
Highland Street Foundation+
Institute of Museum and
Library Services
Middlesex Savings Bank+++
Sudbury Foundation++
Theodore Edson Parker
Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

3M Company
Association of Children's
Museums
Boston Scientific
Foundation, Inc.
Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Deluxe Corporation
Foundation

Enterprise Bank+
Greater Worcester
Community Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural
Council++
Nuance Communications,
Inc.+
Ramsey McCluskey Family
Foundation+

\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Analog Devices, Inc.
Boston Bruins Foundation
Boston Society of Architects
Digital Federal Credit Union
Emerson Hospital
Museum of Science, Boston
Next Step Living, Inc.
PTC

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous (1)
Acton-Boxborough United
Way Youth in Philanthropy
Adelard A. and Valeda Lea
Roy Foundation
Alexander Aronson Finning
CPAs+

BOSE
Cambridge Savings Bank+
EKG Networking, Inc.+
Erland Construction, Inc.+
Especially for Pets, Inc.
ExxonMobil Foundation
JM Coull, Inc.
McWalter-Volunteer
Insurance Agency, Inc.
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Barney LLC+
Nypro, Inc.
Pacific Science Center
Sechrest & Bloom, LLC
Sorrento's Brick Oven
Pizzeria

\$500 - \$999

Acton Medical
Associates, P.C.
Eckel, Morgan & O'Connor
Law Offices
Fritz & Gigi -
The Children's Shop
Gallant Insurance
Agency, Inc.
Harsip & Stuart, P.C.
Jo Karen Fine Lingerie &
Activewear
Kotlarz Realty Group at
Keller Williams Boston NW

Consecutive Support Key: + 5-plus years ++ 10-plus years +++ 15-plus years

“ Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. ”
—American Academy of Pediatrics

Lake Boone Ice Company
Linnard Financial
Management and
Planning, Inc.
Next Generation
Children's Centers
Pedal Power Bike and Ski
Revolution Community Yoga

\$100 - \$499

AAA Northeast
Acton-Boxborough
Cultural Council
Acton Monument
Company, Inc.
Alpha Business Group
AmazonSmile Foundation
Bank of America
Billerica Arts Council
Bursaw Gas and Oil
Butler-Dearden Paper
Service, Inc.
Carlisle Cultural Council
Chelmsford Cultural Council
Concord Teacakes
Dunkin' Donuts
Elmore Patent Law Group, PC
Elza B. Design, Inc.

Harvard Cultural Council
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Hudson Cultural Council
IBM ++
Leominster Cultural Council
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Littleton Cultural Council
Maynard Cultural Council
Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt
TransAction Associates, Inc.
Waltham Cultural Council
Wayland Cultural Council
Westford Cultural Council
Weston Cultural Council

Up to \$99

Acton Orthodontic Associates
Celerity
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Liberty Mutual Foundation+
Microsoft Giving Campaign+

Matching Gifts

Bank of America
GE Foundation
IBM
Microsoft Giving Campaign

Benefactor Members

Thank you to the following individuals whose membership at the Benefactor level provides families in need the gift of a complimentary membership.

Anonymous (1)
Susan Berry and Kate Grant
Amanda and Mike
Comperchio
Emily and David Greenwood
Stephen and Ann Hogan
Amitha and James Knight
Gabriel Lopez-Calva
and Olesya Baker
Ben McLellan
and Lauren O'Sullivan
Richard and Karen Napoli
Mark and Rebecca Scheier

Tributes

In Honor of Sunindiya Bhalla
Barbara Dowds
In Honor of Tom Beaudoin
Stephen Falite
In Recognition of Kate Ambash
Kristen Gastaldo

These lists reflect gifts made between January 1 and December 31, 2014, and are complete and accurate to the best of our ability. To notify us of an error, please contact Marie Beam, Chief Development Officer, at mbeam@discoverymuseums.org.





Thanks for being part of our year!

Let's **reflect** on some of the high points.

We served nearly **172,000 visitors**, our third busiest year ever.

We were honored with the **William L. Ryan Community Service Award** for our impact on area young people.



Our Bid for Kids online auction raised **\$22,833** in support of our *Especially For Me* series, allowing us to offer **23 events** this year (up from two in 2010) for kids with an autism spectrum disorder or who are deaf or hard of hearing. Thank you!

We brought hands-on STEM programming to more than **28,000 kids** through our Traveling Science Workshops program, now in its 22nd year.

We grew to almost **1,900 member families**, up from 1,110 in 2009.



We hosted our second full year of **Portal to the Public**, our professional development program for practicing scientists and engineers. These Science Communication Fellows then presented **6 hands-on science programs** for our visitors.

25% of our visitors enjoyed the museums **for free** or at a deeply reduced cost through our Open Door Connections program.



We opened our newest exhibit, **Backyard at Night**, to rave reviews of youngsters exploring their relationship with the dark.



We held **4** capacity-crowd events in year two of our Discovery Museums Speaker Series, which facilitates conversations with experts on **topics that matter** to families.



We earned **Gold, Best Museum** in the 2014 Wicked Local Readers' Choice Awards.

We received a **"Best of the Best"** award from *Boston Parents Paper*.



We donated nearly **\$23,000** in free admission passes and memberships to human services, animal welfare, faith-based, environmental, and educational nonprofits for their fundraising efforts.



We were honored by *Boston Business Journal* as a **Partner of the Year**, along with our friends at MathWorks.



We were awarded nearly **\$300,000** in grants from the Sudbury Foundation and Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop a new exhibit on brain development, for children ages 0-3 and their caregivers.

We were awarded our **second Nanotechnology mini-grant award** and fifth consecutive NanoDays kit from the NISE Network for our programs on nanotechnology.

We were awarded a **Promising Practice Award** Reimagined by the Association of Children's Museums, for our proposal to benefit homeless families through Horizons for Homeless Children.



Full STEAM Ahead with Concord Teachers and Students

With a grant from the Concord Ed Fund, 16 Concord K-5 teachers—including art, technology, and library teachers—participated in eight days of workshops with staff from The Discovery Museums, learning about interdisciplinary and inquiry-based science learning, and designing and prototyping classroom projects that incorporated the elements of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math).

Concord teachers, students, and families were at the Museums on a Friday night in June, to showcase student projects. Project Coordinator Susan Erickson, a 5th grade teacher at Thoreau School, said, “The work we did on inquiry-based science learning with the Museums staff was really useful, and we saw tremendous engagement and excitement from students working across disciplines in a hands-on way as they designed, built, created, and shared their work.”



Gifts in Kind

- Anonymous(2)
- 5 Wits
- ABC Television Network
- Ace Hardware
- Achieve Taekwondo
- Acton Coffee House
- Acton Fire Department
- Acton Skin Care
- Alchemy Yoga
- Alexander Aronson
- Finning CPAs
- American Express
- Angeles Corporation
- Animal Adventures
- Area Four
- Bay Area Discovery Museum
- BB Kidz Klub
- Marie Beam
- Mark Beamis
- Bella Famiglia, Inc.
- Bertucci's Italian Restaurant
- Big Apple Circus
- Jarod Bloom
- Boston Children's Museum
- Boston Chocolate Walking Tours
- Boston Duck Tours
- Boston Frame Works
- Boston Organics
- Boston Red Sox
- Boston's Best Bartending Services
- Alan Bourgault
- Bridgeport Bluefish
- Bromley Mountain
- Cambridge Brewing Company
- Candy Castle
- Canobie Lake Park
- Carlisle & Co.
- Celebrity Series of Boston
- Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose
- Circle Furniture
- Citizens Bank
- Colonial Spirits
- Community Boating, Inc.
- The Concord Cheese Shop
- The Concord Conservatory of Music
- Concord Museum
- Conducti
- Copley Wolff Design Group
- Cranmore Mountain Resort
- Crush Boutique
- Curtis Street Bakers
- Gluten Free
- Dark Matter Chocolate Laboratory
- Debra's Natural Gourmet
- deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum
- The Designers: Leather Clothiers
- Domino Veterinary Hospital
- Maddy Douglass
- Drawbridge Puppet Theater
- Dunkin' Donuts
- Ecotarium
- Einstein's Workshop
- Nancy Eisenberg
- Annette S. Ekberg
- EKG Networking, Inc.
- The Elephant Walk
- Elite Island Resorts
- Enterprise Bank
- Erikson's Ice Cream
- Especially For Pets
- Fay School
- Robert Ferrara
- The Fireplace Restaurant
- Fitchburg Art Museum
- Mark Fried
- Fruitlands Museum
- George Howell Coffee Company
- Carol Gifford
- Neil H. Gordon
- Grafton Group Restaurants
- Maura Haberman
- Maxwell B. Hall

“ Some people talk about play as if it were a relief from serious learning or even worse: a waste of time. But for children, play is exceedingly serious—and important!” —Fred Rogers

John Hancock
Handel and Haydn Society
Harmony Horse Stables, LLC
Hartney Greymont
Hop On In
Huntington Theater
Company
William R. Huss
Improv Boston
Indian Hill Music
Institute of Contemporary
Art, Boston
Isabella Stewart Gardner
Museum
Elliot I. Isen
J. Fountain Photography
The Jackson Laboratory
Keith Jacques
Johnny Rockets
JP Licks
Jump Around
Jeff Kasaras
Ken-A-Vision
Kitchen Outfitters, LLC
Lauren Huyett Interiors
Leslie Saul and Associates
Lexx Restaurant
Magic Brush Pottery
Mass Audubon
Madeline McNeely
The Master Singers of
Worcester, Inc.

Middlesex Savings Bank
Monster Mini Golf
Museum of Russian Icons
Nashoba Brook Bakery
National Baseball Hall of
Fame & Museum
New Bedford Whaling Museum
New Hampshire Fisher Cats
Night Shift Brewing
Annika Noren
Norman Rockwell Museum
Not Your Average Joe's
Nuance Communications, Inc.
NuBodi Massage
Oak Meadow Montessori
Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt
Outerwall
Papa Gino's - Acton
Party Favors
Patina
Pat's Peak
Paul Revere Memorial
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Peabody Essex Museum
Ruth Perry
Petco
Pete and Jen's Backyard
Birds Mini-Market
Pinot's Palette
Plimoth Plantation
Polar Beverages

Portland Museum of Art
The Preservation Society of
Newport County
Pyara Spa & Salon
Reasons To Be Cheerful
Redbox
Renaissance Boston
Waterfront Hotel
Revolution Community Yoga
Fontaine K. Richardson
Road to Wellness Chiropractic
Roche Brothers, Inc.
Roger Williams Park Zoo
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Salem Witch Museum
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Shaker Hills Golf Club
Sharper Edge Skating School
The Shattuck Golf Club
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Thomas Sommerfield
Southwick's Zoo
Sprigs Restaurant and Bar
Starbucks
Stephen P. Giulietti
Sterling Golf Management, Inc.
Stoneham Theater
Stow Acres
Lees Stuntz
Sowmya Suneel

Swan Boats of Boston
Sweet Beads
Tavolino
The Thoreau Club
Tower Hill Botanic Garden
Town of Acton Recreation
Department
Trader Joe's
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Diana Uehlein
The Umbrella Community
Arts Center
Via Lago Restaurant
Walden Woods Animal
Acupuncture
Walter Fey CPA, PC
Wayside Racquet and Swim Club
WCVB-TV
West Concord Liquors
Westford Regency Hotel
Westport Rivers Vineyard
and Winery
WGBH Radio
Whole Foods Market, Wayland
Beverly Wing
The Woolpack
Worcester Sharks
Yummy Mummy Brownies
Zipcar
Mary Zoll



New Board Members 2014

We were pleased to welcome five new members to our Board of Directors in 2014.



Katharine Denault (Acton) began her involvement with the Museums when she moved to Acton in 1980, when she met the founder, Don Verger, and became a volunteer. Katharine has also served on the parents associations of

her children's three schools: Nashoba Brooks, Fenn, and Lawrence Academy. She has volunteered at the Acton Food Pantry, served on the Emerson Hospital Gala Committee, and was a founding co-chair of the Nashoba Brooks Board of Visitors. Katharine currently volunteers at the Concord Trinitarian Congregational Church and at the Oak Meadow School library.



Paula Bentinck-Smith (Sudbury) worked in the Brookline Public Schools for many years as a health educator, guidance counselor and special needs advocate. She recently stepped down as vice president of the Board of Trustees and

chair of the Enrollment and Placement Committee at the Fay School after more than 10 years of service. Paula currently serves on Sudbury's Goodnow Library Foundation Board and also volunteers her time in Florida, currently with the Sanibel Chamber of Commerce, the Big Arts Volunteer Fund, and Golisano Children's Hospital in Fort Meyers. Paula earned a BA in Education from Lesley University, and a Masters in Counseling from Boston University.



Margaret (Meg) Ramsey (Lincoln) has been involved with The Discovery Museums for more than 15 years as Founder and Managing Trustee of the Ramsey McCluskey Family Foundation, a supporter of the Museums for many years. Meg

currently serves on the Boards of Trustees of Belmont Day School and the Foundation for MetroWest, and on the Advisory Board of Youth in Philanthropy, where she is also Chair of the Distribution Committee. She spent 12 years on the Lincoln Scholarship Committee, retiring as Chair. Meg's professional career includes working as a Lead Engineer at AT&T Bell Laboratories; Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at Rutgers University; a self-employed software process consultant; and owner/manager of a commercial real estate venture. Meg holds a BS in Computer Science from Drexel University, and an MSE in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.



Carolyn Platt (Acton) was a founding Board member of The Discovery Museums, and served as Board Chair from 1988-1990. She taught grades two through six for 35 years, at Ecole Bilingue in Cambridge, the American School of Paris,

Sudbury Public Schools, and most recently the Carlisle Public Schools. She served as a consultant for the Lowell Model of Educational Excellence initiated by Paul Tsongas. Carolyn has worked as a consultant for Primary Source in Watertown, MA, an educational non-profit that connects educators with peoples and cultures around the world; led US teacher tours to China; and was co-editor of *China Since 1644: A History Through Primary Sources*. She volunteers at Church of the Good Shepherd in Acton, and at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence, MA, a tuition-free private middle school for girls.



Bruce Osterling (Sudbury) started his career as a Peace Corps volunteer and served in the US Navy as a supply officer. Early in his career he worked for Ford Motor Company before spending 16 years at Digital Equipment Corporation in fi-

nance and operations. Following Digital, Bruce served as the CFO for three startup companies.

Most recently, he was one of three founding partners of Electrolytic Research Corporation, which focused on scaling up and commercializing MIT technologies. Bruce serves in the MIT Venture Mentoring Service; as a Board member of Greater Boston chapter of Trout Unlimited; and Board member and Treasurer of Sudbury Valley Trustees. He earned a BA from Oberlin College and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

“**Unscheduled, unsupervised, playtime** is one of the most valuable educational opportunities we give our children.” —*Jessica Lahey, educator, writer, and speaker featured in The New York Times and The Atlantic; 2014 Discovery Museums Speaker Series presenter*



Planning for Our Future

*We thank the following donors for making an early investment in the **Campaign for The Discovery Museums**.*

Anonymous (5)
Peter and Mary Lee Aldrich
Joan and Samuel Appleton
The Astra Foundation
Wendy and John Baker
Thomas and Cheryl Beaudoin
Jarod and Mindy Bloom
Scott and Pamela Bundy
JD and Lori Chesloff
Patricia and Don Chisholm
Charles and Katharine Denault
Anthony and Janice DiBona
Mary Dockray-Miller and Michael Miller
Harvey Eisenberg
Bruce Enders

Enterprise Bank
Robert and Deena Ferrara
Foundation for MetroWest
Stephen and Susan Giulietti
Jeffrey and Janet Glidden
Neil and Ann Gordon
Haartz Corporation
Institute of Museum and Library Services
Michael and Eileen Katin
Russell and Lee Ann Layton
David and Barbara Linnard
Don and Pat MacKenzie
The Manton Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund
Middlesex Savings Bank

Richard and Karen Napoli
Lynne Osborn
Bruce and Lee Osterling
David and Virginia Packer
Carolyn and Alexander Platt
Polaroid Corporation/
The Land Fund
Margaret Ramsey and John McCluskey
Raytheon
William and Christine Ryan
Steve and Cindy Sechrest
Nathaniel and Elizabeth P. Stevens Foundation
Lees and Stephen Stuntz
Sudbury Foundation
Workers' Credit Union

Expanding Access

In 2014 we launched a new program to offer \$1 admission to holders of a Massachusetts Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card and up to five additional guests. We also formalized our Discovery Memberships program, which provides full, free Family memberships to families in need through partner social service agencies, including Cradles to Crayons, Acton Housing Authority, SMOC Head Start, Open Table of Concord and Maynard, Boys and Girls Club of Assabet Valley, Big Brother Big Sister of Central Massachusetts, Acre Family Childcare, Clarendon Early Educational Services, and others.

These programs are part of our Open Door Connections initiative to provide free or deeply discounted access to the Museums for those who face financial, developmental, or cultural barriers to visiting. In 2014, the Museums served nearly 43,000 individuals at free or deeply reduced cost in the museums and in classrooms throughout New England, 25% of the almost 172,000 served. Open Door would not be possible without the support of our generous sponsors and supporters.

For more information about the Campaign for The Discovery Museums, please contact Marie Beam, Chief Development Officer, at mbeam@discoverymuseums.org





“Play is the
child’s lab.”

—National Association
for the Education
of Young Children



Our Volunteers

Individuals

Christina Agapakis
Paulo Alvero
Nillani Anandakugan
Joan Appleton
Peter Ashton
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MathWorks
Darnell School
CASE Littleton
Enterprise Bank
Biogen Idec
AMD
ABRHS Students for
Senior Volunteer Day

“Free play is nature’s means of teaching children that they are not helpless.”

—Dr. Peter Gray, author of *Free to Learn: Why Unleashing the Instinct to Play Will Make Our Children Happier, More Self-Reliant, and Better Students for Life*

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Celebrating supporters and friends at the annual Evening of Thanks.

“ Every moment that a child exercises the power of **imagination**, his or her mind changes and grows. **Discovery** is the catalyst and the reward of play.”

—*Dr. Anthony Rao, author, psychologist, and 2014 Discovery Museums Speaker Series presenter*



Design: Erin Ash Sullivan | Photography by Jennifer Erickson, Ann Sgarzi, and Erin Ash Sullivan. Additional photos courtesy of Raytheon.


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