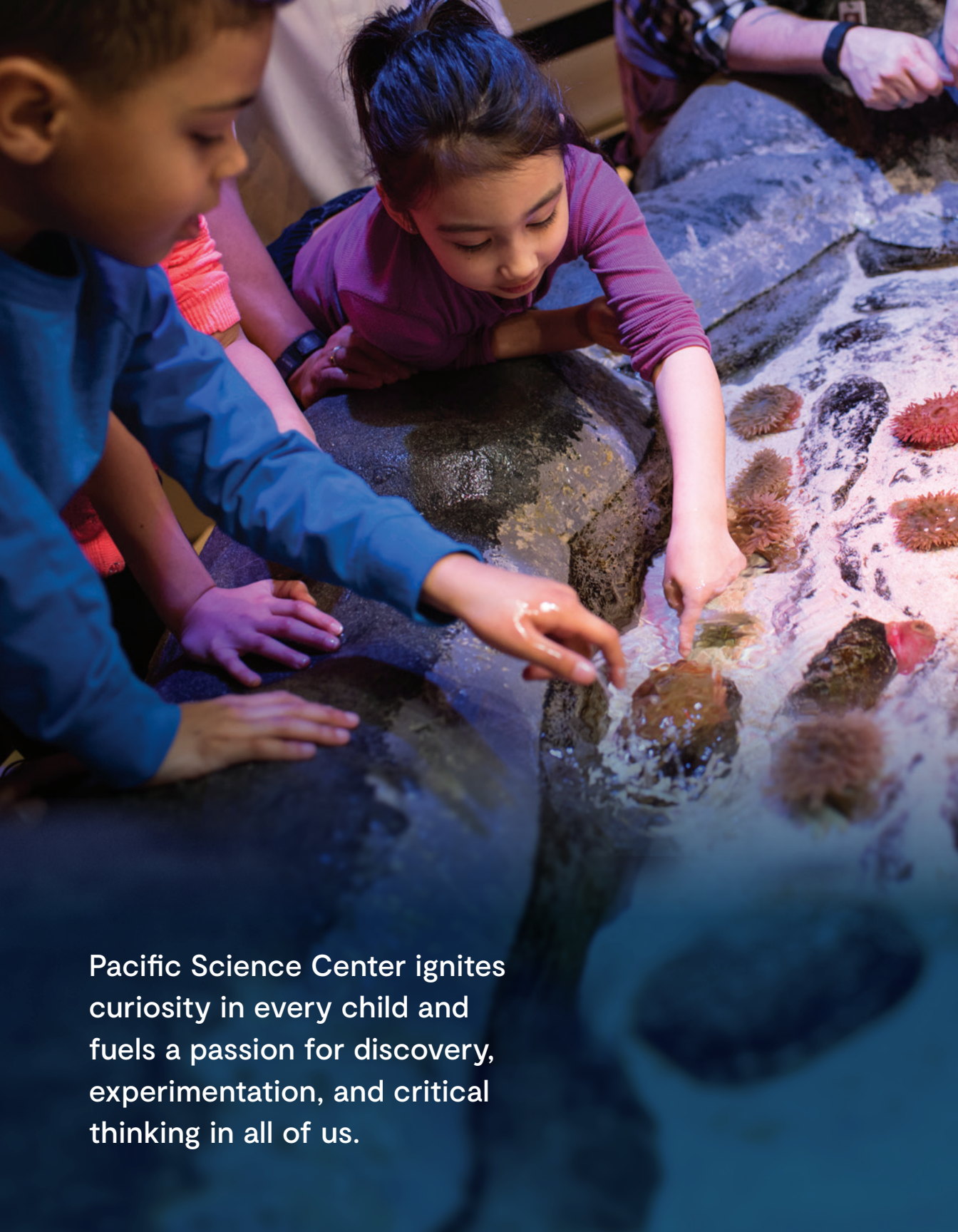


PACIFIC
SCIENCE
CENTER

IMPACT REPORT

FALL 2018





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

OUR MESSAGE

Curiosity lives at Pacific Science Center. And every day, because of your support, minds of all shapes and sizes can be curious in new ways. Thank you.

This fall we are recognizing several milestones that you helped make possible. In October, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Boeing IMAX® Theater as well as the 25th anniversary of Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center in Bellevue. December will mark 20 years for our beloved Tropical Butterfly House.

Each day these facilities continue to fuel a passion for discovery in guests of all ages. From the comfort of your seat, the Boeing IMAX® Theater will take you to the Amazon to witness mimicry, deep into the ocean to ponder the complexities of aquatic life, and China to observe the rehabilitation efforts for Giant Pandas. The Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center turns nature into a classroom, providing everything from guided nature walks to internships for teens interested in environmental science. And as the weather turns cold, there's no better place to learn than in the warmth and beauty of the Tropical Butterfly House.

As unique as these and all of our offerings are, they have one thing in common: they encourage us to be curious. As you will read in the pages ahead, we are working each day to ignite curiosity on our campus and throughout the community.

This is an exciting time for us, and we cannot thank you enough for being our partner on this incredible journey. Thank you for your continued investment!



Will Daugherty

Will Daugherty
President & CEO



Adriane Brown

Adriane Brown
Chair, Board of Directors

MERCER SLOUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM

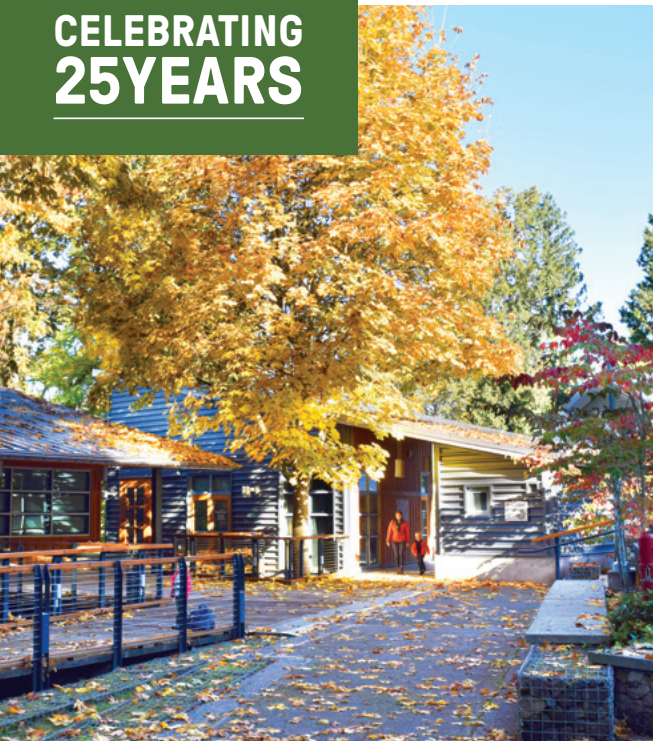
Located on a biologically diverse 320-acre wetland nature park in the heart of urban Bellevue, WA, Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (MSEEC) is a collaboration between the City of Bellevue and Pacific Science Center. And for 25 years, MSEEC has used nature as a classroom. From hosting guided walks that explore the ecosystems in our backyard to inspiring curiosity in the littlest scientists through Polliwog Preschool, MSEEC uses the world of science around us to fuel a passion for discovery.

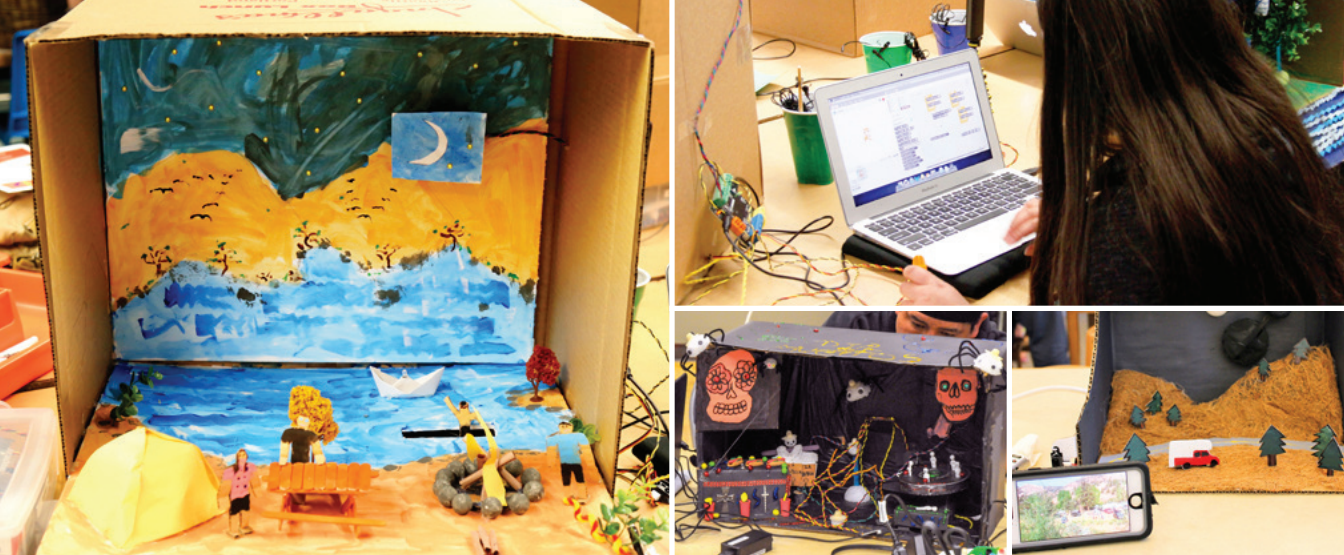
And guided by the principle of 'Enabling Access to All,' we aspire to ensure that MSEEC's facilities, programs, experiences, and the benefits they provide are accessible to individuals of all backgrounds and financial, social, physical and intellectual abilities. This is where the Community Partners Program comes in. The MSEEC program offers free, out-of-school-time, immersive environmental education programming to non-profit organizations serving teens from communities that are typically under-represented in science fields.

By partnering with other non-profit organizations in the area, teens get to experience unique programming that they would not normally be able to access. During their time at MSEEC, the teens go on a hike, explore the wetland ecology, monitor the water quality at a local stream using chemical and biological factors, learn about native plants and how to identify them, and so much more!

This incredible program would not be possible without the support of donors like you. Your continued partnership connects local teens with environmental education. Thank you!

CELEBRATING
25 YEARS





ROBOTICS BACKPACKS

For the past two years Pacific Science Center has focused on a variety of efforts that enable access to hands-on science learning for those that would otherwise miss out. Through programs like the Robotics Backpack Project, and thanks to the continued support of donors like you, we are doing more to make science accessible throughout our community.

Stemming from a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), and in partnership with University of Washington, Red Eagle Soaring, and The Seattle Public Library, the Robotics Backpack Project created a family-based learning experience over the course of 5 weeks. The project gives families the opportunity to explore science and engineering together as they interact with robotics, computer science, coding, and e-textiles (fabrics and clothing that integrate technology).

This summer, diverse families who typically wouldn't have access to these kinds of programs attended computing and robotics workshops at Pacific Science Center, Red Eagle Soaring and The Seattle Public Library. They then continued their exploration at home by checking out backpacks full of projects for the whole family. Each backpack was equipped with a laptop computer, WIFI hotspot, and all the materials that the families needed to complete the activity.

Rooted in the theme of storytelling across many different cultures, the Robotics Backpack Project also encouraged families to express themselves using this technology. One family who participated decided to work on a robotics piece that focused on the happiest day of their lives: adoption day. Each child in this family was adopted, so they created a scene using lights, motors, and sensors that depicted a judge finalizing an adoption and the family cheering in excitement.

This project was an opportunity for young people and their families to explore STEM in a safe space. And by working as scientists or engineers at home, we hope they will continue to be curious and explore the world around them.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF BUTTERFLIES

For 20 years, the Tropical Butterfly House has been a place to experience warm climates year-round while watching hundreds of butterflies from around the world flutter about the numerous unique plants. And because this is one of our most popular places to visit, our team wanted to find ways to ensure that every guest could experience the awe and wonder that the Tropical Butterfly House brings.

How? By making the Tropical Butterfly House more accessible for guests who have low or no vision. Braille and audio guides are now available for those visiting these amazing creatures.



15,466:

number of butterflies (on average)
that emerge each year



Our butterflies come from Costa Rica,
El Salvador, Malaysia, and Suriname



80-85°F:

Temperature that the Tropical
Butterfly House is kept at 24/7

300+:

Number of chrysalises
we receive each week



CELEBRATING
20YEARS

SPREAD YOUR WINGS FOR SCIENCE

Support the Tropical Butterfly House by adopting your favorite butterfly today! Adoptions available from just \$50 with insider benefits for you to enjoy.

CALL: (206) 443-2878

EMAIL: development@pacsci.org

VISIT: pacsci.org/adoptabutterfly





DISCOVERY CORPS TAKES ON MANASTASH RIDGE OBSERVATORY

On August 17, twelve Discovery Corps youth and three staff members embarked on an annual overnight camping trip, traveling to University of Washington's (UW) teaching facility at the Manastash Ridge, in Ellensburg, WA. Discovery Corps is a multi-year program that teaches teens career skills while providing interactive experiences in science, math, and technology which will hopefully inspire them to pursue STEM careers. The participants attended a pre-trip meeting at Pacific Science Center to set group expectations, review safety information, attend a show at the Willard Smith Planetarium, and meet with a UW astronomy student who helped prepare them with content knowledge to be successful astronomical observers during the trip.

Once all preparations were completed, the youth were off to Ellensburg. During the trip, students took on leadership and team roles as they set up camp outside of the observatory building, prepared and cleaned up after group meals, and as they took turns using the telescope and other observing equipment late into the night. With borrowed tents, sleeping pads and sleeping bags from the Washington Trails Association Gear Library, the teens and chaperones were equipped to stay warm in the desert night. Some of the youth have never seen so many stars, used a telescope, or camped outside, making the trip an especially memorable experience.

Here is an account of the trip by Discovery Corps youth Naomi A.:

"When I first signed up to visit the Manastash Ridge Observatory, I didn't know what to expect. I was never into astronomy, but I always thought it was a cool topic. While at the observatory, we did so many fun activities. One thing we did was hike along a trail near the observatory. While hiking, we stopped a few times along the way to talk about the land and how it used to be under water, which I thought was really cool!"



Another thing we did was observe the stars and constellations outside, which was my first time actually seeing them clearly! I've always wanted to see the Big Dipper in person, upclose, and that's exactly what I got to do. I got to see our moon and its craters. And one of the best parts of observing outside was seeing the Milky Way. I was stunned how easily noticeable it was!

One last thing we did, which was the objective of the trip, was observe galaxies and stars through the telescope inside of the observatory. Next to the telescope, there is a room with two computers that tell the telescope where to point in the night sky to get an image of a deep sky object. On one of the computers, you search for the coordinates of what you are trying to find, which you'll input into the other computer. Once put in, the telescope will position itself toward the object. Above the telescope, there is a dome that acts like the roof and is controlled by an Xbox controller! When the pictures came back from the telescope, they were better than I expected! With the filters we used, we got pictures that were so clear and focused, it really amazed me.



Naomi (left) : in the computer room at the observatory

This trip really made me think about learning more about astronomy, and now, I might want to do something with astronomy in the future!"

Because of the support of donors like you, Discovery Corps youth can continue to have these unforgettable experiences. Thank you for your steadfast support of Pacific Science Center.

INCREASING ACCESS TO CAMP

Each summer Camps for Curious Minds engage young people in exploring, experimenting, and discovery. Students grade PreK-8 come together to learn at 8 locations around the Puget Sound. With themes like Wild Ocean Adventures, Science Poetry Jam, and Dinomation 101 these camps are a lot of fun too.

Camps are also a key tool in preventing Summer Learning Loss. Research shows that this phenomenon can result in significant setbacks in student performance and disproportionately impacts those from low-income families. That's why your support as a donor is essential.

Thanks to you, scholarships are available for families experiencing financial hardship to attend a camp full of unforgettable, hands-on science programming.

This past year philanthropic investments made it possible for more than \$41,000 in scholarships to be provided for summer camps. This included 20 scholarships especially designated for foster youth in care at our partner Mary's Place. In addition to camp sessions scholarship recipients received complimentary morning care, lunch, and afternoon care.

With your help Pacific Science Center is committed to increasing Access to Science for children and families throughout our community. Thank you for your generous support!

\$41,000 in camp scholarships provided



WHY I GIVE

"I believe PacSci has the ability and opportunity to shape the next generation of innovators."

— Kimberly S.

"It's vital that children have an opportunity see, feel, and experience the wonders of science and the natural world."

— Anonymous

"I believe strongly in science education for all ages. Education does not stop when you graduate!"

— Matthew D.



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