



Impact Report Spring 2017

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



CEO and Board Chair Update

Thank you for supporting Pacific Science Center. Because of your generous support, 2017 has been filled with dynamic science learning, hands-on discovery, and fun. In this impact report we are excited to share with you news from senior Discovery Corps youth preparing to graduate high school. You will learn about how Science On Wheels continues to reach 140,000+ students in schools throughout Washington State. We're also excited to share with you a new program that helps enable families from all backgrounds to take part in engaging science experiences.

We are now in the home stretch of fundraising to meet our fiscal year end goal by June 30. In the pages that follow, you will learn about the ways your support has helped Pacific Science Center fulfill our mission to ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us. We hope that you are inspired by the impact of your philanthropy. Enjoy each story knowing that your support ensures we continue to serve visitors on our Seattle campus and throughout the community.



Will Daugherty

Will Daugherty
President and CEO



Barbara B. Hulit

Barbara B. Hulit
Chair, Board of Directors

*80 scholarships
will be provided to
youth interested
in science.*



Camps for Curious Minds Scholarship Program

As schools let out, children from all around the Puget Sound are gearing up for a summer filled with designing robotic machines, analyzing DNA evidence, and investigating insects in the wild. Each year, our Camps for Curious Minds offer more than 5,700 children in grades PreK–8 unique science learning experiences that create lifelong memories.

Unfortunately, many curious young scientists are unable to attend due to financial hardship. **But thanks to the support of donors like you, Pacific Science Center is once again able to offer scholarships to the most vulnerable children in our community.**

Two thirds of the income-based achievement gap is attributed to summer learning loss, which occurs when children do not participate in education-based programming during the months they are out of school. To help bridge this gap for local students we are thrilled to be able to provide 80 scholarships this summer! This will allow youth who are interested in science the opportunity to participate in one camp session at any of our eight locations; including pre-and-post camp care as well as lunch. These scholarships are available to prospective campers who are in the foster care system, or whose family receives any form of public assistance.

Though we are certainly making strides to ensure all underserved students in our area have access to camp, each year we receive more applications for scholarships than we can provide. It is our hope that we will continue to grow the availability of these scholarships so that no youth in need experiences summer learning loss. With your continued investment, we will be able to serve even more curious minds in the future as they explore the world of science around them!

Remote Sensing with Science On Wheels

Have you ever wondered what the inside of your brain looks like? Or what the Big Dipper would look like from the other side of the universe? Our Science On Wheels program covers that—and so much more! Every day, our science educators hit the road with interactive workshops, stage shows, and exhibits. Traveling all across the Pacific Northwest, Science On Wheels visits over 300 schools each year in addition to fairs, festivals, and other community events.

As summer approaches, the program has no plans to slow down, and will focus for its seventh year on delivering a series of 5 hour-long interactive workshops at **no cost** to young students from underserved communities. This summer, these classes focus on remote sensing, how scientists collect information about objects or areas from a distance. Because of the dedicated support of donors like you, our “STEM Out-of-School Time” program has provided these free workshops since 2010.

Introducing more than 800 budding scientists to cutting-edge remote sensing technology.



Beginning in June 2017, the *Track Your World* workshop will launch, introducing more than 800 budding scientists to cutting-edge remote sensing technology. At 30 sites across the Puget Sound region, curious minds will study how remote sensing works on Earth and beyond. Through hands-on experiences with a remote sensing device, students will learn how SONAR is used to solve mysteries at the bottom of the sea, and get to simulate control of a Mars rover. Each year, we work with local community organizations to integrate these workshops into their established summer programming. From housing developments to Boys and Girls Clubs, Science On Wheels educators deliver these once-in-a-lifetime learning experiences to children who would otherwise not receive this opportunity.

Want to learn more? Visit pacsci.org/science-on-wheels.

Discovery Corps Highlight: Graduating Seniors

As they conclude their Discovery Corps journey, the current cohort of high school seniors have been reflecting on how they have grown as educators and individuals. During their time in this youth development program, the teens have embodied Pacific Science Center's mission to *ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us*. Completing at least 100 volunteer hours each, all 26 seniors will graduate high school in June with a diverse set of skills honed during their time in the program. From enhancing their public speaking abilities to completing research internships at local universities, the experiences students have had will influence them throughout their lives.

"The Discovery Corps program has furthered the breadth and depth of my current scientific knowledge as well as strengthened my communication abilities. From the Science Center, I have learned interesting and useful scientific knowledge that I would have been unlikely to learn elsewhere." – Chris



The experiences students have had will influence them throughout their lives.



Trying to balance their positions as students, paid Pacific Science Center staff members, and Discovery Corps ambassadors is a lot to take on. But the hard work and dedication that it takes to succeed in the program has begun to pay off. Many of the seniors have been accepted to local and national colleges and universities including: University of Washington, Seattle University, Harvey Mudd College, University of California Irvine, Xavier University, University of Illinois, University of Maryland, Purdue University, Georgia Tech, and Arizona State.

Because of donors like you, these Discovery Corps students will be a part of the next generation of great thinkers, scientists, and educators.

"Discovery Corps has helped me grow not only in the environment of the Science Center, but also in my daily life." – Nellie

A photograph of a middle-aged couple smiling and looking upwards. They are standing in front of a large, vibrant projection of a cosmic scene, featuring a bright, orange and yellow nebula on the left and a starry, blue and white nebula on the right. The couple is positioned in the lower half of the frame. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue, short-sleeved, textured top. The man on the right is wearing a dark grey, long-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is a dark space filled with stars and colorful nebulae, creating a sense of wonder and exploration.

Why I Give

“Youth in our communities need to feel empowered to be curious and to understand that their own intellectual curiosity and discoveries can have profound impacts on the world they live in. Schools teach for testing, and the Science Center serves to inspire, which is far more powerful in motivating young people to pursue careers in the sciences.” – Crystal

"We will not live forever!
Those who follow us need
to grow and learn to make a
difference...I believe Pacific
Science Center is the legacy we
should all strive to support for
the future of our children, their
children and the children we will
never know." – Stephen



"We are so fortunate to have
this local hands-on science
experience. We need to keep
it alive, functional, new, and
increase Pacific Science Center's
ability to engage and educate
both kids and adults in science
related disciplines." – Bruce

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.

Enabling Access for All

During a typical day at Pacific Science Center, you can expect a few things:

1. The gigantic tyrannosaurus-rex will make at least one child stop dead in their tracks, staring in amazement (or terror) at the pre-historic creature above them;
2. Tinker Tank will be buzzing with questions ranging from, *why does this slime look like noodles?*, to, *how does Baxter [our resident robot] dance?*; and
3. Electrifying screams from visitors engaging with our Live Science educators as they shatter frozen racquetballs, generate fiery explosions, and analyze living creatures all in the name of science.

Unfortunately, far too many families in our community are unable to live these experiences. A trip to Pacific Science Center is simply out of reach. But last year, support like yours helped us launch a series of access initiatives to make Pacific Science Center's facilities, programs, and experiences available to people from all backgrounds.





Over 2,500 families have joined the Family Access Membership program—this includes more than 6,700 children!

Launched in April 2016, the Family Access Membership program provides deep discounts on our typical Family Level Membership. For only \$19 per year, families that receive any form of public assistance can receive the full benefits of membership at Pacific Science Center for two adults and up to six youths ages 3–18. We are pleased that many families are already benefitting from the program:

- Over 2,500 families have joined
- More than 6,700 children are listed on those active accounts

To expand upon the success of the Family Access Membership program, we established the Youth Access Membership program in November 2016. Available at no cost to foster youth and foster families as well as youth experiencing homelessness, this program provides a Family Level Membership completely free of charge. To date more than 400 memberships have been activated.

It is only with your dedicated support that these programs continue to provide our community members with access to hands-on science learning. Thank you!



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