



IGNITING CURIOSITY IN ALL OF US

PACIFIC
SCIENCE
CENTER



IMPACT REPORT
2022–2023



IGNITERS



Thanks to our PacSci Igniters, PacSci brought science to life for students, families, and curious community members this year.

Your investment made it possible for us to welcome guests to our renewed campus in our 60th year, relaunch our outreach science education programs across the state, and continue to evolve as our region's Science Center for the next generation.

Together, we filled the past year with discovery and exploration for learners of all ages under the arches and across Washington.

PacSci's 60th year has been one of renewal as we evolve the on-campus experience for guests, led by our Guiding Principle to enable access for all. Thousands of guests ignited their curiosity at classic PacSci exhibits like the Tropical Butterfly House, as well as four new and enhanced experiences: *Adventures in Sound*, *Tropical Odyssey*, *Water's Extreme Journey*, and our expanding Tinker Tank makerspace.

In the spirit of embracing experimentation and innovation we are prototyping new experiences. Thanks to donor funding, our Exhibits team engaged the organization Sensory Access to evaluate our exhibits. For example, *Adventures in Sound* is an interactive exhibit that explores how sound can be seen, felt, and heard. Considering the impact loud sounds can have, we incorporated acoustical mitigation tactics into *Adventures in Sound* to make the exhibit accessible for our neurodivergent guests and to improve the guest experience for all. We'll gather acoustical data in this "prototype" exhibit to inform the design of other PacSci spaces, old and new!

410,829
guests

visited PacSci



“

As our exhibit spaces come back online, we have opportunities to ask important questions and explore the answers—how can the way we “do” exhibits better model the process of science? How can we better align our projects with our principles of inclusion, equity, accessibility, and diversity? We want this to be a place where guests are delighted around every turn, where people come to connect with this region's STEM innovators, and where piqued curiosity turns into life-long passions.

—Isabelle Heyward, Director of Exhibits

3,172 Access Members

21% of our member community

PacSci members are a vital part of our community of curious minds and supporters, making up 28% of our guests this year. Our members are campers, educators, moviegoers, innovators, scientists, STEM advocates, and so much more! Yet the price of an annual membership is sometimes out of reach for those who would most benefit from access to high-quality STEM education.

Thanks to donor support, PacSci continues to offer low- or no-cost Access Memberships for low-income families, foster youth, and youth experiencing homelessness. Since the pandemic, we have seen an increased need for these Memberships. Currently Access members make up 21% of our active member base—the highest it's ever been! Philanthropic giving by Igniters and institutional donors makes it possible for people and families of all economic backgrounds to experience the joy and learning that PacSci has to offer.

“

I realize that see one, do one, teach one was accomplished at PacSci with [our children] seeing demonstrations, doing activities in exhibits and being tour guides for our guests since we had already seen the exhibits. Thank you!”

—Member family from Piece County



This past school year, 62,112 students across Washington dove deep into science exploration with PacSci, from the tiny cells that make up our bodies to the distant reaches of our universe. Not only did PacSci relaunch our flagship education access program, Science on Wheels, we leveraged the power of technology to transcend physical boundaries with our Digital Discover Workshops. Both programs engaged K–8 students in interactive STEM learning that supports Next Generation Science Standards and ignites imagination. And, of course, we welcomed students onsite again to explore the iconic dinosaur exhibit, planetarium, saltwater tide pool, and more!



62,112 students

got curious with PacSci's Science on Wheels, field trips, and Digital Discovery Workshops*, including 60% from low-income schools across WA.

“

I felt it was very inclusive. Our school greatly appreciated having the PacSci program come to our school because the cost of field trips is very expensive, and our school is almost two hours from Seattle.”

—5th grade teacher

Our donor community helped us offer these programs at low or no cost to low-income schools, which comprised 60% of our partner schools this year. And the impact of our work was noticed by the State of Washington, which made a \$1.5M investment in PacSci's public education programs in the next biennium—a big step toward our goal to serve every low-income K–8 school in Washington with interactive STEM programs for free each year.



*Formerly known as Virtual Field Trips

339 camp scholarships

granted at Camps for Curious Minds this summer, out of 4,371 total campers.



“

My grandson had a great time. He is very excited to attend his next one! The scholarship program is awesome. He wouldn't be able to attend otherwise. Staff were friendly and helpful.”

—Family member of a camp scholarship recipient

Summers are the perfect time for young people to enjoy the sunshine, explore, and indulge their curiosity! From launching rockets, to engineering duct tape boats, to coding animal creations to life, PacSci's Camps for Curious Minds got even bigger and better this summer.

Thanks to donor support, we expanded our camps to a sixth location in the Othello neighborhood in South East Seattle. We also awarded 339 full scholarships so campers can build their excitement for science regardless of their family's ability to pay. That's the most we've awarded since the inception of our scholarship program, and we're committed to growing these opportunities each year with your help.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Please view our list of donors, foundations, and corporate partners who supported PacSci in 2022-2023 at [**pacsci.org/fy23-donors**](https://pacsci.org/fy23-donors). Individuals who give \$500+ annually are recognized as members of our PacSci Igniters community.

