



PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER
IMPACT REPORT 2023-2024

DEAR FRIENDS,

As we reflect on the past year, we are deeply grateful for your generous support, which has empowered us to serve our diverse community in numerous meaningful ways. Thanks to dedicated supporters like you—along with our educational partners, Board of Directors, staff, and those we engage with daily—we have ignited curiosity and inspired over half a million people, both on our campus and throughout Washington. Your commitment fuels our mission, and we look forward to continuing this incredible journey together.

Curiosity isn't just for our program participants; it's for all of us. In today's rapidly evolving world, the ability to think critically and approach challenges with curiosity is essential. That's why we are committed to being a science center for everyone—creating a space where people of all ages and backgrounds can explore, discover, and grow together.

Your support has been instrumental in helping us deliver science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education to people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Whether through expanding outreach programs like Science on Wheels, Digital Discovery Workshops, or Camps for Curious Minds, we have brought STEM education directly to communities that need it most. Our programs serve students across the state, reaching diverse communities in rural, suburban, and urban areas. With the generous support of our donors, we can ensure that these opportunities remain accessible to all students, often at reduced or no cost, especially in communities that are underrepresented in STEM fields.

On our historic campus, guests of all ages and backgrounds were captivated by a mix of beloved exhibits and exciting new

ones, all designed to inspire wonder and critical thinking. These experiences don't just ignite a passion for STEM—they encourage all of us to stay curious, think creatively, and face the challenges of our world with confidence.

Our outreach programs continued to ignite curiosity and bring hands-on STEM learning to communities across Washington. PacSci provided free programs for 166% more students than the previous year—work that would not have been possible without our dedicated supporters, including you.

As we look ahead, we are excited to continue expanding access to STEM education for everyone. We invite you to take a closer look at the impact your generosity has had this past year, and we would love to connect with you to share what is next on our mission to serve the community. With your help, we will continue to be a vital resource for educators, families, and lifelong learners.

Thank you for your continued support, generosity, and belief in the power of curiosity to shape a better future for all of us.

With gratitude,



Will Daugherty

Will Daugherty
President & CEO



Sarah Buhayar

Sarah Buhayar
Board Chair



YEAR IN REVIEW

2023–2024 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

489,554 guests got hands-on with interactive exhibits at PacSci

- **97,833 members** ignited curiosity, again and again
- **20,439 visits** from Access Members, supported by donors like you

More than **4,000 campers** had a summer of science at Camps for Curious Minds

- More than **300 campers** received full scholarships

508 schools inspired young minds during PacSci field trips

99,783 students across Washington benefited from Science on Wheels programming, **73% in low-income schools** where we provided the programs for free

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

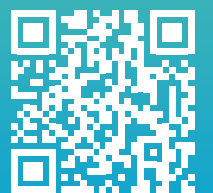


Please view our list of donors and Board Members who made PacSci's impact in the community possible in 2023–2024 at pacsci.org/fy24-donors. Individuals who give \$500+ annually are recognized in our PacSci Igniters donor community.



Please view PacSci's financial statements at pacsci.org/finance. 2023–2024 financial statements are available in early 2025.

In just one afternoon, we can spark a lifelong interest in STEM! For \$14, a student can enjoy a free PacSci field trip and documentary film. Donate today to support our mission to ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us.



give.pacsci.org/give

POLLINATOR PATH

In March 2024, PacSci introduced *Pollinator Path*, a new exhibit that encourages visitors to reflect on the intertwined, cyclical relationship between plants, pollinators, animals, and themselves.

Owen Oliver (Quinault/Isleta Pueblo) of Headwater People worked closely with PacSci to create this outdoor exhibit with a Native-led interpretive approach. Native names used by local and regional Indigenous communities are on display, while Chinuk Wawa, a Native Pacific Northwest language, can also be heard throughout the exhibit.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

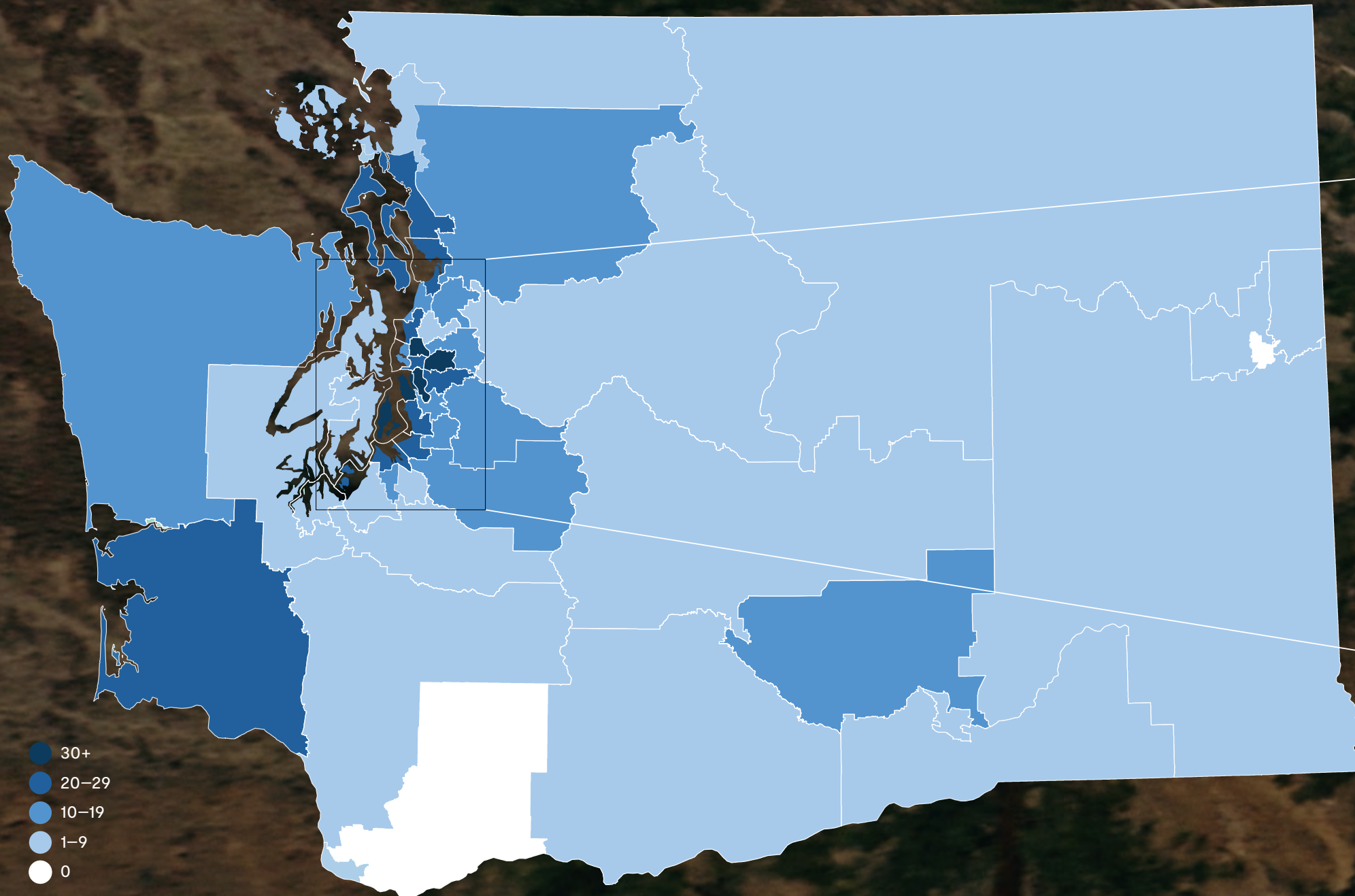
Pacific Science Center acknowledges that we live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Duwamish and Coast Salish Peoples and that we occupy this land. This acknowledgment does not take the place of authentic relationships with Indigenous communities but serves as a first step in honoring the land we occupy.

“I was thinking about how we can bring people to understand their relationship with nonhuman kin, nonhuman kin being plants and animals. The key point in the *Pollinator Path* is that call to relationship.”

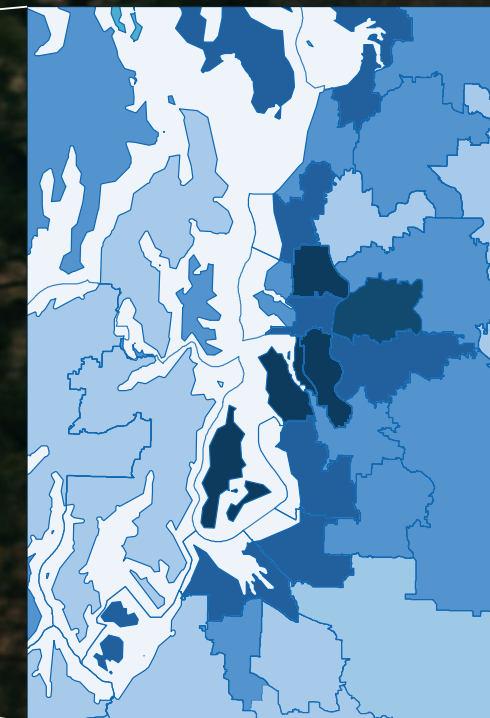
- OWEN OLIVER (QUINAULT/ISLETA PUEBLO), HEADWATER PEOPLE



IGNITING CURIOSITY ACROSS WASHINGTON



SOW & DDW OUTREACH
Number of Schools, Community Centers,
and Libraries Served



SCIENCE ON WHEELS

Last year, PacSci's mobile outreach program, Science on Wheels, served 99,783 students, including 73% from low-income schools, ensuring equitable access to high-quality science exhibits, demonstrations, and hands-on activities.



[Learn more>>](#)

DIGITAL DISCOVERY WORKSHOPS

10,578 students experienced unique interactive virtual programs this year, 79% of which were free programs. Students learn to think critically and creatively in diverse topics like ecology, chemistry, and polar science.



[Learn more>>](#)

Pacific Science Center is such a valuable asset for our students and community. I cannot think of another place where the exposure to science is so approachable and creates such lasting experiences and memories.”

- VANESSA K., TEACHER, HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A close-up photograph of a young boy with short brown hair, looking intently at a small, colorful (yellow and green) mobile planetarium device he is holding. The background is blurred, showing other children in a classroom setting.

SCIENCE ON WHEELS IN ACTION

BY JESS BERTRAND
PTA PRESIDENT, OLYMPIC HILLS ELEMENTARY

Science on Wheels has been a game-changer. It's been amazing. Especially for a school like ours, with such a diverse population and limited resources. As a PTA, we strive to provide equitable and accessible opportunities to bring excitement about education to all our students. Last year, the Science on Wheels team went above and beyond, offering 18 Space Odyssey workshops to accommodate our large student population. The excitement was electric! Parents, teachers, everyone was buzzing about the "giant blueberries" [mobile planetariums] in the gym!

Pacific Science Center provided these workshops free of charge, which is crucial for us. As more and more is being asked of our teachers each year with ever dwindling resources to support them, planning and executing a fully integrated science program into the weekly curriculum seems almost impossible. PacSci provides a truly accessible, engaging experience that sparks curiosity.

They make science and technology feel attainable to our students. We are so grateful to the Pacific Science Center for supporting our community.

They've shown our students that science careers aren't just out there—they're within reach.

IGNITING CURIOSITY AND INCREASING ACCESS ON CAMPUS



VIBRANT PACSCI

This year, several new exhibits—including *Pollinator Path*, *Physics Playground*, and *Brain Odyssey*—made science fun for everyone. More than 32,000 students explored our campus on field trips, with over 50% of our field trips offered for free to low-income schools. Private philanthropy makes it possible for us to deliver dynamic science exploration to enrich our community.

MEMBER COMMUNITY

PacSci members are at the heart of our community—making up 20% of our guests this year—and thanks to your support, we can offer low- or no-cost Access Memberships to low-income families, foster families, and youth experiencing homelessness. Access Members make up 28% of our member community, and we welcome the opportunity to continue to meet their evolving needs.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY INITIATIVES

Once a month, PacSci hosts *Exploration for All*: free, dedicated hours that offer a supportive environment for neuro-diverse guests. We soften lighting, reduce noise, and reduce visual stimuli so our interactive experiences are welcoming for all. In addition, the new *Sensory Lounge* provides a quiet space where visitors can decompress with sound mitigation, accessible furniture, and calming interactive elements that tap into different brain waves.

AWARD-WINNING CAMPS FOR CURIOUS MINDS

Every year, PacSci hosts more than 4,000 campers to extend their STEM exploration throughout the summer. Thanks to our supporters, PacSci awarded more than 300 camp scholarships for the 2024 summer season, which include lunch and extended care. We also opened a new location in Kirkland and continued camps at five other locations across King County, including Seattle's Othello Square, increasing our ability to spark curiosity. Girls-focused camps and sensory-friendly sessions provided environments where any child can learn comfortably.



BE CURIOUS.