



Winter/Spring 2017

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35 Years of Discovery

Visitor reflections

Fall of 2016 marked the 35th anniversary of Discovery Center. Throughout the years, our goal has been to achieve and perpetuate our mission to help children and families discover the joy of learning in the sciences and arts. After 35 years, we are now welcoming a 2nd generation of children and families to the museum. Parents who once visited us as children are now bringing their own children here. Grandparents are now visiting with their grandchildren. Many people have shared memories with us and thanked us for providing safe, fun and educational experiences for their families. We wanted to share testimonies from just a few of the families that have enjoyed our museum over the years:

I've been going to the Discovery Museum since I can remember & I've always had a great time. It is a fantastic location to have hands on learning along with a fun time for children. As an adult I still have fun with all the interactive stuff they have to offer. I have an almost 4 year old son & I enjoy taking him to the Discovery Center. He loves when we make our visits & I have to say I'm more than happy to keep bringing him. I want him to grow up going there just like I did.

- Sammi Cobain



I have gone to Discovery Center Museum in Rockford, Illinois for nearly as long as I can remember. I have really fond and cherished memories of going there with my Grandma, and just enjoying everything it had to offer. It has been a really important part of every trip I have taken up to Illinois since I live in Texas. Seeing how the Discover Center has changed and evolved over the years, even based on my own perception, has really been spectacular. Discovery Center really is not just designed for children; it's a place where everyone, adults and kids alike, can come together and learn. That's what makes it such a magical place.

- Preston Showers

My family and I moved to the Rockford area from New York almost ten years ago and immediately became members of the Discovery Museum. It was the best children's museum we had seen. We have four children, one in middle school, two in elementary and a pre-schooler. The Discovery Museum holds a very special place in our hearts and it is always sheer joy in our home when we make plans to go.

The Discovery Museum has been the place where my children are at the reception desk before I am, even with the "walk, don't run" mantra running through their blessed young minds. I look forward to witnessing their eyes light up at the new exhibits and then their enthusiasm at the familiar ones.



Observing my children go through each exhibit, excitedly sharing their feats with their brothers, or teaching one another about what they just learned, warms my heart. I appreciate how they are learning through play, which is the best and most concrete way to learn, particularly with the exposure to science concepts that my children are able to recall when they go outside. How lucky are we to have the Discovery Museum in our city with such staff dedication?

The positive atmosphere and culture fostered by the Discovery Museum with its thoughtful exhibits and classes nurtures our children into secure adults, who can then help our people and affect our country in a positive manner. When I look at all the children playing, I cannot help but think, "These kids will be our future leaders." God bless you all. Thank you!

- Aisha Shaheen

INFORMATION:

Hours

Monday - Sunday:

10 am - 5 pm

Admission

Adult/Child: \$8

Children age 1 and younger and Members: FREE!

Membership

CLIMB SuperPass: \$135/year; \$250/2 years

Family SuperPass: \$125/year; \$250/2 years

Family Membership: \$85/year; \$160/2 years

Grandparent Membership: \$85/year; \$160/2 years

Individual Membership: \$55/year; \$100/2 years

Group Rates

Discounted group rates are available for tours, classes, museum rentals, and birthday parties. Reservations required.

Contact Us

Phone: (815) 963-6769

Website: www.discoverycentermuseum.org

Staff

Sarah Wolf.....Executive Director

Lisa Coen.....Office Manager

Kyler HartjeExhibits Technician/
Planetarium Technician

Michele Larson...Birthday Party Coordinator

Cheryl Maggio.....Accountant

Joyce Mazzola.....Gift Shop Manager

Sara McKevitt.....Development Director

Hillary Parks.....Guest Services Manager

Bruce Quast.....Exhibits Director

Mike RathbunAssociate Director

Meghan Richards.....Education Specialist/
Scout Coordinator

Jenny Rossol.....Early Childhood Educator

Maggie Ruggiero.....Education Specialist

Corinne SossoDirector of Education

Sue StevensVolunteer & Special
Projects Coordinator

Jim Taylor.....Member Relations Manager

Ann Marie WalkerMarketing Director

Jessica WilliamsEducation Specialist

Our Mission

Create opportunities for joyful learning and discovery through hands-on experiences in the sciences and arts.

New membership manager joins Discovery Center



Jim Taylor joined the Discovery Center Museum team in October as the museum's new Member Relations Manager. In this position, Jim will be the point person for all member-related initiatives at the museum, including communications, promotions, and events.

Prior to joining us, Jim worked as a guest services supervisor with the Chicago Children's Museum. Originally from Canada, he also served as a guest services supervisor with the Manitoba Children's Museum.

Jim is thrilled to be living in Rockford with his wife, Stefanie, and looks forward to meeting with museum members and visitors alike.

Experience Tokyo's vibrant culture in a new interactive exhibit coming this summer!



Children will have fun learning about life in present day Japan in the playful, highly immersive environment, *Hello from Japan!* The exhibition will transport families to two distinct areas of Tokyo that exist side by side: the serene Shinto Shrine Park, and the colorful and trendy Kawaii Central. Make plans to visit *Hello from Japan!* opening June 23!



- Mike



- Lacy

Discovery Center Museum has birthday parties down to a science!

Our fun-filled, hassle-free parties begin at just \$125 for Non-Members and \$113 for Members and include invitations, cupcakes, punch, exploration time in the Museum and more! Special activity and pizza parties are available for additional fees.

Call us at 815.963.6769 to reserve your child's party or for additional information.

Winter/Spring Special Events

All activities included with museum admission, unless otherwise noted

We Choose Health

Monday, January 16; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Find out what goes on inside you and how the choices you make can affect your health in this hands-on day of science fun. Meet real doctors, examine organs, avoid lurking viruses, pump up your heart, and more!

Sponsored by the University of Illinois College of Medicine-Rockford and the University of Illinois Extension



Star Wars: Rogue 1.5

Sunday, January 29; 1:00 - 4:00 pm



The Jedi are gone and we need your help! Find clues that will lead you to the plans for the Death Star. Fire up your speeder, get some droids to help, and track down Princess Leia while evading storm troopers. Have a galactic good time helping us defeat the evil Empire!

Chocolate Sundae Sunday

Sunday, February 12, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

\$2.00 Members / \$3.00 Public; Museum admission is extra.

We're dishing up delicious for this annual event! Enjoy a sundae of your own design, express your artsy-craftsy self at the Valentine-creation station, and enjoy the sounds of the Auburn Jazz Band.

Sponsored By Dean Foods



Discover Engineering

Saturday, February 25, 11:00 am - 3:30 pm



What's it like to be an engineer and solve problems? Find out as we kick off National Engineers' Week with dozens of real engineers from local firms who are setting up shop in Discovery Center spaces to give kids and adults hands-on experiences. Set your brain for "try-it-mode," conquer fun challenges, meet local robotics teams, and more!

Sponsored by Nicor Gas, TAC Rockford, Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, and Illinois Space Grant Consortium

Ag All Around Us

Saturday, March 11; 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Get ready for National Agriculture Week with cute crafts and amazing activities! Meet local farmers, check out real farm equipment, and get hands-on with where food comes. You'll be amazed at the number of things we grow right here in Illinois! Turn corn into plastic, measure yourself against a plant, and more! Bandanas, work boots and bib overalls optional.

Sponsored by the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau

Nano Day

Saturday, March 25; 11:30 am - 3:30 pm

Did you know that singing greeting cards, no-stain fabric, touch screens and mood rings each owe their remarkable abilities to nanotechnology? Delve into the incredibly infinitesimal nano-scale world with hands-on projects and live science demonstrations. Explore cutting-edge applications as you discover ways in which teeny tiny size can make an enormous difference.



Spring into Science

Monday - Friday, March 27 - 31; 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Keep your brain engaged over spring break with fun creative activities and live science demonstrations. Play with numbers, explore colors, and turn everything into art!



Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15; 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Member kids: \$3, Public: \$10 adults, \$12 kids

Hop into your favorite museum and fill your basket with yummy treats as Discovery Center joins Burpee Museum for this annual egg-stravaganza! Kids and grown ups can create super springtime art and create clever crafts. Kids 9 and under can look for eggs at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Come early and enjoy both Museums for one price!



Future Nurses Academy

Saturday, April 22; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

What fun it would be to be a nurse! Learn how to check X-Rays, take blood pressure, and make the rounds on this day of medical fun. Talk to real nurses and get your hands on actual equipment as you explore a career in nursing!

Sponsored by OSF College of Nursing



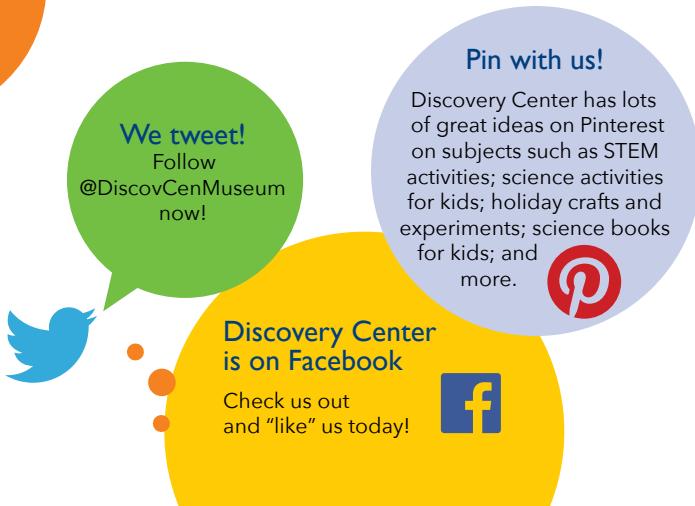
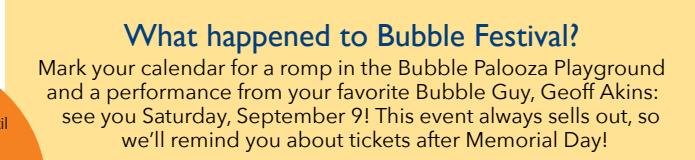
Astronomy Day

Saturday, April 29

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Science is looking up as Discovery Center celebrates National Astronomy Day. Enjoy a free planetarium show, learn to read a star map, and create glittery star crafts. Check out the inner workings of our star the Sun, and get yourself set for this summer's total solar eclipse.

Sponsored by Astro-Physics



Snowballs

Reading the story *Snowballs* by Lois Elhert will inspire us to create our own snowperson out of great recycled materials and have an indoor snowball fight!

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., **Jan 23**; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Jan 17; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Jan 18; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Jan 18; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Jan 18; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Jan 19; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Jan 17; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Jan 19; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2-6 year olds:

Session 9 Sat., Jan 21; 10:00 - 11:00 am

My Funny Valentine

Stop at Discovery Center for a Valentine's Day party. Learn all about an important organ, the heart, and hear your own heart beat with a stethoscope. Don't skip a beat learning ways to keep your heart healthy while you make a heartwarming Valentine for someone you love.

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., Feb 6; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Feb 7; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Feb 8; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Feb 8; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Feb 8; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Feb 9; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Feb 7; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Feb 9; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2 - 6-year-olds:

Session 9 Sat., Feb 11; 10:00 - 11:00 am

Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood?

The people that we meet each day...let's learn about our community helpers such as mail carriers, police officers and garbage collectors. We will discuss what it takes to do their jobs and even dress up like them!

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., **Feb 27**; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Feb 21; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Feb 22; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Feb 22; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Feb 22; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Feb 23; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Feb 21; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Feb 23; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2-6 year olds:

Session 9 Sat., Feb 25; 10:00 - 11:00 am

The Wind Blew

Have you ever wondered what sways the trees...let's explore wind! Blow into the Discovery Center to learn about the weather. Do some playful experimenting with our wind columns and make a windy day project to take home.

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., Mar 6; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Mar 7; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Mar 8; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Mar 8; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Mar 8; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Mar 9; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Mar 7; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Mar 9; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2-6 year olds:

Session 9 Sat., Mar 11; 10:00 - 11:00 am

Birds of a Feather

Tweet Tweet ...we will soar through our class exploring the world of birds. We will learn about their sounds, colors, how they make their nests and even do some weaving of our own.

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., Mar 20; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Mar 21; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Mar 22; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Mar 22; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Mar 22; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Mar 23; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Mar 21; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Mar 23; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2 - 6-year-olds:

Session 9 Sat., Mar 25; 10:00 - 11:00 am

Dinosaur Dig

Become a paleontologist, as we dig for dinosaur bones, learn how to preserve the ones we find, touch real dinosaur bones and make a dinosaur for our very own collection.

Sessions for 3 - 6-year-olds:

Session 1 Mon., Apr 3; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 2 Tues., Apr 4; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 3 Wed., Apr 5; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 4 Wed., Apr 5; 11:00 am - Noon
Session 5 Wed., Apr 5; 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Session 6 Thurs., Apr 6; 9:30 - 10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
Session 7 Tues., Apr 4; 9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 8 Thurs., Apr 6; 11:00 am - Noon

Saturday Special for 2-6 year olds:

Session 9 Sat., Apr 8; 10:00 - 11:00 am

Cost: \$12 Public / \$10 Members (per child, per class)

Registration begins December 12 for Members and December 15 for Public. To register, please call **815-963-6769** or register online at discoverycentermuseum.org.

In our classes for 2-year-olds, children must be accompanied by an adult. We require that siblings (including babies) not be in attendance. Your child needs your undivided attention.

Adults are not required to attend classes for 3 to 6-year-olds but are welcome to come in to observe the class.

Cancellation Policy: refunds (less 10%) are available for classes when cancelled at least 10 days in advance.



Baby and Me

Come and join us in the Discovery Center's Baby Spot as we play, sing and meet with each other. This time is designed for children ages birth to 18 months. Baby and Me is a drop in program held on the following Thursdays:

January 26,
February 16,
March 16, and
April 20 from
10:00 to 10:45.



No registration is required. This playgroup is free with admission to the Discovery Center. Remember, children one and younger are FREE!

Toddler Time

Being one is FUN! This playgroup is designed for children ages 12 months to 24 months. Sing songs, read stories and explore FUN materials while meeting new friends! Toddler Time will be on the following Tuesdays:

January 24, February 14, March 14 and April 18 from **9:30 to 10:30.**

Advance registration is required. Please register for the playgroup by calling 815-963-6769. Toddler time is limited to 12 families. The cost is \$6/family or \$20/family for all four sessions. We will meet in the Tot Spot classroom (east end of the building). No siblings please. This time is designed for the toddler.



Home School Classes

Motion Commotion

January 18

Immerse yourself in Newtonian physics, and discover laws that cannot be broken – or can they? Experiment with gravity, uncover the secrets of rotational inertia, and find out where you'd be without it! Then employ the laws of motion and assemble a roller coaster!

Hearts and Flowers

February 8

Get into the spirit of Valentine's Day with this class that lets you explore the innards of the circulatory system and model the way your heart works. Use a stethoscope, find your pulse, and grab a scalpel to dissect a real heart. Then embrace your inner botanist while you dissect blossoms and classify flowering plants.

da Vinci's Inventions

Engineer, artist, inventor, scientist—Leonardo da Vinci's influence is still felt 500 years later! Discover some of the ingenious inventions of this "Renaissance Man," then sketch, design and build a number of your own prototypes! Classes in this two-part series can be taken independently of one another.

da Vinci's Inventions, Session I

February 22

Leonardo da Vinci was intrigued by parachutes. He introduced the world to transportation with his self-propelled cart, and was a brilliant artist. Engage your inventive mind to construct and test a parachute, design your own car, and assemble a gizmo that creates a work of art!



da Vinci's Inventions, Session II

March 8

Leonardo da Vinci tried to solve the problems of the day. He invented a revolving bridge, and utilized his own unique code so no one could copy his notes. Engage your inventive mind and use basic materials to manufacture a water filter, explore and build different kinds of bridges, study codes and create one of your own!



One adult required for every two children. Advance registration required. Payment must accompany registration. Ages, fees, and times vary. Class registration starts December 12 for Members and December 15 for Nonmembers. Registration closes 5:00 pm on the Wednesday before class. Register online at discoverycentermuseum.org, or call (815) 963-6769, or drop by the Discovery Center Museum office during normal business hours. Cancellation policy: Refunds are available through the close of registration, minus 10%. Discovery Center reserves the right to cancel events; in which case, a full refund will be issued.



Ages: 7 & up

Class times: 10:30 am-Noon

Fees: \$11 Members / \$13 Non-members per child per class, Advance registration required. Payment must accompany registration. Class registration starts December 12 for members and December 15 for the general public. Registration closes 5:00 pm Friday the week before class.

Register online at discoverycentermuseum.org, or call (815) 963-6769, or drop by the Discovery Center Museum office during normal business hours.

Cancellation policy: Refunds are available through the close of registration, minus 10%.

Discovery Center reserves the right to cancel events; in which case, a full refund will be issued.

The Science of Sound

March 22

Discover how biology and physics combine to make your ears work. Get splashed by a sound and enable your hearing to become super-sensitive! Explore the relationship between frequency and pitch and invent a sound-maker of your own. Apply what you learn to strategize how to make Easter Eggs that kids at the Center for Sight and Hearing can hunt!



Kitchen Chem and Fizz

April 5

Baking soda and vinegar are just the beginning! Discover the many chemicals in your house that combine and go "sphhhht" as we find out what's safe and what's not in this class that's a gas! Use bubbly experimentation to determine whether those tiny grains that make your bread rise are alive, and taste the difference that yeast makes.

Cell-a-vision

April 26

Discover the difference between plant and animal cells as you examine real cells through a microscope and make cell models. We'll transform the planetarium into a domed theater so you can put yourself inside a cell and explore more! Then get hands-on with cell parts as we move materials through a semi-permeable membrane, and smash up strawberries to extract actual DNA!

Family Classes

Can't Fool Me!

Saturday, April 1

Work together as a family to unlock clues, solve riddles, and beat the clock. Combine inter-generational logic and hone your reasoning skills as you puzzle through our break-out boxes in this family-friendly hands-on minds-on approach to popular escape rooms.

Session 1: 10:00 -11:30 am

Session 2: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Session 3: 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Recommended for ages 6 and up

One child plus adult: \$11 Members / \$15 Public

Each additional child: \$3 Members / \$6 Public

Additional adults: no charge

D'Egg-orating

Saturday, April 15; 1:30-3:00 pm

Find out how easy it is to create beautiful Easter Eggs! Enjoy an egg-cellent snack as you experiment with several techniques including iridescence, stained glass, appliqué and more. Leave the prep work and mess to us; take all the fun and the beautiful eggs! We supply one dozen hard-boiled eggs plus dyes and materials for each child. Bring your own additional eggs if you choose. Recommended for ages 4 and up

One child plus adult: \$12 Members / \$16 Public

Each additional child: \$6 Members / \$10 Public

Additional adults: no charge



Mornings of Fun

We invite children with disabilities and their immediate families to experience Discovery Center's multi-sensory exhibits and activities free of charge before the museum opens to the general public.

Join us from 9-10:00 am on Saturday, May 6.

A healthy snack will be served at 10:00 am and families are welcome to stay and play after the museum opens to the public that day.

Advanced registration is required. To receive free admission call 815-972-2839 or email sues@discoverycentermuseum.org

Sponsored by:



Local companies volunteer at Discovery Center

Discovery Center is fortunate to have a variety of local companies support the museum through volunteer efforts. These companies and their leadership understand the importance of volunteerism and what a significant difference it can make to local nonprofits like Discovery Center. Whether it is pulling weeds and planting, sealing wood or staining in our outdoor park, prepping materials or running activities for special events, or even operating our catapult to launch pumpkins during our Smashing Pumpkins event, we could not do it all without the help of volunteers. We thank the following companies for recognizing the value in volunteerism and choosing Discovery Center as a place to make a difference in 2016:

**Associated Bank · Cintas
Kohl's · Target · Thermo Fisher
UTC Aerospace Systems · Watt Global Media**

In total, these companies provided 94 volunteers and 307.50 volunteer hours in 2016! We encourage additional companies or individuals to volunteer in 2017. To find out more, email Volunteer Coordinator Sue Stevens at sues@discoverycentermuseum.org



Messy Mondays

Messy Mondays feature special theme-focused art projects in our Art Studio. Dates occur on legal and school holidays and throughout the summer. Messy Mondays are from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and are included with museum admission.



Winter/Spring Dates:

February 20 Snow Painting

April 17 Wacky Watercolors

May 29 Found Object Printing



◀ UTC Aerospace Systems ▶



Associated Bank ▶

▲ Thermo Fisher

Grants & Gifts News

August 11, 2016 through December 2, 2016

We thank the following donors for their generous support of Discovery Center exhibits, events, educational programs and operations.

Grants, Sponsorships & Corporate Donations

- Mercyhealth Auxiliary - \$3,400 for refurbishment of the Brain Pinball Machine & permanent Body Shop signage
- U.S. Bank Foundation - \$3,000 for ASAP Family Nights
- Aqua Aerobic Systems - \$2,500 for *Hello from Japan!* exhibit sponsorship
- Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau - \$1,500 for Behind the Scenes project
- The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - \$1,500 for Computer Coding Kits
- Kohl's - \$1,000 funding through their volunteer program
- NASA Out of School Learning - \$750 for ASAP 4th & 5th grades
- Nicor - \$500 for Discover Engineering sponsorship
- TAC Rockford - \$500 for Discover Engineering sponsorship
- Barnes & Noble - \$126 for book fundraiser
- United Way Federated Campaign

- JC Penney Employee Donation Program
- AmazonSmile
- Schnucks Escrpic program

Discover The Spirits In-Kind Supporters

- Artale Wine Co.
- Carl Cole - Sounds of Good News
- Chick-fil-A
- Five Forks
- Frank Calvagna & Vince Chiarelli
- Greenfire Market
- Christy Hill
- Julia Kindler Design
- Lino's
- Lucha Cantina
- Meridian
- Olive Oil Experience
- Pinnon's Meats
- Bruce Quast
- Reflex DJ Service
- Rockford Register Star
- Thunder Bay Grill
- WTVO/WQRF

If you are interested in partnering with Discovery Center to support an event, program or exhibit, please contact Sara McEvitt at 815-972-2834 or saram@discoverycentermuseum.org.

Free Family Nights to be offered thanks to U.S. Bank



Thanks to support from U.S. Bank, Discovery Center will be offering a free Family Night for each of the Rockford Public Schools participating in our After-School Achievement Program. These Family Nights are exclusively for families and teachers to explore the museum. Discovery Center staff will provide additional hands-on activities and take-home materials that complement the evening activities, providing a means for families to continue their hands-on learning at home.

NASA grant provides activities for after-school program students

Thanks to an Out-of-School learning grant from NASA, Discovery Center is offering special space-related activities for 5th grade students in our after-school programs at Lathrop, Nelson, and Conklin elementary schools in Rockford. We've just launched the new activities, and students are learning about planets and the solar system. They even built their own scale model of the solar system in the gym. Students are also exploring impact craters and creating their own scaled-down versions of lunar craters in bins of flour! Maggie, one of our educators, is covered in flour by the end of the day! Future activities include playing with visible and invisible light, learning how to observe it, and understanding how light tells us about the stars and planets that we see in the night sky. In the spring, students will be learning and experimenting with rockets.

Thank you for supporting Discover the Spirits!

October 21, 2016 marked our third annual fundraising event, *Discover the Spirits*. We hosted more than 200 guests and raised nearly \$20,000! Guests joined us at the museum to sample an array of spirits thanks to Artale & Co., enjoy fantastic food from local eateries, mingle with friends and listen to live music. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you next year!

A big THANK YOU to the Discover the Spirits committee members who offered their time and many talents:

Kerry Beaulieu

Deb Boland

Audra Capriola

Christina Elbers

Julia Kindler

Bill Miller

Jennie Polizzotto

Catherine Povilitis

Carol Wright

Thank you to our event sponsors:

Illinois Bank & Trust

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Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren

Rock Valley Credit Union

WilliamsMcCarthy

Rockford Bank & Trust

Chartwell Agency

First Benefits Group

HolmstromKennedy

CoyleKiley Insurance

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau





Lots of fun and entertaining for my kids. My ten-year-old loves science and he had a great time. They also had a nice baby play area for my ten month old. Free parking and lots of friendly engaging staff. Well done Rockford.

A Rockford gem for family fun. Affordable family fun at its best. Great place to make a day out of. Right next door is the Burpee Museum and not far from Anderson Gardens if your looking for a fun family weekend staycation.

Come discover some great things in Rockford.

-Odie

DISCOVERY CENTER GIFT SHOP COUPON

20% off

all books in the
Discovery Center Gift Shop

Expires 3/1/17

Code: 7337

At Riverfront Museum Park
711 North Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103
815.963.6769
www.discoverycentermuseum.org

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Address Service Requested

Year-end giving

As we look back at all the great happenings this year, we are once again reminded of the unwavering support from our community. Individuals like you allow us to continue our positive influence on the children and families in our community.

Please consider making a year-end gift to Discovery Center. Your contributions help us further our commitment to provide new and innovative exhibits and programs that focus on science, technology, engineering and math related topics, while also supporting our efforts to reach the widest possible spectrum of our community. You can donate at discoverycentermuseum.org. Just click on the Donate button on the bottom of our homepage.

We are grateful for your commitment to make a difference. Your gift will have a direct impact in building a better future! Thank you!

My 5 year old daughter loved it. There is so much to do I even enjoyed it. They have a dedicated "toddler" section for 6 years and under but my 5-year-old loves the big kid section too. It was only \$8 a person and worth every penny.

-Jared

