

COME
GROW
WITH US!

2015 Annual Report



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GROWING...VOLUNTEERS!

Discovery Center has grown from our foundational roots which were started by volunteers. Our community, whether small or tall, are a vital resource for helping us advance our mission!

482 total volunteers

150 active Youth Experiencing Science (YES) volunteers (ages 13-17)

40 individual adults

24 Board of Director members contributed over **670** hours of their expertise

26 business and school groups

5500+ volunteer hours contributed to the museum



GROWING...RECOGNITION!

Discovery Center was awarded a **TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence** and was recognized as a **Top Family Attraction Worth Traveling For** in the U.S. by Flipkey/TripAdvisor.



Rockford Register Star annual *What Rocks* contest
Best Child-friendly Place

B103 Radio Station
Best Place to take the Kids in Rockford

GROWING...EXPLORATION!

Power of Electricity This new exhibit provides high quality 21st century learning experiences in STEAM, inspiring the next generation through interaction and energy stimulation.



Tot Spot gallery

A new 700 square foot space was added, allowing a second role-play area and more engaging exhibits.



GROWING...OUTREACH!

Our outreach educators brought more exciting hands-on science programs using our Portable Planetarium and other science programs to schools, libraries, daycares, community centers, county fairs, and festivals throughout the region.



After School Achievement Program (ASAP)

For 16 years, Discovery Center has partnered with Rockford Public Schools in the District's After School Program, this year serving **300** at-risk children each week, helping these students



improve academic performance and introducing them to various science topics such as computer coding. Funded in part by United Way of Rock River Valley.



GROWING...CAMPS & CLASSES, EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND MORE!



Early childhood education classes have expanded. The newest is our Baby and Me playgroup for birth to 12 months!

Summer Art Interns use their talented artistic skills to help with events all summer long. Discovery Center is able to offer more fun, hands-on experiences with the help of these high school graduates!





GROWING... COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS!

A grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois helped Discovery Center provide all Kindergarten through 2nd grade

students in the Freeport School District with science enrichment field trips and complimentary passes to return to the museum to have fun with their families.



Corporate Partners More connections have been made this past year with corporate volunteers at the museum and increased opportunities of sponsorship for ongoing events and exhibits.

GROWING...PEOPLE SERVED!

More than 246,000 people experienced the Museum or engaged in one of our outreach programs in 2015. We welcomed 145,340 visitors through our doors...a 7.7% increase over 2014, and the highest public attendance number in Museum history.

246,424 total people served

145,340 museum public attendance

33,008 after school programs attendance

36,621 education programs and class attendance

31,455 outreach



GROWING...THE NUMBERS!

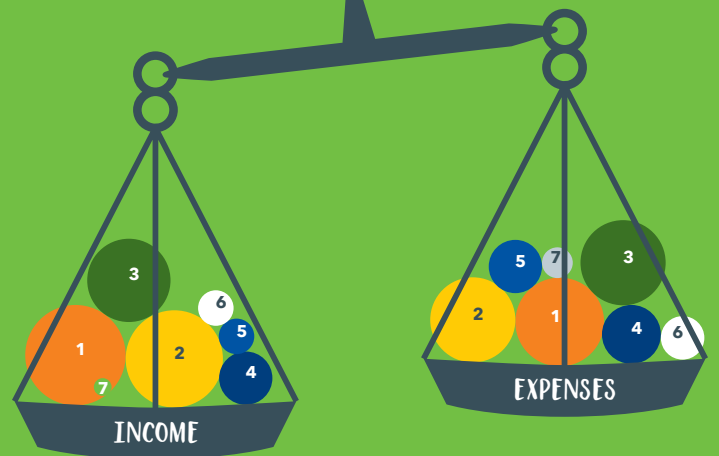


INCOME

1 Museum Admission/ Memberships.....	\$678,206	32%
2 Grants and Contributions...	\$644,940	30%
3 Total In-Kind.....	\$461,284	22%
4 Program and Class Fees.....	\$191,399	9%
5 Retail Sales.....	\$89,453	4%
6 Rental Sales.....	\$76,966	4%
7 Investment and Other Income.....	\$(10,860)	(1%)
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,131,389	

EXPENSES

1 Operations:.....	\$472,249	25%
2 Education/Programs:.....	\$426,449	23%
3 In-Kind Occupancy.....	\$435,614	23%
4 Exhibits.....	\$196,528	11%
5 Building and Grounds.....	\$158,473	9%
6 Marketing and Development.....	\$116,528	6%
7 Retail Sales.....	\$68,459	3%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$1,874,300	



GROWING...SUPPORT!

We thank our many corporate and individual supporters for the improvements and opportunities your gifts provided in 2015.



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"One of the most progressive and creative children's museums in the country!"

—Visitor Comment

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"Fun for the whole family"

—Visitor
Comment



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