Dear Friends of the Museum

At DISCOVERY Children’s Museum, we believe that a visit to the museum not only helps to inspire the inquisitive minds of today’s youth, but can change the trajectory of a child’s life by sparking an interest in science, technology, engineering, art or math (STEAM) and helping them to see the world in new ways. Over the past 28 years, DISCOVERY has welcomed over 1.2 million guests and offered a vibrant and welcoming experience for its members and visitors. It is a place where children can go at their own pace, explore their creativity, partake in hands-on experiments, and build lasting memories for all.

In the few months that I have been in Las Vegas and at the helm of the museum as its new CEO, I’ve been impressed by the breadth of partnerships and unique collaborations that help DISCOVERY serve the diverse needs of the children in our community. In addition to the 28,000 schoolchildren that we reached through our partnership with the Clark County School District, our outreach team brought hands-on learning activities to festivals, community gatherings and school fairs, delivering experiences to hundreds of thousands of children and families throughout Southern Nevada. Inside the museum, we were thrilled to partner with The Raiders to create a new exhibit in the ECO City Gallery, “The Raiders Kids Construction Zone,” an interactive replica of the future Raiders Stadium which will be on view through the stadium’s completion in 2020.

Through a prestigious Museums for America grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, our museum educators undertook a rigorous examination of our exhibit content and training practices to ensure that we are serving the developmental needs of all children and meeting STEAM education standards through our exhibits and informal learning experiences. Interactive videos and training documents for our exhibits can now be found under “resources” on our newly designed website. I am proud that what I hear most from our visitors is feedback regarding the quality of engagement that they have with our talented team who interact with our guests and contribute to a child’s learning experience.

Looking back at the successes of DISCOVERY this year, it’s indisputable that our organization has evolved into the community pillar that it is today because of the dedication of its founders, committed staff, and board of trustees. I am truly humbled to be part of such a driven and creative community, and grateful to all of our members and supporters who believe in our mission to ignite a lifelong love of learning and empower all children who visit the museum to become our future innovators and leaders.

Sincerely,
Melissa D. Kaiser
Chief Executive Officer

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of DISCOVERY Children’s Museum is to provide a vibrant and engaging experience, through exhibits and programs, where children from economically and culturally diverse backgrounds actively participate in playful learning experiences that ignite a love of lifelong learning.

VISION STATEMENT

A community connected to lifelong DISCOVERY.
Our Commitment Begins with What We Do Best

Cutting edge, hands-on exhibits and programming that inspires children to explore the principles of science and nature, arts and humanities, plus early childhood development, while having fun learning!
We’re a busy place with hundreds of educational experiences and workshops. Our museum programs are designed to foster healthy growth, development, learning and engaging in something unfamiliar!

Workshops
Our workshops extend the visitor’s learning experience giving children the opportunity to discover new passions in science and arts, as well as early childhood development.

Children Learn Tomorrow’s Skills in a Vibrant, State-Of-The-Art Facility
Visitors can always count on learning something new at the museum. We are dedicated to creating and providing award-winning, interactive, hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, math and arts (STEAM), as well as cultural programs.

The nine exhibit galleries, plus the Traveling Exhibits, offer visitors experiences based in the curriculum helping children with critical cognitive, motor, social and emotional competencies. These important skills will influence them in reaching their full potential, and becoming eager learners as they journey from youth into adulthood.

Arts & Humanities
Were made possible by:
- Communities Foundation of Texas
- Nevada Arts Council
- Nevada Humanities
- Wynn Resorts

Admission Subsidies
Meeting the needs of the community, in fiscal year 2018, the museum offered 10,635 full or partially subsidized admissions to Clark County School District elementary students. Careful planning between museum education staff and teachers resulted in school visits that best augment the classroom lesson plans and align with the Nevada State Content Standards, Common Core Curriculum and 21st Century Skills.

Admission subsidies were made possible by:
- Southern Highlands Charitable Foundation
- Speedway Children’s Charities
Traveling Exhibits Equal New Experiences for Our Visitors

The museum presented three very different and exciting traveling exhibits during this past year. Specialized traveling exhibits are another opportunity for children and their parents to learn through engagement and hands-on interaction while having fun.

**May 27 – September 4, 2017**
This hands-on interactive exhibit, designed for ages 8-13, focused on how engineers and scientists create new materials and technologies using things that are too small to see – atoms! Children were fascinated with a range of activities and programs that demonstrated how this cutting-edge, microscopic technology has a huge impact on our lives. Visitors enjoyed spinning wheels and zooming into the nanoscale. Visitors learned how to dissolve crystals, stretch molecules and create and shrink patterns. Visitors learned how to transport atoms in motion, build molecular models and giant carbon nanotubes, and use sensory organs to detect invisible molecules with their noses.

**September 16, 2017 – January 7, 2018**
This highly immersive, 1,500-square-foot exhibition allowed children to have fun learning about life in present-day Japan. Families were transported to two distinct areas of Tokyo that highlighted how old and new traditions coexist today, giving guests a family-friendly window into Japanese culture. The Hello from Japan! exhibit and programming series are part of our larger Cultural Series, an initiative to nurture a new generation of creative and global citizens. Sponsored by the Freeman Foundation.

**January 27 – September 2, 2018**
Design Zone was a highly interactive, hands-on exhibit where visitors were able to explore a variety of creative concepts to learn the processes and tools needed to create a successful design. Organized into three thematic zones, this exhibit highlighted the importance of science and mathematical thinking in areas critical to building creativity and innovation: art, music, and engineering. The creation of Design Zone was made possible by the generous support of the National Science Foundation.
Support from our donors allowed the Museum to provide quality exhibits and programs for children and families.

Education On Wheels & Youth Enrichment
Guided by its philosophy to provide vibrant and engaging educational experiences, the museum is dedicated to providing children with one-of-a-kind informal learning experiences that are real and relevant to daily life.

DISCOVERY On Wheels
Many local schools and the students they serve are unable to visit the museum, so our House Calls Outreach Program is delivered directly to Clark County Schools, focusing on health science for Grades K-5. The hands-on and interactive health sciences programs follow specific lessons emphasizing national, state, and local curriculum goals. Nearly 3,000 students experienced the museum in their classrooms this past year. Over 180,000 students have benefited from this program since it’s inception in 2009, when Dr. Joe and Joan Lapan made the initial donation for the program.

Programs Include:
- **Kindergarten** – Let’s Eat! Foods & Nutrition
- **First Grade** – Bright Smiles and Clean Bodies – Dental Health & Hygiene
- **Second Grade** – Making Sense of our Senses – The Five Senses
- **Third Grade** – Wonderful Me! Cells & Genetics
- **Fourth Grade** – Young at Heart – Circulatory & Respiratory Systems
- **Fifth Grade** – What’s Up Doc? Medical Professions & Equipment

DISCOVERY On Wheels was sponsored by:
- Joan Lapan
- Colliers International - Links for Life Foundation
- Walmart Stores

YouthWorks Program
As the Museum’s signature youth enrichment program, YouthWorks has reached more than 3,700 high school students with engaging educational and volunteer opportunities that encourage personal exploration and build confidence and life skills. Cited as a national model program for low-income, at-risk youth by the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, YouthWorks benefits the community’s underserved youth by encouraging them to stay in school and graduate from high school.

The program serves approximately 250 teens each year and provides them with job readiness and life skills training, homework support, mentoring and on-the-floor work experiences. A limited number of youth qualify for a museum internship, and the program’s success is reflected in the nearly 100 percent graduation rate over the last 24 years.

YouthWorks was sponsored by:
- Albert & Elaine Borchard Foundation
- Andrew Family Foundation
- Bank of America
- City of Las Vegas Community Development Block Grant
- Walmart Stores
- Windsong Trust
SPONSOR Spotlight

Wynn Resorts: Arts Education Outreach

Wynn Resorts and DISCOVERY Children's Museum are community anchors in advocating arts education for children. Our year-round series of outreach efforts are focused on cultural events targeted toward and located in the region's underserved communities and neighborhoods. As one of the few cultural centers for children in Las Vegas located in the heart of downtown, and dedicating itself entirely to the educational enrichment of children through a hands-on interactive environment, DISCOVERY Children's Museum has the opportunity to make a significant impact on families in need of community support.

DCM’s 2018 Wynn Resorts sponsored outreach program served over 8,000 community members at 13 cultural events throughout Southern Nevada. The Museum brought a variety of hands-on art experiences to engage families at each event, including painting, sculpting, mask-making, musical instrument design, and puppetry. In addition, over 1,000 museum passes sponsored by Wynn Resorts were given away at the cultural events attended by our outreach team.

Wynn Resorts’ loyal support has been a major catalyst in the fulfillment of our mission, to the great benefit of children and families of Southern Nevada. Their generous sponsorship of the DISCOVERY Children’s Museum arts-focused educational outreach program has enabled us to raise awareness of the Museum and its accessibility to all communities.

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts Collaboration

How I Became a Pirate
February 5 – 8, 2018

After a swashbuckling adventure at the Smith Center for the Performing Arts, over 900 CCSD elementary students from Title 1 schools visited DISCOVERY Children's Museum for a pirate themed workshop series highlighting content in science, technology, engineering, art and math. This integrated experience invited students to observe and engineer air-powered cannons, design colorful parrot puppets, and utilize navigational skills during a treasure hunt! Students also enjoyed an interactive science presentation about buoyancy.
**Creative Collaborations 2017 - 2018**

**Philharmonic Collaborations**

October 31 – November 2, 2017  
January 9 – 12, 2018

DISCOVERY Children’s Museum partnered with the Las Vegas Philharmonic for the 2017 – 2018 Youth Concert Series Program. The title of this year’s program was “Elements of Music.” Selections included: Giacchino Rossini Barber of Seville Overture; Diego Vega Red Rock; Ludwig van Beethoven First Movement from Symphony No. 5; Jacques Ibert Third Movement from Concertino da Camera; John Phillip Sousa The Thunderer; Richard Strauss Waltz from Die Fledermaus Overture; and Ludwig van Beethoven Finale from Symphony No. 7. A special highlight of each concert was the performance by a student winner in the Las Vegas Philharmonic’s Young Artists’ Concerto Competition.

The 2017 – 2018 Youth Concert Series was held in two sessions (November 2017 and January 2018) at The Smith Center for Performing Arts. Following the concert series, DISCOVERY Children’s Museum offered a special workshop experience in November and January for over 1,800 Clark County School District students from Title 1 elementary schools. The workshop series introduced STEAM activities and demonstrations that were designed to complement the classical music selections presented at the concert.

**Nevada Ballet Theatre Collaboration**

Nutcracker Extravaganza - November 24, 2017

Children and families learned about this special holiday tradition through set and costume pieces from Nevada Ballet Theatre’s annual holiday production of The Nutcracker, complemented by Nutcracker-themed educational programming throughout the museum. Visitors walked the Nutcracker red carpet and received an autograph from the Nutcracker character. Visitors also enjoyed Academy of Nevada Ballet Theatre performances.

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**2018 Sources of Revenue**

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**2018 Sources of Expenditures**

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Annual Fund Donors: FY18 (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018)

DREAMERS ($100,000 +)
- Anonymous
- Institute of Museum and Library Services

INNOVATORS ($50,000 - $99,999)
- Helen and Chip Johnson
- Southern Highlands Charitable Foundation
- Wells Fargo
- Wynn Resorts

CREATORS ($25,000 - $49,999)
- Bank of America
- City of Las Vegas CDBG
- Entercom
- Pediped
- Raiders

BUILDERS ($10,000 - $24,999)
- Andrew Family Foundation
- Phyllis Binion
- Judy and Edward Cebulko
- Victoria K. Fertitta
- HealthCare Partners and Davita Medical Group
- Joan Lapan
- Las Vegas Sands
- MOSER Architecture Studio
- Neiman Marcus
- NV Energy
- Smith’s
- US Bank Foundation

THINKERS ($5,000 - $9,999)
- A-1 Mechanical & Electric
- Association of Children’s Museums
- Madeleine and Don Andress
- Doug Beck
- Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation
- Caesars Entertainment
- Carrie and Phil Cooper
- Jeri and Rick Crawford
- Jody and Rob Finnegan
- Greenberg Traurig
- Humana
- Jerry’s Nugget
- Klaib Juba Wald Architects
- Marnell Companies
- MGM Resorts International
- Jill and Troy Moser

EXPLORERS ($1,000 - $2,499)
- AeroTech Mapping, Inc
- William Akel
- Brad Anthony
- Cynthia Asher
- Janpeg Avignon-Steele
- Jennie Bowman
- Chet Buchanan
- Julie Cane
- CareMeridian
- Timothy Cashman
- Cenegeoncs Elite Health
- Roy Centrella

COLLABORATORS ($2,500 - $4,999)
- Susan Ackerman
- Susan Brassford
- CenturyLink
- Cleo Design
- Ryan Creighton
- The Howard Hughes Corporation
- Joanna Falb
- Daniel & Robin Greenspun Family Foundation
- John A. Martin & Associates of Nevada
- Stacie and Justin Michaels
- Nevada Arts Council
- Justin Romero
- Sierra Consulting Structural Engineers
- Stephen Packard
- Terri and Roland Sturm Family Foundation
- Paula Yakubik

GIFT IN-KIND
- A & V Chiavari Chairs
- AE Live
- Anne Mazzola
- Anson, Edwards & Higgins Plastic Surgery Associates
- Bradford Renaissance Portraits
- Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
- Cashman Photo Enterprises
- Design By Number
- John Elardi
- Enclave
- ENCORE Event Technologies
- Fab Décor Rentals & Events
- Joanna Falb
- Flora Couture
- Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea
- Hakkkasan Group
- High Roller @ The Linq
- Holland & Hart
- Jerry’s Nugget
- Las Vegas Day School
- Las Vegas Harley-Davidson
- LUXURY Las Vegas Magazine
- Christine Maddela
- Myron Martin
- Michael & Lisa Mathis
- Anne Mazzola
- Jerry Misko
- NV Energy Foundation
- Franky Perez
- Sail Windjammer
- Smith’s Food & Drug
- Southern Glazers Wine & Spirits
- Southwest Airlines
- SPI Entertainment
- T-Bird Jewels Jewelry Store
- Tedasha Shoji
- TruFusion
- USA Sevens
- Wolfgang Puck Fine Dining Group
- Wynn Las Vegas