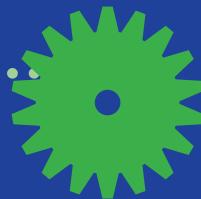




# montana Science Center





Dear Supporters,

The past year was an incredible one. We started 2019 intent on finding a new location for the Science Center, then still the Children's Museum of Bozeman. In mid December, we closed the doors at our old chalet on Willson and were in the finishing stages on the new Montana Science Center on Main Street.

In March of 2019, when we reintroduced ourselves as Montana Science Center, we began to realize our mission as a leader in informal science and technology education for Southwest Montana. Along with established partnerships with MSU and MPIA, we look to collaborative opportunities with like-minded organizations to create meaningful impact in our community.

For five years, we have been working toward our goal of bringing unique, engaging science education to families and classrooms. In 2019, we implemented exciting, new programs, exhibits and field trip curricula to enable individuals in our community to engage with science and technology regardless of their age or socioeconomic status.

Critical to our mission are our member families who engage in our programs; schools who encourage students to discover science through field trips; businesses who partner with us to deliver quality programming; individuals who ensure that our mission continues no matter what community issues arise. Support from donors, foundations and visitors create the inviting, fun atmosphere that allows for critical thinking, creativity and problem solving using science, technology, engineering, art and math to solve real world problems.

In order to continue to support critical engagement in STEM topics, consider a contribution to the Science Center's many program funds.

Sincerely,

Abby Turner  
Executive Director

## our vision

is a society in which curiosity, critical thinking and innovation are embraced as tools for understanding and thriving in a changing world.



## our mission

is to provide interactive learning experiences in science & technology that inspire creativity, innovation, and lead to real-world application.

## our values

are to build an inclusive environment where people feel safe to play, engage, create, and be inspired.



# BY THE NUMBERS

1264

volunteer hours from groups,  
students, STEM professionals

15

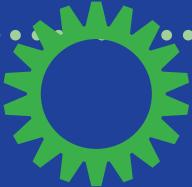
rolls of filament Watt (our 3D  
printer) used to promote the  
STEAMlab & high-tech education

41

women involved in our Women in  
STEM Advisory Group

274

science programs for visitors  
of all ages



## STEAM FIELD TRIPS

This program supported by Marisa Bueno & Robert Keith,  
the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation and SPIE

9

number of Montana  
counties served

461

number of students served

## PARTNERS

MSU Dept of Education  
Montana Photonics Industry Alliance

## PROGRAMS

Intro to Arthropods  
Engineering & 3D Design  
Intro to Programming  
Light Science: Diffraction  
Circuits & Soldering



# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Mike Simmonds & Terry Thompson  
Ressler Motors  
Gilhousen Family Foundation  
Bozeman Health  
Zoot Enterprises  
First Security Bank  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana  
Gallatin Valley Pediatric Dentistry

FLIR Systems  
CS Structures  
Ambient Air Solutions  
Northwestern Energy  
Montana Photonics Industry Alliance  
Luke & June Mauritsen  
PineCove Consulting  
a & e Architects

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## 2019 financials

total operating budget \$322,716



- Contributions 58%
- Grants 10%
- In-Kind 3%
- Earned 29%



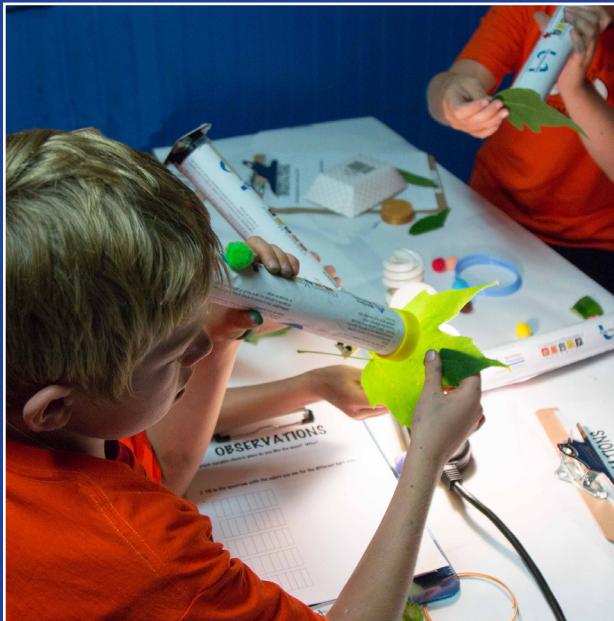
- Programs 66%
- Fundraising 25%
- Administration 9%

# outreach events

MSC staff participate in outreach events throughout the year to bring science and high-tech experiences to people of all ages, including:

TEDxBozeman  
Expanding Your Horizons  
SPIE International Day of Light  
SWMSS Summer Science Institute  
Museum of the Rockies Grossology  
Public School STEM Nights  
ASTC Annual Conference

OpTech Summit  
STEM Summit  
MSU Career Fairs  
Montana Hightech Alliance  
Afterschool Alliance Conference  
Summer Camp Roundup  
Girls for a Change



## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Lauren Jackson  
Miranda Hoffman  
Steve Klopmeier  
John Allwine  
Trevor Waldron  
Sam Rochelle

...and many, many more who helped  
with special events and getting our  
new space ready for visitors.



# what's up with the future?

As we wrote this annual report for what an incredible year 2019 was and how inspired we were to start 2020 in our new location, we found that the world had turned upside down. So what does that mean for next year's recap? Here's a look at our goals, our plans and what the future might hold:

- Developing a stronger commitment to our mission by focusing on training, programming, engagement through learning, both virtual and in smaller, more meaningful groups.
- With strategic insight, re-imagining interactive experiences and exhibits in new and unique ways.
- 2021 is our 20th year, so not only are we planning celebrations, but we are looking towards the potential for a larger center.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT MSC

1. Give to the STEAM Connections Field Trip Fund to provide free or reduced-cost Science & Technology field trips for low income classrooms.
2. Volunteer with a business group as a STEM professional or docent to promote STEM play with visiting families and classrooms.
3. Include MSC in your annual giving plan, bequests and donor-advised funds.
4. Become an MSC Family or Business member or give a membership to a family in need.
5. Sponsor a family event, program or exhibit as a business supporter.



## **board of directors**

**Mandy Dredge, President, Riverside Country Club**

**Ryan Galloway, Vice President, Aurora**

**Jessica Watts, Secretary, Rocky Mountain Bank**

**Kyle Blessinger, Wipfli**

**Matt Brownlow, Avitus Group**

**Brian D'Urso, Montana State University**

**Natalie Gilmer, Past President, CPA**

**Mitch Johnson, Bank of Bozeman**

**Phil Weiss, Belgrade Public Schools**

## **staff**

**Abby Turner, Executive Director**

**Pamela Jacques, Director of Exhibits**

**Brittany Mehrens, Director of Operations**

**Sarah Snider, Program Coordinator**

**Tim Schober, STEAMlab Coordinator**

**Kendall Black, STEAMlab Educator**

**Leah Watling, Bookkeeper**

**Liz Gilbert, Visitor Services**

**Seth Nims, Visitor Services**