Dear Science Supporter:

Thank you for supporting the Montana Science Center! In an uncertain time, your steadfast belief in STEAM education as a pathway to critical thinking skill development allowed for many successes in 2021. Following a year like no other, 2021 held great promise and many unknowns. Although there are many milestones to reflect upon and celebrate, no one success stands out more than the simple fact that Montana Science Center not only survived but thrived.

Kids and families returned to the Science Center. An overall trend emerged - capped by a sharp increase in visitation and participation in 2021 that is steadily climbing now, in 2022. Reports indicate that the gap in learning, particularly with respect to math and science, is greater than anticipated - therefore the increased need for more informal education opportunities.

Science and critical thinking development are more important than ever. Montana Science Center has positioned itself to meet the needs of the communities, kids and families we serve through unique collaborations with industry and other nonprofit partnerships.

Because of your support, vital science education at MSC is thriving. We recognize the need for more high quality STEAM programming through interactive exhibits: and, increased science discovery is possible with your help. Please take a moment to review the ways you can help ensure this critical need is met. On the following pages you will find the ways in which your generosity made an impact in 2021 and the ways you can support families and students through STEM education at MSC, today.

On behalf of the entire staff and the board of directors, thank you!

Sincerely,
The Staff & Board of Directors of Montana Science Center

Thank you for supporting STEAM education!
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

Recognizing the imperative for access to high quality STEAM education opportunities, MSC increased staff, added programs and navigated the shifting health climate. Here are some highlights:

Educational Programs:
- Summer Camp offerings doubled to 10 weeks and filled to 127%
- Teen Tech Squad was formed, an afterschool program for robotics and tech-making
- Classrooms from seven rural counties returned for standards-aligned field trips

Events:
- 3,000+ people visited our Sweet Pea Lemonade Stand
- We hosted the First Annual Science Carnival

Exhibits:
- MSU Science + Art Exhibit was featured in our upstairs classroom
- Construction began on our newest exhibit: Light Lab - a photonics exploration
- What Does a Scientist Look Like? exhibit opened, showcasing gender equity in STEM careers.
- We featured two temporary exhibits: Sun Earth Universe and Planes, Trains & Automobiles

Other highlights:
- Our Director of Technology started a weekly vlog called Tuesdays with Tim
- Family memberships grew by 45%
- Legacy membership levels were introduced: Elemental Society and New Element Membership

2021 board of directors
- Ryan Galloway, President, Aurora
- Brian D’Urso, Vice President, MSU
- Phil Weiss, Secretary, Monforton School
- Mary Hubbard, MSU
- Matt Brownlow, Avitus Group
- Ashley Hodges, BizTech Solutions
- Mitch Johnson, Bank of Bozeman
- Mandy Dredge, Riverside Country Club
- Ben Matheney, Fisher Technology

staff
- Abby Turner, Executive Director
- Pamela Jacques, Director of Creative Design
- Terrence Gotz, Director of Community Development
- Tim Schober, Director of Technology
- Misty Rehder, Visitor Services Manager
- Heather Swanson, Education Coordinator
- Bailey Noonan, Program Coordinator
- Gracie Durham, Summer Camp Coordinator
- Steve Allison-Bunnell, STEAMlab Coordinator
- Miles Fastnow, Education Assistant
- Samuel Schmidt, Visitor Services
- Chira Schober, Visitor Services
- Mariah Grimes, Visitor Services

Thank you to our 2021 partner groups
- Society of Physics Students, MSU
- Optical Physics Students, MSU
- Bozeman 500 Women Scientists
- WISE Group, MSU
- MSU Earth Sciences Department
- Montana Photonics Industry Alliance
- MSU Department of Education
- BHS National Honors Society
- MSU Alpha Sigma Phi
- Montana Outdoor Science School
- Montana PBS

WAYS TO SUPPORT MSC

1. Make a donation today! Scan the QR code to the right and make a one time or recurring gift.
- $1,000/yr lowers program costs for local families.
- $500/yr provides STEM field trips for rural classrooms.
- $250/yr sparks curiosity at the Science Station.
- $100/yr prints student 3D designs in the STEAMlab.

2. Volunteer your time at an MSC program or event.

3. Become a member as a family, individual or business. Gift a membership to a family!

4. Sponsor a family event, science series, program or exhibit through a business membership.

5. Double your impact with a company match.

6. Leave a legacy by adding MSC in your will.

Please contact tgotz@montanasciencecenter.org for a full menu of sponsorships.

Your support makes an impact

For every dollar earned through admissions and programs, an additional dollar is needed through direct contributions, events & community support. In other words, the true cost of admission would be $20 per person if not for your generous support.

2021 financials
- Total Operating Budget: $483,709
- Contributions: 27%
- Grants: 31%
- Earned Income: 41%
- In-Kind: 1%
- Administrative: 13%
- Programs: 70%
- Fundraising: 17%

2021 monthly attendance

Throughout the pandemic, MSC has balanced safety with remaining open to the public and providing access to interactive science education. Attendance shows the steady increase in demand for MSC’s programs and offerings, with the exception of Sept 2021 when the Delta variant was prevalent in our community.

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