

**Annual Report** 2014

The Element of ...

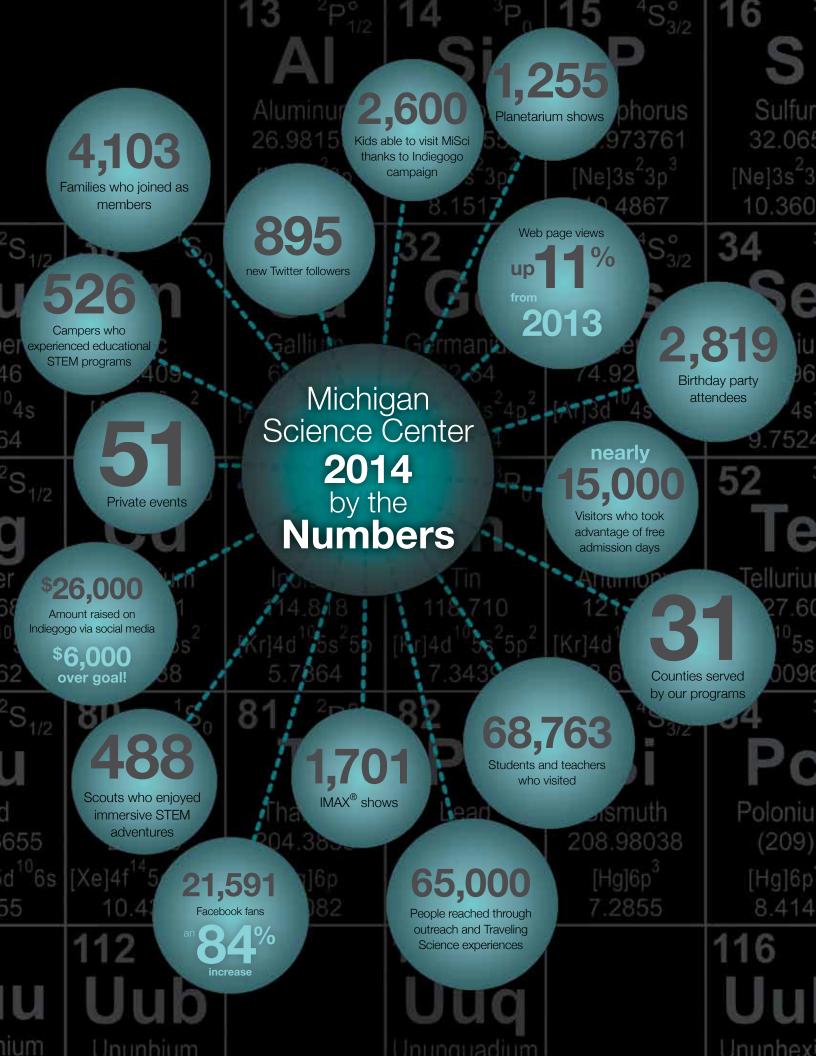
24.7.365 15 Wonder!

15 24.7.365 S Surprise!

15 24.7.365 **Curiosity!** 

**15** 24.7.365 Discovery!





### Michigan Science Center Board of Directors

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# Letter to our Community

Dear Friends,

2014 was an incredible, electric year for the Michigan Science Center. Our second full year of operation brought increased attendance across the board, incredible new exhibits and even more opportunities to bring our exciting, engaging Traveling Science programs to communities and schools around the state. We remain as passionate as ever in our mission to promote STEM education and to be a hub for science-based discovery throughout the entire region.

Of course, it would be impossible for us to fulfill that mission without the dedicated support of our volunteers, donors and partners. Your generous donations—of time, money, and effort—truly keep the Michigan Science Center moving forward. From our members, to our docents, to our corporate donors, every contribution has been meaningful, impactful and tremendously appreciated. It has been inspiring to see how deep, true and ongoing our community support has been.

This year, we created and strengthened partnerships with organizations as

diverse as NASA, Michigan Metro Parks, The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and ITC. We've been able to leverage those relationships and others to create amazing, hands-on exhibits and interactive programs that appeal to learners of all ages. We opened our first live exhibits and welcomed animatronic ice age mammals. We premiered new films, new live stage presentations and new planetarium shows. We brought in scientific experts to answer questions and opened our doors free to the public. We hosted educators, campers and scouts. Our Traveling Science team visited 90 different cities in Michigan and our programs reached hundreds of thousands of individuals across the state.

These past two years have been a time of incredible growth and promise. We eagerly look forward to what is sure to be a bright future. As much as we accomplished in 2014, we're certain that the years ahead will be just as thrilling.

Tonya M. Matthews, Ph.D.

Thomas G. Stephens, P.E. Chairman of the Board of Directors



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# Gala

The Michigan Science Center Gala was held on May 9, 2014. Local celebrity and news anchor Devin Scillian served as master of ceremonies, and our CEO Dr. Tonya Matthews addressed donors and supporters at her inaugural gala. We were excited to welcome keynote speaker Dr. David Gallo, an oceanographer with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Dr. Gallo kept attendees riveted with his account of cutting-edge discoveries currently being made in the depths of our oceans—and his discussion about the efforts to locate the Malaysian aircraft that vanished in spring of 2014. More than 63 companies, foundations and individuals attended the 2014 gala, making it a big success.



# The Spark Igniting Passion for Science

We offer more than 250 hands-on interactive exhibits, live stage shows, five theaters, engaging lab spaces and more. Science comes alive in the hands of our talented staff, offering an experience that visitors can't find anywhere else.

#### 2014 Successes

In 2014, we opened several new traveling and permanent exhibits. We welcomed our first live exhibits with Wish Upon a Butterfly, which featured an indoor greenhouse filled with hundreds of butterflies, and Stingray Cove, featuring four touch tanks filled with sea life thanks to a partnership with Lou's Pet Shop. Ice Age Unfrozen sent visitors back in time to walk with animatronic mammals. We also expanded our Rocket Gallery and launched SunStruck—a new planetarium show—with a grant from NASA.

Last year we presented more than 2,000 live shows and demonstrations that reached more than 110,000 audience members. We launched several new planetarium shows, created a new live stage show, and introduced guests to chemistry with BASF Kids' Lab.

With mid-winter, spring break and summer camps, aspiring scientists learned about topics ranging from engineering to ecology in a fun, engaging environment.







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# The Hub

# Michigan's Center for STEM

The Michigan Science Center is the statewide hub for STEM education, powering innovation and educational content, and acting as a go-to resource for best practices.

#### 2014 Successes

Our Traveling Science team, with support from The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, served more than 65,000 people in 31 Michigan counties and Michigan. Travel was made possible by Ford, who donated a new van to carry supplies and staff to programs across Michigan.

Our partnerships and special programs—including Educator Open Houses, Special Needs Weeks, scouts and homeschool outreach, Engineering Week, BASF Kids' Lab and Ask the Expert lectures —gave us the ability to engage a wide range of individuals.



# The Neighbor Engaging and Inspiring Community Partnerships

Located in the heart of Midtown, Detroit's cultural center, the Michigan Science Center is proud to be part of the city's resurgence and the state-wide community.

#### 2014 Successes

One of our most important community partnerships is with our volunteers who help enhance our exhibits, assist us with clerical work and host special events.

We work to engage our local Detroit communities with outreach and accessibility for all, especially those who might not otherwise be able to afford it. In 2014, we offered three free general admission days, including WJLB's annual Coats for Kids Radiothon, Midtown Inc's Noel Night, and MiSci's second birthday on December 26, sponsored by Delphi.

Our Sponsors of Science program, funded by the Berman Foundation and Chrysler made it possible for thousands of underprivileged schoolchildren to visit MiSci. And we hosted more than 50 private and public events in 2014, including educational events such as Construction Science Expo, which brought more than 700 students to MiSci.







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#### **Donor of the Year**

The Michigan Science Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We rely on the support of our community, private donors, corporate stakeholders and media partners.

"The Michigan Science Center brings tremendous value to the state," said Gregory loanidis, vice president, Business Unit Finance and Rates, ITC Holdings Corp. "ITC is proud to continue its support of this important institution, which touches the lives of thousands of children and parents each year. In recent years, The Michigan Science Center

has expanded its influence, encouraging an interest in science, technology, engineering and math while enlightening the minds of students throughout the state."

## Corporate, Foundation and Agency Support

The Michigan Science Center is grateful for corporate and foundation support of our mission and programs at all levels. This listing recognizes giving over \$250 (contributed, pledged and in-kind) of Foundation and Corporate Donors during 2014.

#### \$200,000 and Above

DTE Energy Foundation ITC Holdings Corporation

#### \$100,000 - \$199,999

Ford Motor Company General Motors Company LLC General Motors Foundation McGregor Fund NASA

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing, N.A., Inc.

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999

Axalta Coating Systems
Mandell and Madeleine
Berman Foundation
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Community Foundation for
Southeast Michigan
Consumers Energy Foundation
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The Kresge Foundation
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Matilda R. Wilson Fund

BASF Corporation The Chrysler Foundation

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**The Piston Group** 

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

American Axle & Manufacturing
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TI Automotive
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Siemens PLM Software
Yazaki North America, Inc.
ZF Group North American Operations

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Δltair

The Boston Consulting Group
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Corporation
MSX International
Penske Corporation

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Shiloh Industries, Inc. Team Detroit Visteon Corporation Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

#### \$2.500 - \$4.999

Apparatus Solutions, Inc.
Comerica Charitable Foundation
Clark Hill PLC
Ferndale Electric
Friends of the Former Detroit
Science Center

**Sundberg Ferar Product Innovation Studio** 

#### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Ayco Charitable Foundation Consulate of Mexico Myron P. Leven Foundation Lou's Pet Shop Michigan First Foundation Spire Integrated Systems, Inc. Towers Watson

#### \$250 - \$999

**SAE Detroit Section** 

**Suburban Sports Group** 

Ms. Judith A. Graham

The Fulkerson Group Henry Ford Health System IBM JD Norman Industries KPMG LLP PVS Chemicals, Inc. The Elmira L. Rhein Family Foundation Rickman Enterprise Group, LLC

### **Individual Donors**

The Michigan Science Center is grateful for the support received from all of its individual donors. This listing recognizes giving over \$100 (contributed, pledged, and in-kind) of individual donors and donor-advised funds during 2014.

\$300,000 and Above Mr. and Mrs. Cohen

\$100,000 - \$299,000 Amb. Ron Weiser and the Hon. Eileen Weiser

\$10,000 - \$99,000
Castaing Family Foundation
The Mort and Brigitte Harris Foundation
Tom and Kathi Stephens

Mr. Frank Venegas and Ms. Laurie Sall

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Bob and Cathy Anthony
J. Thomas and Valerie MacFarlane
Tim and Liz Manganello
Raj and Wendy Nair
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\$1,000 - \$4,999
Tom and Mary Asmus
Orlando and Veronne Bustos
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Ms. Carol W. Forsythe
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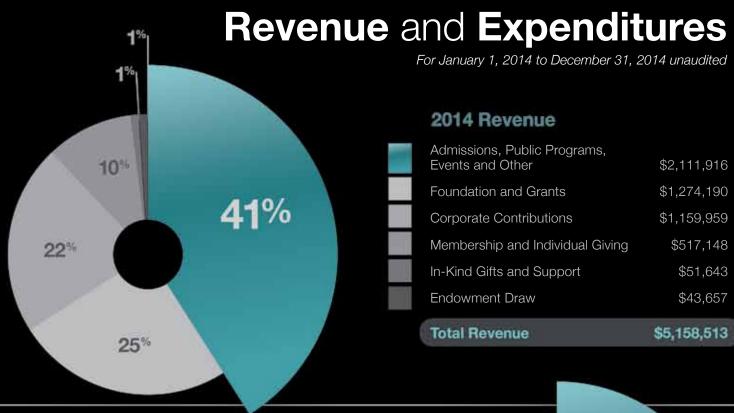
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Fritz

\$100 - \$249

**Anonymous** 

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Ms. Patricia Walker





Programs, Outreach, Education Technology, Building, Exhibits,

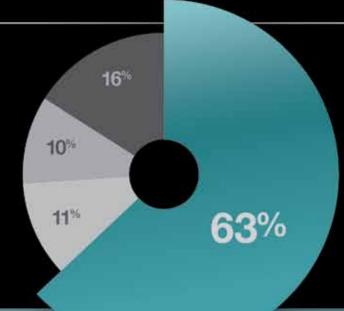
Visitor Services and Other \$3,024,912

Marketing and Public Engagement \$555,709

Fundraising and Development \$487,979

Administration and Support Services \$773,702

\$4,842,302 Total Expense





## 2014 **Operating Capital, Endowment** and **Debt**

For January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 unaudited



Debt





5020 John R Street Detroit, MI 48202

## **Our Mission**

The mission of the Michigan Science Center is to inspire children and families to discover, explore and appreciate science, technology, engineering and math in a creative, dynamic learning environment.

