

A vibrant illustration of a yellow rocket with green fins launching from a green landscape. The rocket is angled upwards, leaving a thick white trail of smoke that curves across the sky. In the background, a modern museum building with a curved roof and columns is visible, surrounded by green trees. In the foreground, a purple and red Stegosaurus dinosaur stands on a grassy hill. To the right of the dinosaur is a circular yellow pond with a small grey object in the center. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Preparing to LAUNCH!

Our Mission

To inspire
a passion
for science
and nature



Dear Friends and Supporters,

At the EcoTarium, we understand that discovering a passion for science and nature can have lasting benefits. Over the last year our visitors were inspired by the sounds of nature during our summer exhibit, *Wild Music: Sounds and Songs of Life*. They embarked on a journey to outer space when we premiered National Geographic's new planetarium show, *Asteroid: Mission Extreme*. And, they were wowed when we introduced new hands-on education programs, including *Invisible Forces: Electricity and Magnetism*.

Every year we hear testimonies from our visitors describing how the EcoTarium helped launch a passion that became a career; on a field trip, during summer camp, or on a visit with family and friends. As we approach the EcoTarium's third century and celebrate the generations of visitors we have already inspired, it is also an opportunity to look to the future to expand our role to meet the needs of tomorrow's guests.

Guiding us forward is our 2016-2020 Strategic Plan titled, *Transformation through Collaboration* (available at ecotarium.org), which focuses on four strategies:

- Expand our audience and reach by providing substantive, memorable, and accessible experiences
- Expand our impact locally, regionally, and nationally, collaborating to become a necessary resource
- Increase and diversify our sources of financial support, strengthening our institution and its economic impact
- Develop an infrastructure that enables institutional responsiveness and agility

Our Strategic Plan is integrated into all that we currently do while guiding the transformational change that allows us to implement our vision, "To be a national leader in engaging communities with science and nature."

To accomplish these goals we are proud to announce the *launch* of the Third Century Campaign: Phase Two. With a \$9.1 million goal, the EcoTarium is already well on its way to bringing our visitors exciting new exhibits and programs; from making the museum more accessible, to upgrading some of our iconic experiences to last for generations to come.

We hope you enjoy this year's report as we look back on all that you helped us achieve and look forward to so much that is to come.

Joe Cox, President

Ray Quinlan, Chair – Board of Trustees

Community Impact

Each year, your support allows us to continue our work of making the EcoTarium accessible to everyone. The following initiatives help us accomplish that goal:

SCOPE – The Special Community Outreach Programs of the EcoTarium:

In 2015, the EcoTarium directed more than \$250,000 toward improving museum accessibility. From providing 2,500 free field trip scholarships, to making headphones and other special equipment available for families affected by sensory issues during their museum programs, SCOPE helped the EcoTarium better serve our community.

The EBT Program: With over 3,000 Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cardholders visiting the museum in 2015, this program's success in helping low-income families is clear. Launched collaboratively with other local museums in 2013, the program offers deeply discounted admission. Thanks to the Greater Worcester Community Foundation for making this program possible!

"The EcoTarium is invested in growing the EBT Program so that every family can access the museum and its resources, and every child can have an opportunity for success." – Joe Cox, EcoTarium President

- 🎒 **Free Admission for Teachers:** To help our community's teachers scout out the museum's exhibits and grounds prior to a school field trip, we provide them free General Admission year round (with educator ID).
- 👨‍👩‍👧 **Half-Price Group Admission:** Schools receive half-price admission during January and February.
- 🎒 **Half-Price September:** In 2015 Half-Price September returned with half-price museum admission and planetarium shows. A great deal for a great day of fun! Look for it coming again in 2016!



On August 6, 2015, the EcoTarium was delighted to welcome Congressman James P. McGovern for a tour of the museum.

The EcoTarium as Community Partner: Action! Worcester

The EcoTarium was thrilled to become a collaborative partner with Action! Worcester in its efforts to increase civic engagement among students and young professionals. By accessing their energy, creativity, and capacity for social networking today, Action! Worcester aims to stimulate the drive behind tomorrow's economic and community growth.

Meeting Our Strategic Objectives:

Increase accessibility and diversity in all aspects throughout the institution

In 2015
the EcoTarium
welcomed
144,425
visitors to
the museum

In 2015
EcoTarium
memberships
totaled
2,127

28,249
guests visited
with us as
part of an
educational
group in 2015

890,000
visitors enjoyed
EcoTarium
traveling exhibits
that are touring
other museums

Meeting Our Strategic Objectives:

Thoughtfully collaborate with organizations that serve our intended and potential audiences



Research and Collaboration

The EcoTarium is proud to inspire a passion for science and nature within our community, however, our Vision extends much further. We want to extend our reach so that more families, schools, and curious people of all ages become engaged in the world around them, developing into lifelong learners who become stewards of our environment and informed citizens of our high-tech communities. As a role model for how other museums can collaborate to bring national quality experiences to their audiences and by giving a national voice to our audience as citizen scientists through our research partnerships, we are achieving those goals.

Here's how we did it in 2015:

We began a new partnership with world-renowned fungi specialist Dr. David S. Hibbett, Clark University, disseminating his NSF-funded research to our community. His *Mushroom Foray* across the EcoTarium's beautiful grounds was an eye-opener!

The EcoTarium's Educators expanded their skills with innovative teaching techniques and learning strategies while developing and piloting new education programs. Through a partnership with The Wild Center, a natural history museum in the Adirondacks, and funding through a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), we are now working to apply *Visual Thinking Strategies*, a facilitation technique based on years of research, to the science museum field.

Through support from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, the *STEM to STEAM* project provided an opportunity for our educators to experiment with integrating art and creative expression in nature-based early childhood learning.



We also received funding from IMLS for a two-year project to increase the museum's capacity to inventory its natural history collections through applying a new EcoTarium-developed *Volunteer-Based Inventorying Protocol (VBI Protocol)* and investment in the museum's collections and volunteer management infrastructure. Trained volunteers are now helping to inventory our 55,000 item natural history collection. We will share the VBI Protocol with other museums to help the broader cultural community better preserve their own natural history collections.



Since 2013, the EcoTarium has collaborated with Worcester State University and Massachusetts Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary on an *Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ)* grant. Working with our partners, EcoTarium educators produced a graduate course to improve early childhood educators' comfort with science content knowledge and curriculum delivery.



I'm
k



Education

Learning and discovery are around every corner of the EcoTarium's 55-acre grounds and three-floor museum.

Real Math Real Science

Each year, the entire sixth grade student body in Worcester Public Schools is provided with a free field trip to the EcoTarium and Broad Meadow Brook to experience *Real Math Real Science*. This program is a fantastic community collaboration that provides 1,600 children annually with a combination of hands-on field work and inquiry-based discussion that creates an engaging experience and connects math and science curriculum to real world contexts. This program was sponsored in part by the George I. Alden Trust, the Stoddard Charitable Trust and the Worcester Educational Development Foundation.

Animal Ambassadors

Our animals serve as ambassadors in programs ranging from Keeper Chats presented by our Wildlife team, to summer camp activities, school field trips, and even festivals such as the WPI Touch Tomorrow event.

Night Journeys: Overnight Adventures

Each year thousands of children (and their chaperones) from schools, scouts, and youth groups visit the EcoTarium for a unique overnight adventure. They enjoy a night of exploration around the museum's exhibits, planetarium, and grounds. Designed expressly for groups of children ages 6-16, overnights at the EcoTarium are educational, interactive and FUN!



Night Journey visitors bring their sleeping bags for an overnight adventure inside the EcoTarium, or in a tent on the museum grounds.

Meeting our Strategic Objectives:

Raise awareness around the importance of science and nature, inspiring deeper engagement



Awards and Accolades

Thanks to our community for the recognition we received through the following 2015 awards:

Best Family Fun Destination

Worcester Magazine

Best Place To Take the Kids

Worcester Living Magazine



Early Childhood Education

At the EcoTarium, we understand that a young child's mind is like a sponge, absorbing the world around them. Eager to explore and endlessly curious, our early childhood programs are a perfect way to engage our youngest visitors. Meeting our wildlife ambassadors, conducting simple experiments, using inquiry to find the answers to those incessant childhood questions - inspiring a passion for science and nature was never so much hands-on fun!

Preschool and Toddler Wednesdays

Now in its 11th year, this popular weekly program is specially designed for ages 4 years and younger. Children meet one of our wildlife ambassadors and explore our historic natural collections. Along with an interactive story and craft activity, it's a family-favorite. Free with admission!

Budding Scientists

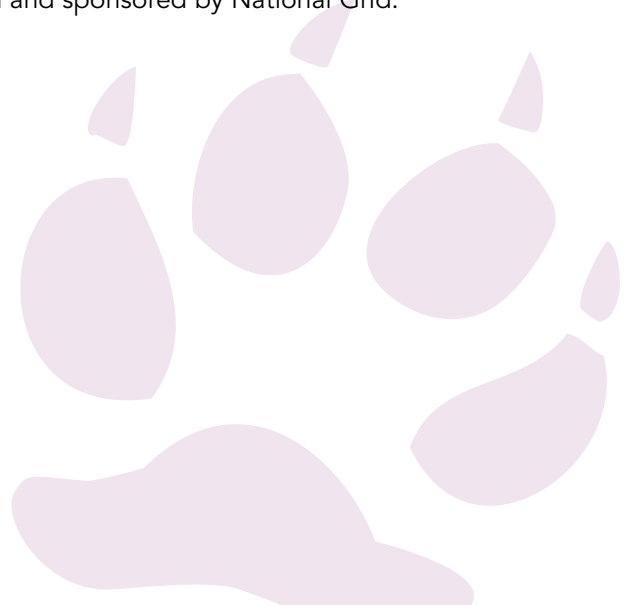
Perfect for tiny explorers ages 4-6, these first Thursday of the month sessions introduce basic science principles to little scientists. Also free with admission!

2nd Annual Countdown to Kindergarten

In collaboration with Worcester Public Schools, this special celebration proved to be a great way to start a school career for 377 kindergarteners and their families. Special thanks goes to our lead sponsor, Webster Five Foundation, to our many partners, and to our amazing 98 volunteers! Partners included: BookPALS, Screen Actors Guild Foundation, Durham School Services, Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center, MCPHS University School of Optometry, Massachusetts Department of Early Education & Care, Massachusetts Farm to School, Quinsigamond Community College's Dental Hygiene Program, RSVP Worcester Area Volunteers, Wegmans Food Markets Inc., WGBH and the Krueger Charitable Foundation, Worcester Family Partnership, Worcester Public Library, and Worcester Reads.

Tinkering for Tots

Tinkering allows children the opportunity to solve problems and practice independent thinking. EcoTarium educators presented this free professional development training to 79 early childcare providers and librarians. This program was presented in partnership with the Boston Children's Museum and sponsored by National Grid.







Some Fun Things from 2015

January 15: What do you get when you mix hilarious comedians with a Nobel Prize winning scientist? Answer: An episode of the live radio show *You're the Expert* taped at the museum – featuring Worcester's own Dr. Craig Mello.

January 17 & 18: Members' Weekend

March 12: Worcester Public Schools Science Fair

April 21 – 24: 26th Annual Earth Day Celebration, and Earth Week:
Build It! For A Greener Tomorrow

April 28 – May 15: *Game Play* exhibit open

May 23: Tree Canopy Walkway opens for the season

May 30 – September 6: *Wild Music: Songs and Sounds of Life* exhibit open

March 14: In recognition of that magical number, the EcoTarium hosted *The Ultimate Pi Day Celebration*. Not only did visitors get to explore the beauty of math, but they celebrated Einstein's 136th birthday and enjoyed pies of the edible variety too! Thanks Table Talk Pies!

July 6 – August 14: Summer Discovery Camp

August 23: *Sensory Sunday* provided a sensory-friendly experience of our summer exhibit *Wild Music: Sounds and Songs of Life*. The event was designed for family members who are sensitive to loud noises, bright lights and intense experiences.

August 28: Free Fun Friday

October 3 & 4: Members' Weekend

October 22: Through the *Creative Minds OUTLOUD* podcast series from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the MCC provided a way for cultural representatives to use their actual voices in discussing some of the many cool things happening around the state. The EcoTarium's own Director of Exhibits, Betsy Loring, was featured discussing peer-to-peer professional development.

October 24: Our 12th Annual Great Pumpkin Fest featured more than 1,000 carved, lit pumpkins and an abundance of friendly costumes.

November 14: Tinker Day

December 19: Tinkering for Tots!

December 26 – 31: Holiday Vacation Week: *My Place in Space*

December 31: 3rd Annual Noon Year's Eve





Membership and Development

Our supporters are inspired by the range and impact of the EcoTarium’s education programs, fun-filled activities, and community events. Giving to the museum is appreciated in all its forms, from major Campaign gifts that enable us to grow, to the gift of EcoTarium Membership, to the handfuls of pennies delivered by our youngest guests.

The 1825 Society and Donor Appreciation Event

On September 29, 2015, the members of our 1825 Society were treated to a sneak peek of our upcoming permanent exhibit, *City Science*. We are incredibly grateful for the 1825 Society’s continued and most gracious support. *For more information about the society please contact Tracy Dill, Manager of Major Gifts, at 508.929.2715.*



A Night at the Museum

This 4th annual fundraiser saw the museum come to life on the night of May 16, 2015, in support of the EcoTarium’s mission and the many innovative programs and exhibits that help us fulfill it. With live and silent auctions, hands-on science fun, up-close-and-personal animal encounters, live music, great food, and plenty of wonderful support for a great cause, it was a memorable night. Thanks to everyone who helped us raise \$110,000 while acting like a kid again! And a special thank you to our A Night at the Museum Committee for their hard work and enthusiasm in making this event such a wonderful success.



EcoTarium Members: Our Most Valued Supporters

Purchasing an EcoTarium membership is one of the most important ways our community supports the museum. While a membership comes with a wonderful array of benefits for our members – see below for just a few – the greatest benefit of all is in helping the EcoTarium remain one of our region’s favorite places to visit for families, students, and anyone with a curiosity about science, the environment, and so much more. Thanks for being a member!



Members Enjoy 12 Months (or More) of Benefits, Including:

- Visiting for free as many times as they want during general admission days
- Free or reduced admission at more than 350 ASTC Passport Program science and technology centers and museums
- Adventurer level members and above receive 50% off general admission for up to six people at 200 ACM member children’s museums
- Members are the first to hear about our newest events, programs and exhibits
- Most important of all, members help support the important work of the EcoTarium

To learn more about becoming an EcoTarium member, please visit ecotarium.org.



Planting the Future

Through the generosity of The Nathaniel Wheeler Trust, the EcoTarium is in the process of beautifying its grounds with specimens of New England’s most delightful plantings. Over the next five years, the plantings will enhance some of our visitor’s favorite attractions, as well as help put the spotlight on some exciting new features. Stay tuned!





EcoTarium Donors

The names listed on the following pages recognize those who, through their generous and thoughtful gifts, have strengthened the EcoTarium in 2015. To each of them, the museum extends its most sincere appreciation.



EXPLORERS

The EcoTarium's Explorers are individuals whose lifetime giving to the museum totals more than \$50,000. We are grateful for their support. Our explorers are honored in the museum's Lower Courtyard.

- Anonymous
- George I. Alden*
- Dr. Robert E. and Rosamond R. Bennett*
- Donald F. Berth
- Howard M. and Barbara A. Booth*
- Penny and George F. Booth II
- Robert W. Booth*
- Mary M. Coes*
- Mary H. Coolidge and Family
- Catherine Colinvaux and Phillip Zamore
- Jeanne Y. Curtis*
- Melvin S. Cutler
- F. Harold and Eleanor G. Daniels*
- Fred H. and Sarah L. Daniels*
- Rosemary Davis*
- Warren A. and Ruth H. Ellsworth*
- Eric Engelsted
- The Eppinger Family
- Allen W. Fletcher
- Paris and Marion S. Fletcher*
- Warner S. and Mary F. Fletcher
- Joan and Richard "Rif" Freedman
- Howard G. and Esther Freeman
- George F. and Sybil H. Fuller*
- Lisa Kirby Gibbs and Peter Gibbs
- Bradley B. Gilman, Jr.
- Michael T. Gorman and Rebecca E. Wetzel
- Richard and Sarah Hardy
- Raymond P. Harold*
- Francis A. Harrington, Jr.
- Francis A. & Jacquelyn H. Harrington*
- James H. Harrington and Mary DiBara
- Phyllis Harrington
- Bradley C. Higgins*
- Harriet P. Hight*
- Dr. Mark and Jane C. Hirsh
- Frances F. and Howard Jacobson
- Raymond and Louise Kalil*
- B. Anthony and Judith S. King
- Kenneth H. Knight*
- Janet K. and Gordon B. Lankton
- Stephen B. and Valerie S. Loring
- Rachel L. Lowe*
- C. Jean and Myles* McDonough
- George A. and Mildred H. McEvoy*
- Mary and Don Melville
- Linda and John* Nelson
- Carleen and John O'Brien
- Dr. Arthur M.* and Dr. Martha R. Pappas

- Lois M. Parker (Estate)
- Stephen and Cynthia Pitcher
- Roger P. and Gloria J. Plourde
- Ann and Richard* Prouty
- Albert W. and Mary G. Rice*
- Ted and Linda Robbins
- Edith Rockwell*
- Lester and Joan Sadowsky
- Robert M. and Shirley S. Siff
- Harry G. and Janett Stoddard*
- Robert W. and Helen E. Stoddard*
- Tony and Martha Tilton
- Mark and Barb Wetzel
- Alice M. Wright*

* Deceased

MEMBERS OF THE 1825 SOCIETY

*(As of December 2015)
The 1825 Society is the EcoTarium's leadership level giving society composed of people with a passion for science and nature whose membership give is \$750 or above.*

President's Circle \$5,000 and above

- Anonymous
- Frederick and Patty Eppinger
- Richard and Sarah Hardy
- Judy and Tony King
- Lisa Kirby Gibbs and Peter Gibbs
- Stephen and Valerie S. Loring
- C. Jean McDonough

Benefactor \$2,500 - \$4,999

- Jack and Susan Bassick
- George F. Booth, II
- Catherine Colinvaux and Phillip Zamore
- Allen W. Fletcher
- Susan M. Foley
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Robbins

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

- Jeffrey J. Arnett and Lene A. Jensen
- Whitney Beals and Pamela Esty
- Rosamond L. Bennett
- H. Paul and Sally Buckingham
- Dorothy Chen-Courtin and Patrick Courtin
- Mel Cutler
- Mr. and Mrs. Warner S. Fletcher
- Richard and Joan Freedman
- Mark and Jan Fuller
- Dr. Abraham and Linda Haddad
- Christina T. Hobbs
- Gayle Holland
- Robert and Patricia Laut
- Joan Loos
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lotuff
- Bob and Debbie Macomber
- Mr. and Mrs. David P. McManus
- Martha and Arthur* Pappas, M.D.

- Marlene and David Persky
- Stephen and Cynthia Pitcher
- Mr. and Mrs. Roger P. Plourde
- Phyllis Pollack and Peter Metz
- Raymond L. Quinlan and Jane B. Morgan
- William and Diane H. Robbins
- Joan and Lester Sadowsky
- Robert M. and Shirley S. Siff
- Martha A. and Sumner B. Tilton, Jr.
- The Tonna Foundation
- Meridith D. Wesby
- Mark and Barb Wetzel
- Susan and David Woodbury

Sponsor \$750 - \$999

- Thomas J. and Lynora S. Bartholomew
- Mr. and Mrs. Todd E. Brodeur
- Bill and Teri Cavanagh
- Mary H. Coolidge
- Al Cotton
- Joseph P. Cox
- Mr. and Mrs. David F. Dalton
- Jeffery L. and Tracy C. Dill
- Mr. Andrew Freedman and Dr. Paula Bellin
- Dr. Wayne B. and Laura Glazier
- Michael Gorman and Rebecca Wetzel
- Tim and Cynthia Gray
- Ivan and Noreen Green
- Dr. Jerry Gurwitz and Dr. Leslie Fish
- Dr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Halpin
- Joy and Ralph Hall
- Janet Marie and Peter Ivaska
- Drs. Deborah and John Kochevar
- Betsy Loring
- Michael Madulka
- John and Carol Mannila
- Joseph and Linda McGowan
- Robert and Penny McLaren
- Gail M. Morgan and Bernard Lempicki
- Donald and Margaret Nelson
- William and Ann Rawstron
- Marco Rodrigues
- Patrick and Bonnie Scanlon
- Ashley and Tony Shirley
- Drs. Patricia and Greenfield Sluder
- Tina and William C. Sullivan, Jr.
- Herb and Jean Varnum
- Todd Wetzel
- Dr. Susan M. Nava-Whitehead and Richard G. Whitehead

* Deceased

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Unrestricted gifts (for restricted gifts, please see Designated Support).

\$1,000 - \$9,999

Christina T. Hobbs

\$500 - \$999

Kevin and Carlotta Dixon
Robert and Annette Loring
Kara Murphy
Brian Primeau and Brenda J. Roder

\$250 - \$499

Kay and John Bassett
Sebastian Dill
Joel P. Greene and Ann T. Lisi
David Gully
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Kunkler
Lois C. Meyer
Gail Morgan and Bernie Lempicki
Alexea and Eric Portner
Emily V. Wade

Up to \$250

William and Janice Abdelnour
Joan and Stuart Anderson
Madelyn Anusbikian and Nancy Koutsoukounis
Kathy and Donald Berube
Edward W. Bettke
Dr. Kathleen Bradley and Meaghan Avellaneda
Dr. Matilde Castiel and Dr. Aaron Mendel
Leonard and Juliann Ciuffredo
Patricia Crawford and Gerry Quam
Mr. Frederick G. Crocker, Jr. and Mrs. Catherine H. Hodgson
Laurie and Phil Davis
Glenn C. DeMallie
Martha Densmore
John Doherty, Jr.
Tim and Jennifer Dziczek
Barbara E. Fargo
George and Mary Gerrior
Joyce and Richard Godfrey
Ms. Donna L. Halper and Mr. Jon Jacobik
Janet S. Jones
Alison C. Kenary
Donna and Philip Kittredge
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Lastella
Richard Litchfield
Michael Patrick Lyons
Carolyn and Joe MacLeod
Laura and Doug Marcotte
Paul and Catherine Masterson
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Q. Meystre
Thomas and Amy Michalowski
Dorothy G. Millard
Mr. and Mrs. Erwin H. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Milton
Leonard and Maxine Morse
David and Susan Nicholson
Ms. Pamela J. Osborn and Mr. Harry Der Harootunian
Dave Peterson
Rajin Ranjan
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Robbins
Steven and Jane Rodgers
Johanna Sagarin and Philip Villars

Mark Silverman and Michelle Harrison
Carol and Michael Sleeper
Josephine Stone and Angela Hurd
Ms. Dina Tedeschi and Dr. Jason Campbell
Kathy Tuffs and Gillian Kelly
Dolly Vazquez
Elaine and Steve Vincequere
Charles and Gayle Weiss
Sally and William Williams
Dr. Rebecca Zanconato and Mr. Michael Zanconato

DESIGNATED SUPPORT

Care of the Wildlife

Rosamond R. Bennett Fox Annual Physical Endowment Fund
Myrna Garber
Honorary Owl Guardian EcoTarium Endowment Fund in memory of Florence B. Sterfield

Education and Interactive Exhibits

Kristin and Zach Combs
Joyce and Richard Godfrey
Good Shepherd Ghana Methodist Church
Janet S. Jones
Michael Patrick Lyons
Thomas and Amy Michalowski

Educational Programs and Field Trip Scholarships

Educational programs and professional development at the EcoTarium are organized through the Arthur M. Pappas Center for School Programs and the C. Jean McDonough Center for School Partnerships. Scholarships for field trips are a component of the Special Community Outreach Programs of the EcoTarium (SCOPE).

Booth Family Educational EcoTarium Endowment Fund
Rosemary Davis Memorial Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation
The Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Foundation
Hyde/Dexter-Russell Charitable Foundation
National Geographic Society
Lester and Joan Sadowsky Scholarship EcoTarium Endowment Fund
Unum
Mark and Barbara Wetzel Scholarship Fund
Women's Initiative of United Way of Central Massachusetts
Worcester Educational Development Foundation, Inc.

Summer Discovery Camp Scholarships

Dr. Leslie Fish and Dr. Jerry Gurwitz
The George F. & Sybil H. Fuller Foundation
Harriet P. Hight Camp Scholarship
EcoTarium Endowment Fund
Hoche-Scofield Foundation

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Honor of Janet and Peter Ivaska
Myrna Garber
Staff members of the EcoTarium

In Honor of Madison Gilberti
Linda Gilberti

In Honor of Meg Stone
Rose Seay

In Honor of Frances Wood
Isabel Romero

In Memory of John Meyer
Tracy C. Dill
Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Kilroy
Lois C. Meyer

GIFTS FROM CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND AGENCIES

\$100,000 and above

George I. Alden Trust
The Fred Harris Daniels Foundation
The Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Foundation
The Fletcher Foundation
The George F. & Sybil H. Fuller Foundation
The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation
C. Jean and Myles McDonough Charitable Foundation
Arthur M. and Martha R. Pappas Foundation
The Stoddard Charitable Trust

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Commerce Bank and Trust
The Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation
Saint-Gobain
The Nathaniel Wheeler Trust

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Greater Worcester Community Foundation
Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Rosemary Davis Memorial Fund
Highland Street Foundation
Hyde/Dexter-Russell Charitable Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Unum
Worcester Educational Development Foundation, Inc.





EcoTarium Donors continued

GIFTS FROM CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND AGENCIES continued

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mary M. Coes Charitable Trust
J. Irving England and Jane L. England Charitable Trust
Fletcher Tilton PC
FLEXcon
Judy and Tony King Foundation
UniBank
Webster Five Cents Savings Bank
Worcester Bravehearts
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Arnold Worldwide LLC
Bank of America
Bay State Savings Bank
Builder Systems, Inc.
DCU Digital Federal Credit Union
Hoche-Scofield Foundation
William F. Lynch Co., Inc.
National Geographic Society
Women's Initiative, United Way of Central Massachusetts

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Alexander, Aronson, Finning CPAs
Clif Bar & Company
Coghlin Electrical Contractors, Inc.
Cognizant
Consigli Construction Co., Inc.
Melvin S. Cutler Charitable Foundation
DCU For Kids
Fiduciary Investment Advisors, LLC
Good Shepherd Ghana Methodist Church
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation
Next Step Living, Inc.
NTT Data, Inc.
PEACE Fund of GWCF
Joseph Persky Foundation
The Plourde Family Charitable Trust
Polar Beverages
Reliant Medical Group
Siff Charitable Foundation – Robert M. and Shirley S. Siff, Trustees
Sullivan Group
Tonna Charitable Trust
Hester N. Wetherell Trust
Worcester Garden Club
Wyman Gordon Foundation

Up to \$1,000

Elkanah B. Atkinson Community and Education Fund of GWCF
Biogen
Christos and Mary T. Cocaine Charitable Trust
David R. and Rosalie A. Grenon Fund of GWCF
HRP Associates
International Ceramic Engineering

Mercier Electric Company, Inc.
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC
Paine Charitable Trust U/A Wagner Motor Sales
Worcester Business Development Corporation
Worcester Public Library Foundation

Corporate Members

AbbVie
Bose Corporation
Commerce Bank and Trust
Curtis Industries, LLC
The Hanover Insurance Group
The Mathworks, Inc.
Nypro, Inc.
Struck Catering
Unum
Worcester Telegram & Gazette

Matching Gift Companies

Bank of America
Biogen
The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc.
IBM
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC
National Grid
Unum

IN-KIND DONORS 2015

20th Century Fox
Nancy Ahrabi-Nejad
Christine Aldreman
Baystate Parent
Bigelow Nurseries, Inc.
Bollus Lynch LLP
Buttonwood Park Zoo
Joseph Cox
Creedon and Company, Inc.
Peter Dowd
Erb Photography
FLEXcon
Susan M. Foley
Peter Ford
Larry Giffie
Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects
GMS Automotive, Inc.
George and Sandra Hawrylchak
Home Depot
Jim and Lisa Imbody
Donna and Philip Kittredge
Kong Company
Janice and Henry LaBelle
The Mathworks, Inc.
Bill Metropolis
Miles Press, Inc.
Charlotte Oswald
Laurel Ramseyer
Bradley Smith
Starbucks Coffee Company
Wegmans Food Markets Inc.
Worcester Bravehearts
Worcester County Sheriff's Community Service Program
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
Worcester Tree Initiative
WSRS Radio/iHeart Media

A Night at the Museum The EcoTarium's signature fundraising event held on the evening of May 16, 2015. Proceeds were used to support educational programs at the EcoTarium. We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who sponsored, donated, bid and volunteered many hours to make it a success. Full list of supporters is at ecotarium.org.

If your name has been inadvertently omitted or is incorrect, please accept our apologies and contact Tracy Dill, Manager of Major Gifts at tdill@ecotarium.org or call 508.929.2715.

Volunteer Highlights

The EcoTarium's volunteers are extraordinary. Their dedication to the museum, willingness to meet a challenge, and seemingly endless energy has been invaluable in helping us achieve more than we ever could alone. They work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything works smoothly on the museum floor, and they are the many hands that make light work during large events.

- Together in 2015, 186 individuals contributed a total of 14,961 hours of service. Thank you!
- Together, our corporate and organizational volunteers provided 823 hours of service. Thanks to: ARC of Opportunity, RSVP Bancroft School, Becker College, Clark University, The Hanover Insurance Group Inc., UPS, North High School, Worcester County Sherriff's Department, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, You, Inc., United Way of Central Massachusetts, and Starbucks.

Meeting Our Strategic Objectives:

Objectives: Attract, invest in and retain excellent staff, board and volunteers



EcoTarium Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, June 25, 2015



EcoTarium Leadership

Joseph Cox
Patricia Crawford
Betsy Loring

President
Deputy Director
Director of Exhibits

Special thanks to Michael Gorman of Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects who took on the role of Interim Director of Facilities during 2015.

EcoTarium Staff As of May 19, 2016

Mariselly Alvarez
Kate Banyas
Alyssa Barton
Robert Benedict
Don Biehl
Johanna Black
Charlotte Brewer
Danielle Cadarette
Christina Chappel
Pam Choinski
RJ Connors
Anna Crocker
Dianne Davis

Tracy Dill
Caitlin Dinallo
Mary Domenichelli
Ashley Dupre
Linda Fitzgibbons
Kathyrn Gillespie
Richard Godfrey
Dennis Grammont
Anne Harris
Shana Hawrylchak
Kathy Kennedy
Philip Kittredge
Jesse Kovacs

Charlene Leith-Bushey
Teri Lynes
Casey McCabe
David McDonald
Michael Mitzcavitch
Gene Peterson
Stacey Price
Alice Promisel
Kelsey Reed
Don Ricklin
Thomas Runstrom
Shantel Rutherford
Molly Scannell

Helen Shore
Meg Stone
Stefano Trafecante
Amber Visser
Emma Westling
Tatumn White
James Whitman
Kathy Wolchesky
Cecilia Wright
Eric Zago



Thank you to the EcoTarium's hardworking and creative staff!



EcoTarium Governing Body 2015 – 2016

As of June 9, 2015

Officers of the Board of Trustees

Raymond L. Quinlan
Chair

Timothy Gray
Vice Chair

David P. McManus
Treasurer

Dr. Susan Nava-Whitehead
Clerk / Secretary

Trustees

Whitney Beals
John D. Bennett
Todd E. Brodeur, Esq.
William C. Cavanagh
Dorothy Chen-Courtin
Patricia Z. Eppinger
Allen W. Fletcher
Susan M. Foley
Gayle Holland
Patricia Lotuff
Robert C. Macomber
John E. Mannila
Robert H. McLaren
Michael V. O'Brien
Sherri Greene Pitcher
Marco C. Rodrigues
Bonnie Scanlon
Dr. Greenfield Sluder

Honorary Trustees

Donald F. Berth
George F. Booth, II
Paul E. Cohan
Mary H. Coolidge
Joan L. Freedman
Howard G. Freeman
Mark W. Fuller
Richard B. Hardy
James H. Harrington
Dr. Mark Hirsh
Janet S. Jones
Paul S. Kennedy
William C. Kunkler
Janet K. Lankton
Stephen B. Loring
C. Jean McDonough
Dr. Ogretta V. McNeil
Mary H. Melville
Erwin H. Miller, Esq.
Dr. Arthur M. Pappas*
Robert M. Siff
Dr. Shirley S. Siff
Sumner B. Tilton, Jr., Esq.

Corporators

Leonard T. Anctil
Frances E. Arena
Jeffrey J. Arnett
Dexter A. Bailey, Jr.
Thomas J. Bartholomew
Kay E. Bassett
John E. Bassick
Paul Belsito
Rosamond L. Bennett
Carolyn E. Berglund
Kathy Berube
Christienne K. Bik
Michael Bollus
George F. Booth, II
Ramon Borges-Mendez, Ph.D.
Carolyn E. Carpenter, CPA
Deborah Cary
Dr. Matilde Castiel
Ronald H. Chand
Catherine M. Colinvaux
J. Christopher Collins
David Connell
Mary H. Coolidge
Alfred J. Cotton
Frederick G. Crocker, Jr.
David F. Dalton
Mary C. DeFeudis
Jeffrey L. Donaldson, Esq.
James S. Dymek
David B. Everitt
Dr. Leslie Fish
Warner S. Fletcher, Esq.
John L. Foley
Joan L. Freedman
Mark W. Fuller
Jeffrey Glick
David R. Grenon
Dr. Abraham W. Haddad
Thomas F. Halpin, III
Sheila M. Harrity
Dean J. Hickey
Janine Hughes Goldberg
Frances F. Jacobson
Michelle Jones-Johnson
Alison C. Kenary
Janice H. Kervick
Jean King, Ph.D.
Lisa Kirby Gibbs
Dr. Deborah Kochevar
Heather N. Kurtz
Robert Lachance
Robert J. Laut
Thuha Le
Christine Levenson
Timothy Loew

Robert S. Loring
Jennifer Luisa
Dr. Thomas J. Lynch, III
Michael T. Madulka
Heather Maykel
Lisa Hill McDonough
Kate McEvoy-Zdonczyk
Joseph J. McGowan, Jr.
David S. Milton
Gail M. Morgan
Erin M. Motameni
Christine M. Murray
Dr. Donald F. Nelson
Randi S. Nichols
David A. Nicholson
Beth O'Brien
Joseph O'Brien
Andrew B. O'Donnell
Dr. Christopher Palatucci
Stephen M. Pitcher
Edward Plotkin
Roger Plourde, Jr.
Dr. Phyllis Pollack
Seth Popinchalk
Sheela Pradhan
Jean Publicover
Hilda Ramirez
William W. Rawstron
Diane H. Robbins
Edward J. Robbins
Joan Sadowsky
Kimberly M. Salmon
Matt Salmon
Jane Siebels
William C. Sullivan, Jr.
Polly A. Tatum, Esq.
Tamisha S. Thompson
Dr. Stephen E. Tosij
Dr. Florina S. Tseng
Michael P. Tsotsis
Maureen Umphrey
Carmen D. Vazquez
Mark W. Wagner
Charles Weiss
Meridith D. Wesby
Mark R. Wetzel
Todd H. Wetzel
Susan B. Woodbury
Phillip D. Zamore
Kelsa Zereski

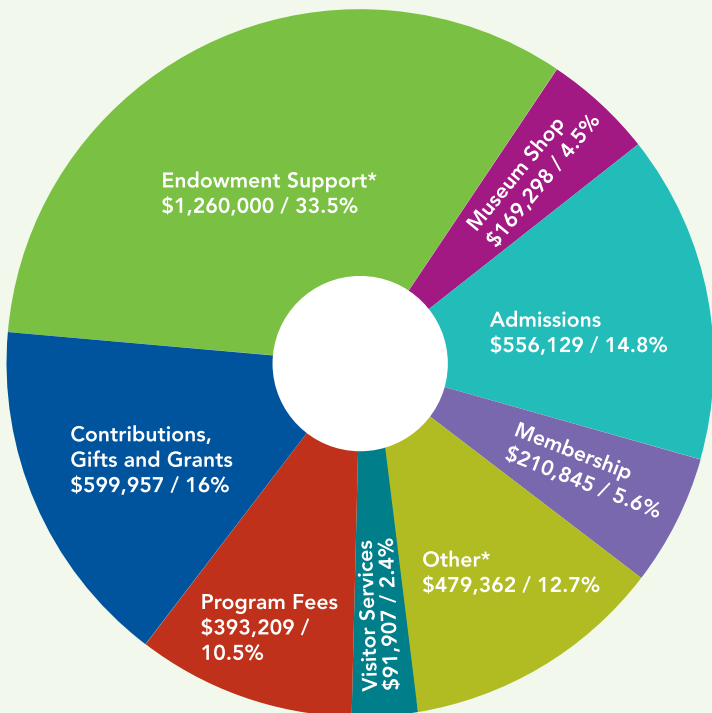
* Deceased





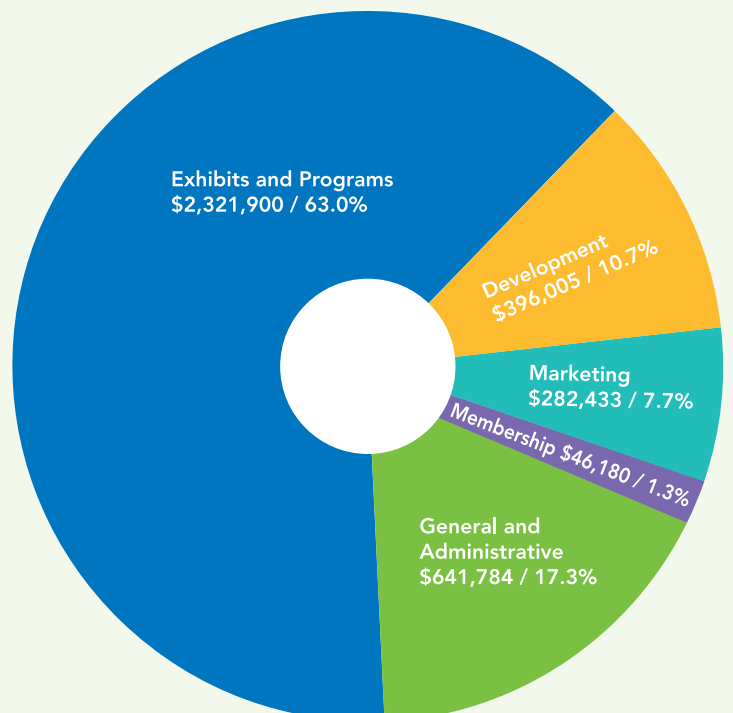
2015 FINANCIAL RESULTS

INCOME



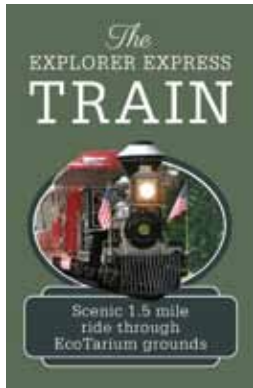
Total \$3,760,707

EXPENSES



Total \$3,688,302**

EcoTeasers: Here's What's Coming Up in 2016!



Thrill to the reopening of everyone's favorite **Explorer Express Train** narrow-gauge railway as it happily chugs around on its brand new track system.



Hosted in collaboration with the Worcester Public Schools, our third annual **Countdown to Kindergarten** celebration for children about to begin their WPS academic career will take place on August 23. This program was funded in part by a grant from Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Summer Discovery Camp

Register your kids for a summer of fun for the start of the **EcoTarium 2016 Summer Discovery Camp**, opening July 4.



Wow to POW! WOW! Worcester, as the EcoTarium partners with **Action! Worcester** on this internationally renowned street-art festival, running August 26 – September 4.



Thanks again to the Highland Street Foundation for helping us host our seventh annual **Free Fun Friday** on August 19.



See life from a turtle's perspective when the **Turtle Travels** exhibit opens on September 18.



Enjoy child-free fun with our new **Social Science Series** after-hours events, along with music, local food, a cash bar and great conversation - every third Thursday from June through December.



Get your Halloween costumes out in time to celebrate the EcoTarium's **13th annual Great Pumpkin Fest** on October 22.



Remember all the ways you used to get in trouble at school (and accidentally learn something) at our summer exhibit **KLUTZ® Amazingly Immature** opening on May 17.



It wouldn't be the end of the year without our special **Holiday Vacation Week** programming and **Noon Year's Eve** end of year celebration on December 31.



Third Century Plan: Phase Two

With a fundraising goal of \$9.1 million, and plans to complete two of the largest and most exciting exhibits we have ever created, Third Century Plan marks a new era in the EcoTarium's nearly two-hundred year history. With heartfelt thanks to the generous foundations, individuals, corporations and organizations who provided the foundation of support during the campaign's silent phase, we are proud to announce that as of this Annual Report going to press, the EcoTarium has raised over \$7.2 million toward our goal.



In addition to the upcoming indoor exhibit, *City Science*, and the outdoor exhibit, *Wild Cat Station* (details to come in 2017), the plan also includes two recently completed projects; connection of the EcoTarium to the electrical grid and the upgrade of one of our most popular exhibits: the Explorer Express Train.

In February 2015, the EcoTarium's co-generation power plant failed beyond recovery. The museum remained closed for three weeks while temporary power was established. Staff and contractors worked diligently over the coming months to implement the long-planned grid connection project and, on June 9, 2015 at 6:52 a.m. precisely, the EcoTarium launched into a new era of energy efficiency when work to connect the museum to the electrical grid was completed.



Leading the Way

Jean McDonough, The Myles and C. Jean McDonough Foundation

Recognized at the EcoTarium's 1825 Reception on September 29, 2015 for her outstanding gift of \$2 million to the EcoTarium's Third Century Campaign, C. Jean McDonough is one of Worcester's most generous and thoughtful philanthropists. Along with her late husband Myles, the founder of manufacturer FLEXcon, she is also distinguished for having served many years on the EcoTarium's Board of Trustees. She most recently accepted the position of Honorary Co-Chair of the Third Century Plan Campaign: Phase Two.



The Late Dr. Arthur M. Pappas, and Dr. Martha R. Pappas

Friends of the museum for more than 40 years and outstanding members of the larger community, there are few words that can describe the great heart and the many accolades of the late Dr. Arthur M. Pappas and the continuing thoughtful kindness of Dr. Martha R. Pappas. Their recent gift to the Campaign of \$500,000, made through the Arthur M. and Martha Pappas Foundation, is only equaled by the legacy of the many thousands of people their considerate support has touched over the years.



The EcoTarium's many educational programs are organized through the Arthur M. Pappas Center for School Programs. *To find out how you can contribute and help us continue our near 200-year adventure, please visit ecotarium.org or call Stacey Price, Capital Campaign Coordinator at 508.929.2735.*

City Science

Coming soon to the middle level of the museum is the EcoTarium's most innovative exhibit yet: *City Science*. With 2,500 square feet of hands-on interactive fun, *City Science* will provide an immersive exploration of the science we encounter in the city every day, but rarely stop to consider.

City Science offered our Exhibits Team the opportunity to engage our visitors and the broader community in the exhibit development process. From brainstorming exhibit themes, to testing the many dozen iterations of each exhibit interactive, visitors and targeted community stakeholders helped us shape the exhibit's seven themes and 27 interactives. Here's a taste of what you'll be able to do and discover in *City Science*:

- 🔍 Search a 60-foot-long Worcester cityscape for the science and engineering stories behind some of our beloved city buildings.
- 🐾 Practice animal identification skills with infrared photos taken of the dozens of wild animals that roam the EcoTarium grounds at night.
- 🏡 Make your ideal neighborhood and contribute your thoughts to urban planning research.
- 🐦 Brush up on bird-watching skills and learn how you can join the ranks of "citizen scientists."
- 🏗️ Construct a bridge over a lake and over a canyon – different engineering jobs need different decisions.
- ☀️ Build a city, turn on the sun, and use infrared technology to see which parts of your city absorb the most heat and then test whether you can redesign to keep your city cool.
- 🐢 Take a turtle's eye view on building a neighborhood; see if you can place houses in a way to build a turtle-friendly neighborhood that lets turtles travel between the habitats safely.

Research

We continue to partner with UMASS Amherst, Clark University in Worcester, and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles on the National Science Foundation (NSF) project *From the Lab to the Neighborhood* as part of our upcoming *City Science* exhibit. Not only will this collaborative project result in some very cool hands-on interactives, but it will also allow museum visitors to engage in ongoing research and make our urban neighborhoods a better place to live!



City Science and *From the Lab to the Neighborhood* were featured in the *Informal Learning Review* (July/August 2015), a leading publication in the museum field.

Meeting Our Strategic Objectives:

Increase visibility and value as a resource through dissemination to the field and our community



Opening December 2016





science.nature.explore.connect.®

222 Harrington Way | Worcester, MA 01604

508.929.2700 ecotarium.org   

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID




Our Mission

To inspire a passion for science and nature

Our Vision

To be a national leader in engaging communities with science and nature