Dear Friends,

Each year we craft our Annual Report to highlight the progress made as we grow the EcoTarium to be the most interactive and fun place to learn in the region and beyond. This year our Annual Report is a little different. We have a second story to tell.

Last year was spectacular, with the EcoTarium breaking records and reaching new heights as we inspired a passion for science and nature to a rapidly growing audience. In our 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan we had set ourselves a goal of “transformation through collaboration,” building on the museum’s identity as a community resource to foster an even broader array of partners across industries, organizations, and our community. While not a new approach for this near 200 year old institution, the concerted focus we brought to understanding who we are and what we can offer to the region most certainly was. After only one year, this strategy has resulted in some major achievements and notable awards.

But success is just one half of 2016’s story.

The EcoTarium, like so many of our cultural partners across the state, the country and the world, provides far more than a fun day out. We provide opportunities to learn, to engage, to reflect, and to grow our economy. At the EcoTarium those opportunities can range from understanding how the urban environment affects human health (and how getting involved in local government can make a positive impact), to how math works in the real world (and how helping a middle school girl to stick with it can change her life around). You might learn what fluctuations in wildlife species over the last 100 years tells us about climate change, or what you can do to ensure that more species don’t disappear. The opportunities are boundless.

We make it fun to make it memorable. We make it relevant to your world to help make the world a better place for us all. So the second part of our story is about impact.

Two stories – two covers! Flip to the other side of this Annual Report to see the Impact Report.

And thank you for your support – it is more important than ever!

Sincerely,

Joe Cox, President
Ray Quinlan, Chair – Board of Trustees
The EcoTarium: 2016 by the Numbers

**IMPACT: Supporting Our Children’s STEM Education**
29,328 visited as part of an educational group, including 2,592 who visited for free through grant funding.

**IMPACT: Investing in our Community**
More than $650,000 in local and state government revenues were generated from the EcoTarium’s presence in the community through granted funds.

**MUSEUM FACT:**
As of 2016, the EcoTarium is 191 years old! Only 9 years away from our 200th anniversary.

The second oldest natural history society in the country!

**IMPACT: Boosting Economic Impact**
The EcoTarium spent over $3.7 million directly, and generated an additional $3.4 million of indirect spending by visitors, bringing an estimated total of $7.1 million in economic impact to the region.

"This place is so worth the 50 minute drive for us!! The train is a huge plus. Three floors of enormous amounts of educational fun!"

~ Guest quote

**IMPACT: Community Anchor Institution**
It’s a record!
Annual visitation rose to 167,461 (our highest visitation ever!)

"I bring my grandchildren to the EcoTarium often. We always have a great time. We have a membership which is an awesome deal."

~ Guest quote

**IMPACT: Increasing Regional Tourism**
Five seasonal events brought close to 14,000 visitors and tourists to the area throughout the year: Earth Day, Free Fun Friday, Great Pumpkin Fest, A Christmas Journey, and Noon Year’s Eve.

"I’ve been multiple times over the past year and each time is great. I love how they switch up exhibits and there’s always something new to explore."

~ Guest quote

**MUSEUM FACT:**
there are approximately 55,000 items in our natural history collections

The EcoTarium served students from 566 schools across the region.

**IMPACT: Employing Residents**
The EcoTarium, both directly and through its expenditures, supported the equivalent of 233 full-time jobs in our community.

**MUSEUM FACT:**
The EcoTarium’s Facebook Followers grew to 14,812 – up by 23% over last year (and climbing!)

* Source: americansforhearts.org

"Fabulous place. Perfect for all ages. Great educational fun. You could spend all day there."

~ Guest quote
New! Our Largest and Most Collaboratively Produced Exhibit Ever!

City Science: The Science You Live is an extraordinary look at the hidden science behind urban environments – in Worcester and across the globe. The most collaborative exhibit we have ever developed, it also has the most potential to change how we live in our urban communities.

What’s so cool about urban science? Urban areas are delicately balanced ecosystems where the slightest changes can dramatically affect – for better or worse – the well-being of those who coexist there: humans, wildlife, and plants!

The EcoTarium is one of only a few museums to explore urban ecology and the only one to study* whether science museums can help increase visitor understanding about the biodiversity of cities.

* Part of a National Science Foundation project

IMPACT: Community Investor

The EcoTarium’s Third Century Plan: Phase Two has already invested over $5 million in the community, hiring local and regional companies and experts to build new exhibits, maintain the campus, and add to the EcoTarium experience. City Science is one of four capital projects made possible by The Third Century Plan Campaign.

There were 120 community partners – individuals and organizations – who helped make City Science happen.

City Science is a 2,500 sq. ft. exhibit – our largest ever!

“...the City Science exhibit is awesome! As a municipal engineer, I loved it. The display hits so many municipal engineering topics in a way that both kids & adults could appreciate. My little munchkin and I especially had fun crawling into the manhole.” ~ Guest quote

 Did you know? 92% of people in Massachusetts live in urban areas (compared to 54% across the world)

There are 27 interactive components in City Science

City Science’s resident wildlife includes 3 rats, 2 wood turtles, and lots and lots of ants

“City Science exhibit is great! It covers all ages; they don’t even know they are learning.” ~ Guest quote

City Science was developed as part of a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded research project conducted by University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Clark University; and Loyola Marymount University.

“...The EcoTarium is a fantastic community resource and this new exhibit highlights the science people encounter in their everyday lives. Science is happening all around us every day and we take it for granted. This exhibit draws our attention to it.” ~ Guest quote
Exhibit and Planetarium Update: Seen in 2016

The Explorer Express Train

On May 28 we officially welcomed back the Explorer Express Train after a two-year project to replace the 40 year old tracks.

We laid 1.5 miles of track, including 2,500 railway ties, and more than 10,000 spikes.

Over 40,000 visitors have ridden the train since it re-opened!

Engine 308 is a 2/5ths replica of the 1863 Huntington, a 4-2-4T steam locomotive.
Free Fun Friday August 19  It’s a Record!
Our largest single attendance day: 6,409

“We are thrilled when cultural partners such as the EcoTarium bring in new audiences and enjoy record breaking numbers during their Free Fun Friday events.”
~ Highland Street Foundation
EcoTarium Membership: A Great Deal on a Great Deal!

EcoTarium Members enjoy a great deal: special benefits, discounts, and more. With so many membership options, a visit to Central Massachusetts’ favorite museum of science and nature is an affordable day out for the whole family! Buying a membership really is a great deal!

There’s a perfect EcoTarium Membership for everyone!

**Individual** Great for the solo explorer.

**Dual** Families of two can’t get enough of this one!

**Family / Grandparent** Just the right size for families of up to six.

**Family / Grandparent Plus** For when you want to bring a couple of extra guests (any age!) along with your family of up to six.

**Adventurer** As well as all the benefits of the Plus level, families get eight Explorer Express Train passes and access to the ACM Reciprocal Network – that’s 50% off general admission for up to six people at 200 ACM member children’s museums.

In June our EcoTarium members enjoyed 5,620 free rides on our Explorer Express Train as a thank you for their patience while we got this favorite attraction back on track!

Other 2016 member discount opportunities and special events included: Member’s Weekend, Summer Discovery Camp, A Christmas Journey, Great Pumpkin Fest, Social Science, Birthday Parties, and Noon Year’s Eve.

And don’t forget some of our favorite benefits: when you purchase a membership at the EcoTarium not only can you visit as many times as you want for free during general admission days, but you also enjoy free or reduced admission at more than 350 ASTC Passport Program science and technology centers and museums around the world!

Impact: EcoTarium Volunteers

It’s a fact: for every full- and part-time EcoTarium employee, there were 4 individual volunteers who gave their time and energy to ensure the museum continues to be a great place to visit every day. We couldn’t do it without them!

In 2016 our 238 dedicated individual volunteers contributed 16,842 hours of service, valued at $406,566.*

Together, our corporate and organizational volunteers provided 1,500 hours of service.

Thanks!


2016 Corporate and Organizational Volunteers

Notre Dame Academy • AudioJournal • Hanover Insurance
• Intel • Liberty Mutual • North High School • North High School ROTC • Worcester County Sheriff’s Department
• Starbucks-Hopkinton • United Way Summer Youth Program
• United Way Day of Caring • The Arc of Opportunity • UPS
• RSVP • Worcester Academy • Worcester Tree Initiative
• Worcester Polytechnic Institute – Panhellenic Council
• Worcester Polytechnic Institute – Residential Services
Community Highlights: A Banner Year!

5th Annual A Night at the Museum Fundraiser: May 14th was a glorious night, with more than $140,000 raised in support of our educational programs and wildlife.

February 21: 1825 Society enjoys a special presentation of the new National Geographic show “Asteroid: Mission Extreme.”

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) made its largest grant to the EcoTarium to date in May 2016 when it awarded $300,000 to finalize work on connecting the EcoTarium to the electrical grid following decommissioning of the power plant.

Provided through a grant from the Cultural Facilities Fund and MassDevelopment, the monies helped purchase and install cooling equipment and an impressive emergency stand-by generator.

Previous grants allowed the EcoTarium to conduct a feasibility study prior to beginning the work of electrical grid connection and a 2013 capital grant of $244,290 that allowed the electrical connection to be brought onto the campus.

We remain indebted to the Massachusetts Cultural Council for its continuing support of the EcoTarium and cultural organizations across the state.

2016 Financial Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Support</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>689,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>238,917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program fees</td>
<td>412,686</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visitor Services</td>
<td>180,443</td>
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<tr>
<td>Store</td>
<td>191,343</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions, Gifts and Grants</td>
<td>722,362</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>787,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising and Community Events</td>
<td>308,790</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,531,096</strong></td>
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Operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development</td>
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<td>Marketing</td>
<td>236,881</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>676,682</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>183,021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibits and Collections</td>
<td>1,314,850</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Services</td>
<td>627,171</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>64,487</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildlife</td>
<td>565,856</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,847,463</strong></td>
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</table>

Change in Net Assets from Non-operating activities: $1,316,312

Total change in net assets for 2016: $(55)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>Exhibit: Did Dinosaurs Poop?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>National Geographic Film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flying Monsters with Sir David Attenborough</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>International Mud Day: Play Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Free Fun Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3 – August 11</td>
<td>Summer Discovery Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13 &amp; 27, August 10 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Nature Explore: LIVE!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22 &amp; August 1</td>
<td>Wizarding Science Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>Solar Science Celebration: Eclipse 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>Countdown to Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A celebration for Worcester Public School’s incoming kindergarteners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Half-Price September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 19-22, 26-29</td>
<td>Great Pumpkin Nights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2-3, 9-10</td>
<td>A Christmas Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 31</td>
<td>Noon Year’s Eve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27, 2018</td>
<td>Exhibit: Science + You</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**EcoTarium Governing Body 2016 – 2017**

As of June 21, 2016

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  - Vice Chair
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- Mark R. Wetzel
- Todd H. Wetzel
- Erin Williams
- Susan B. Woodbury
- Phillip D. Zamore
- Kelsa Zereski

* Deceased

**Awards and Accolades**
- Worcester Magazine: Best Place to Take the Kids (for the 7th time!)
- Cool Mom Picks (blog): Named the EcoTarium one of “Seven of the best science museums for kids”
- President Joe Cox presented with the “Key to the City” by Worcester Mayor for his work with cultural organizations
- President Joe Cox awarded with the New England Museum Award (NEMA) Excellence Award
- Our staff presented at six conferences and professional meetings across the country
- Our staff also worked on four community-focused committees including for Discover Central Mass; POW! WOW! Worcester; the Worcester Women's Leadership Conference; and the Worcester Cultural Coalition
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
Robert W. Booth*
Howard M. and Barbara A. Booth*
Penny and George F. Booth, II
Mary M. Coes*
Catherine Calinvaux and Phillip Zamore
Mary H. Coolidge and Family
Jeanne Y. Curtis*
Melvin S. Cutler
F. Harold and Eleanor G. Daniels*
Fred H. Harold and Sarah L. Daniels*
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Susan M. Foley
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Michael T. Gorman and
Rebecca E. Wetzel
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Rachel L. Lowe*
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Mary and Don* Melville
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Albert W. and Mary G. Rice*
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Lester and Joan Sadowsky
Robert M. Siff & Shirley S. Siff
Harry G. and Janett W. Stoddard*
Robert W. and Helen E. Stoddard*
Tony and Martha Tilton
Mark and Barb Wetzel
Alice M. Wright*

MEMBERS OF THE 1825 SOCIETY
(As of December 2016)
The 1825 Society is the EcoTarium’s leadership level giving society composed of people with a passion for science and nature whose membership gift is $750 or above.

Anonymous
Frederick and Patty Eppinger
Richard and Sarah Hardy
Judy and Tony* King
Stephen and Valerie S. Loring
Jean McDonough

Benefactor $2,500 – $4,999
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Marco and Donna Rodrigues
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Herb and Jean Varnum
*Deceased

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Arthur M. and Martha R. Pappas
The Stoddard Charitable Trust

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$10,000 - $49,999
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Commerce Bank and Trust
The Fred Harris Daniels Foundation, Inc.
The Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth
Foundation
Executive Service Corp.
Greater Worcester Community
Foundation
Greater Worcester Community
Foundation, Rosemary Davis
Memorial Fund
Sarah and Richard Hardy
Highland Street Foundation
Hoche-Solfeld Foundation
Stephen and Valerie Loring
The Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation
William J. McKee, Jr.
Charitable Foundation
Polar Beverages
Saint-Gobain
The Nathaniel Wheeler Trust,
Bank of America
Worcester Educational
Development Foundation, Inc.
Yawkey Foundations

$5,000 – $9,999
All Cloud Network, LLC
Association of Science-Technology
Centers, Inc.
Susan M. Foley
Mr. Michael T. Gorman and
Ms. Rebecca E. Wetzel
Harvard Pilgrim Health
Care Foundation
Diane and Bill Robbins
Rockwell Foundation
UnBank
Mark and Barb Wetzel
Planned giving at the EcoTarium: Your invitation to make lasting memories that make a difference

The EcoTarium was built on the inspired passion of generations of families who care about science, nature, and the cultural heritage of our region. Explore your options for making your lasting impression on future generations by contacting Kerry Castorano, Director of Institutional Advancement, at kcastorano@ecotarium.org or call 508.929.2716.
EcoTarium Leadership

As of June 2017

Joseph Cox
President

Patricia Crawford
Deputy Director

Kerry Castorano
Director of Institutional Advancement

Betsy Loring
Director of Exhibits

Jerry Taylor
Director of Facilities

EcoTarium Staff

As of June 2017

JoAnn Adams

Kate Banyas

Alyssa Barton

Robert Benedict

Donald Biehl

Johanna Black

Charlotte Brewer

Rebecca Bylaska-Davies

Danielle Cadarette

Christina Chappell

Pamela Choinski

Richard Connors

Anna Crocker

Dianne Davis

Tracy Dill

Ashley Dupre

Linda Fitzgibbons

Kathryn Gillespie

Richard Godfrey

Dennis Grammont

Santos Gutierrez-Chingo

Shana Hawrylchak

Misti Hull

Kathleen Kennedy

Philip Kittredge

Jesse Kovacs

Charlene Leith-Bushey

Dianna List

Teri Lynes

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Michael Mitzcavitch

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Thomas Runstrom

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Helen Shore

Becca Siladi

Ashley Stevens

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Amber Visser

James Whitman

Samantha Wilber

Kathleen Wolchesky

Cecilia Wright

Eric Zago

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

ANNUAL REPORT FLIPS HERE. TURN TO READ IMPACT REPORT.

IT'S A RECORD!
Impact: Education Partner
Teaching Our Future Leaders

Understanding the importance of science and nature, how they impact every aspect of our lives, is valuable for people of all ages. Here in Massachusetts, it’s particularly important for our workforce as the number of high-tech, medical, and green energy companies continues to grow. The EcoTarium is invested in partnering with our schools, colleges, and other educational organizations to ensure that future generations are ready to participate in this new world.

Starting them young! The EcoTarium partners with Worcester Public Schools and Worcester Head Start to host Countdown to Kindergarten, a celebration of the start of a child’s academic career with over 1,200 attendees. Supported by Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Through a Creativity Grant funded by the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) and Disney, the EcoTarium’s Education Department were able to use Visual Thinking Strategies to help build confidence and empower children to participate in science discussions. The teaching technique is particularly helpful to English language learners.

With 15 traveling and onsite education programs to choose from, as well as 7 world-class theater presentations, and 3 live, interactive presentations in our Alden Digital Planetarium: A National Geographic Theater, there are a wealth of choices for schools and groups. Check the EcoTarium’s website for information on our Field Trips and Traveling Education Programs.

1,268 teachers showed their educator ID’s and received free admission to the EcoTarium – a great help with field trip and lesson planning!

Real Math Real Science 2016-2017, a STEM-focused free experiential program provided to all 1,633 Worcester Public Schools 6th graders, got students up close and personal with science in the field. Supported by The George I. Alden Trust and the Stoddard Charitable Trust through Worcester Educational Development Foundation (WEDF), The MathWorks, Inc., The Schwartz Charitable Foundation, and the Yawkey Foundations.

To make a donation in support of the EcoTarium’s educational efforts, please visit our website at ecotarium.org. And thank you!
Impact: Summer Discovery Camp
Inspiring Kids since 1885

The earliest known museum summer camp was run by the EcoTarium back in 1885 on the shores of Lake Quinsigamond.

The camp began through a gift of $5,000 (worth about $135,000 today) by then Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) President Homer T. Fuller who wanted to encourage children to enjoy science and nature so they would later attend WPI! Today, WPI is a University Member of the EcoTarium.

At the EcoTarium’s Summer Discovery Camp, kids spend their days investigating, making new discoveries and having fun adventures.
Impact: Using Fun to Inspire a Passion for Science and Nature

Our visitors enrolled at the EcoTarium School of Science-craft and Magical Inquiry as December school vacation week explored Science for Wizards.

The Oddball Olympics were hosted on June 18 to celebrate the opening of the exhibit KLUTZ® Amazingly Immature. It was the national touring premiere! Anyone for any competitive silliness?

Impact: Strengthening Worcester’s Draw as a Creative City
August 26 through September 3 saw POW! WOW! Worcester burst onto the scene. 10 days, 10 world-class mural artists, and an international phenomenon. The EcoTarium was proud to help bring this East Coast first to Worcester. This event drew more than 10,000 people to the city!

The EcoTarium’s Social Science series adults-only events offered after-hours fun exploring exhibits while stirring up conversation over drinks and some food truck favorites.

Otter Ambassador Stark arrived in January on loan from the Long Island Aquarium where our own otter, Slydell, also served as an Otter Ambassador. Providing enrichment opportunities for both otters and their wildlife staffs, the program was a fabulous success!
Impact: Bringing World Class Science to the Community

More than Mushrooms!
The Cool Factor of Fungal Biology
In the world of fungus research, Clark University’s Dr. David Hibbett is a star. While fungus research might not sound too exciting, the EcoTarium’s partnership with Dr. Hibbett and his team is about to prove that wrong. Funded through a National Science Foundation grant, the project is looking at fungi’s role in the biodiversity of fungi and its role in wood decay and the carbon cycle. A new fungus-focused exhibit will be coming to the EcoTarium soon.

Massachusetts Smart Growth Conference
EcoTarium Director of Exhibits Betsy Loring participated in the Massachusetts Smart Growth Conference on June 2. Held at Worcester’s DCU Center, the Conference promoted healthy and diverse communities by inspiring conversation and networking across disciplines. Speaking in the session What Does Your Community Want to Be When it Grows Up?, Loring used the new City Science exhibit as an example of how museums can engage citizens of all ages in thinking about the design of their neighborhoods. The more our visitors know about the impact of zoning, landscape change decisions, and city planning on their quality of life, the more likely they are to take part in the community planning process.

“Good news – I’ve been accepted into MIT! Thank you for allowing me such great opportunities with the EcoTarium. The experiences I’ve had while volunteering were integral to not only my college application, but also my personal development.”

~ Volunteer quote

IMPACT: Community Anchor Institution
In October 2016, EcoTarium President Joe Cox received the New England Museum Association’s Excellence Award for his efforts in leveraging collaborative partnerships at the local and national levels to successfully advance the museum as a community resource. Congratulations Joe!
Dear Supporters,

As stewards of the EcoTarium – the latest in a long line of stewards stretching back 192 years – our chief concern has been to abide by our mission “to inspire a passion for science and nature.” Simply put, we believe a community that values and enjoys science, technology, engineering, and math, and that understands the importance of a clean and healthy environment, is one that is more likely to flourish economically and enjoy a higher quality of life. We believe the EcoTarium is an investment in the strength of our community.

Knowledge is power. With understanding we can all make informed choices – about how to live better in our communities and how to protect the future for our children. Inspiring a passion for science and nature is our way of trying to make a better world for all.

The EcoTarium is not alone in its mission to serve as a resource to the community. There are thousands of museums and cultural organizations across the country that strive for similar goals – to make their communities better through art and drama, by showcasing the lessons of history, or encouraging the love of nature. We are treasured national resources for public education, working to highlight humankind’s greatest accomplishments and numerous challenges, telling the stories that explain and illuminate both our past and our current experiences. We do this so that our children also have a chance to make a better world.

National resources require support at both the local and national level. As nonprofit cultural organizations, we place our missions above the pursuit of economic success, sacrificing much to ensure we are accessible and meaningful to our communities. Our nonprofit status allows us to raise the additional support necessary to bridge the gap between earned income and operating costs, with federal funding being one of the most essential sources for that support. The Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the educational arms of institutions such as the National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association, and the Environmental Protection Agency play invaluable roles in this network of support. Together we are the guardians of humanities achievements and at the vanguard of our right to live as informed and engaged citizens.

You can support the EcoTarium and the federal institutions that enable us to operate by visiting our website to donate directly to the museum and by contacting your federal representatives. Tell them you support federal funding for cultural organizations as investments in our future.

Two stories – two covers! Flip to the other side of this Impact Report to see the Annual Report.

Thank you,

Joe Cox, President  Ray Quinlan, Chair – Board of Trustees

Our Mission  To inspire a passion for science and nature

Our Vision  To be a national leader in engaging communities with science and nature
Through YOUR support, along with some of our community’s most generous foundations, organizations, and philanthropic individuals, you ensure the EcoTarium is accessible to those who might not otherwise be able to visit. **You support makes the difference! Thank you!**

**Through support from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, our EBT Pass Program provided discounted admission to 4,584 low-income guests.**

**You helped us encourage tomorrow’s scientists and environmentalists.**

2,400 students from Worcester Public Schools enjoyed free museum field trips.

**You Made it Possible! 30 out of the 308 days we were open in 2016 were discounted or free to all visitors (that’s nearly 10%)!**

**You helped us provide 1,268 teachers with free museum admission to support lesson planning and field trip preparation.**

Free and discounted days in 2017 will include **Free Fun Friday** and **Half-Price September**.

**With your generosity, 11 children in need received two-week scholarships to enjoy our Summer Discovery Camp.**

**1,296 members of military families enjoyed discounts to the museum through the Blue Star Museum Program.**

**You helped provide deep discounts to school groups.**

41 school groups used our special Winter School Promotion to enjoy half-price field trips (2,150 people).

**SCOPE: Special Community Outreach Programs of the EcoTarium.**

A $407,000 community investment in making the EcoTarium a resource accessible to all.

**Did you know? Every visit is a discount if you and your family use your Dual Membership to visit twice or more in a year.**

**Thank You! to the 12 area charitable foundations, corporate foundations and sponsors, and individuals who helped fund SCOPE in 2016, as well as the many who gave through our annual Fund-A-Need giving program!**

**You helped the clients of social service organizations to have a special day at the EcoTarium.**

Through the Social Service Membership Program, 17 regional organizations enjoyed visits.

**Your gifts to the EcoTarium also helped support the work of other non-profits in the community.** Through the Complimentary Pass Program you helped us give away 752 family four-packs of admission passes so area schools and non-profits could raise much needed funds.