



INSPIRING A PASSION
AND RESPECT FOR
MATH & SCIENCE
IN OUR
COMMUNITIES



2 0 1 9
Annual
Report



McConnell Science Museum
EUREKA!

2019 BY THE NUMBERS



13,912 museum visitors
421 members

3,415 students & adults
in 230 STEAM programs



7,597 students in
school field trips
from 180 schools

182 students in 11 after
school programs



97 volunteers donated
6,489 hours

311,944 STEAM
learning hours



PROGRAMS & EXHIBITS

The EUREKA! McConnell Science Museum is home to **125 hands-on science displays** in the exhibit hall, and host to over **230 events** throughout the year for children & students Pre-K through 12th grade, college students, adults, families, and seniors. New health & dental exhibits were introduced in 2019, along with an interactive light refraction table!

New programs introduced in 2019 include **Science Sparks - happy hour and science learning** with local scientists & professionals for adults, and **STEAM Across the Ages** - an intergenerational program that connects local seniors with our Friday STEAM students for an afternoon of science learning and sharing.

The EUREKA! Institute for Environmental Leadership & Stewardship

The Environmental Institute for Leadership & Stewardship is an expansion of our outdoor science programs. Available for 4th - 12th graders, these outdoor expeditions introduce students to outdoor recreation and use Colorado's unique natural landscapes as outdoor classrooms for science exploration and learning.

In 2020 we will offer beginner, intermediate, and advanced level expeditions. New students can get an introduction to back-country exploration, while those with more outdoor experience can broaden their knowledge with more in-depth exploration.

Each program includes an environmental stewardship activity unique to the weekly topic and location. In partnership with local and federal agencies, students participate in stewardship activities to restore, rebuild, and protect the natural lands of our state.

STEAM Learning For All Ages

EUREKA! strives to create a hub for life-long STEAM learning opportunities. From our littlest Science Sprouts 2-4 years old, to our wisest senior Explorers, we seek to engage all community members in science learning and exploration.

The STEAM Internship program at EUREKA! provides paid positions for over 40 college students each year. As the largest paid internship provider on the Western Slope, EUREKA! is a driving economic force in Mesa County.

Looking Forward to 2020

EUREKA! is expanding once again! Construction of our new outdoor STEAM playspace and classroom is expected to begin this coming Fall.

K - 12 STEAM

EUREKA! provided **93 week-long STEAM programs this summer for 1,548 students** Pre-K through 12th grade. Day and week-long programs offered on No School Days and school breaks throughout the year brought **another 1,533 students to the museum for a collective 235,660 STEAM learning hours!**



Science Sprouts, a 1 hour lesson for young children 2-4 years old and their caregivers, is designed to introduce STEAM concepts through **play and observation**, enhancing motor and social skill development for young children and providing an educational and social community space for families during the daytime.



EUREKA! was host to **102 field trips for 7,597 students visiting from 180 schools**. Two thirds of these students were from our Mesa County Valley School District 51, and one third were students visiting from schools across Colorado and the Western Slope. With support from the Colorado Health Foundation, EUREKA! provides 2 hours of after school physical activity and science education at 5 Title I schools **for free** during the school year!



The EUREKA! McConnell Science Museum provided **\$30,562 in youth scholarships in 2019!** The program provides reduced registration rates for families and children receiving Medicaid/CHP+ benefits, or students qualifying for free/reduced price school lunch. These scholarship funds **allowed 65 students to enroll** in educationally enriching programs they may otherwise have been unable to attend. In 2019, **84 families were recipients of program or membership-based scholarships** thanks to our generous donors and foundation supporters.

EUREKA! EXPEDITIONS

EUREKA! Expedition programs introduce students 4th-9th grade to outdoor recreation and exploration across the Western Slope and Colorado Rockies. These expeditions brought **53 students to outdoor locations for a week of science, exploration & recreation** in 2019. From Shrine Mountain Hut on Vail Pass to the Colorado River Basin, these students were introduced to hiking, climbing, snowshoeing, and rafting while diving into outdoor science exploration and conservation.



**ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP
& LEADERSHIP**

EUREKA! Expeditions focused on **science education through recreation and exploration using Colorado's unique natural landscapes** as classrooms. Each week of exploration included environmental stewardship activities relevant to the science theme and location of the trip. With our community and organization partners including Cloud City Wheelers, USFS, USGS, and 10th Mountain Division Huts, students participated in river cleanup, hut, and trail maintenance. These stewardship projects **instill a sense of outdoor ethical responsibility** we have as recreators to take care of the natural resources and outdoor recreation sites in Colorado.



EUREKA! EXPLORATIONS

EUREKA! provides scientific exploration for community members of all ages - including our young-at-heart 55+ seniors! These trips range from day trips in and around Mesa County, to overnight weekend and week-long adventures across Colorado and neighboring states. In 2019, we provided **15 different exploration trips.**



FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHTS & SCIENCE SPARKS

EUREKA! joins with our community partners and organizations to provide free & low-cost events for families in the Grand Valley. We celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing, hosted a Health Science Night at the Museum, and reduced admission on founder John McConnell's 89th birthday!

Science Sparks was introduced in 2019 to offer adults a relaxing happy hour filled with science! Each quarter we will delve into unique topics, from tardigrades and metallurgy to plant pathology and the science of wine with local scientists and experts!



VOLUNTEER SERVICE



EUREKA! relies on the help of our volunteers daily. In 2019, **93 generous volunteers donated over 6,000 hours** of their time at the museum!

Volunteers at EUREKA! provide exceptional service to visiting guests and students. From demonstrating exhibits, handling our resident critters, and helping in our classrooms, we couldn't do our work without them.

This host of retired professionals, teachers, scientists, carpenters, engineers, gardeners, and explorers help us educate students and families, manage our warehouse, and construct, build, and maintain museum exhibits.

The EUREKA! Volunteer of the Year was a three-way tie in 2019, with **Nile, Karen, and Sally contributing a collective 1,795 hours!**

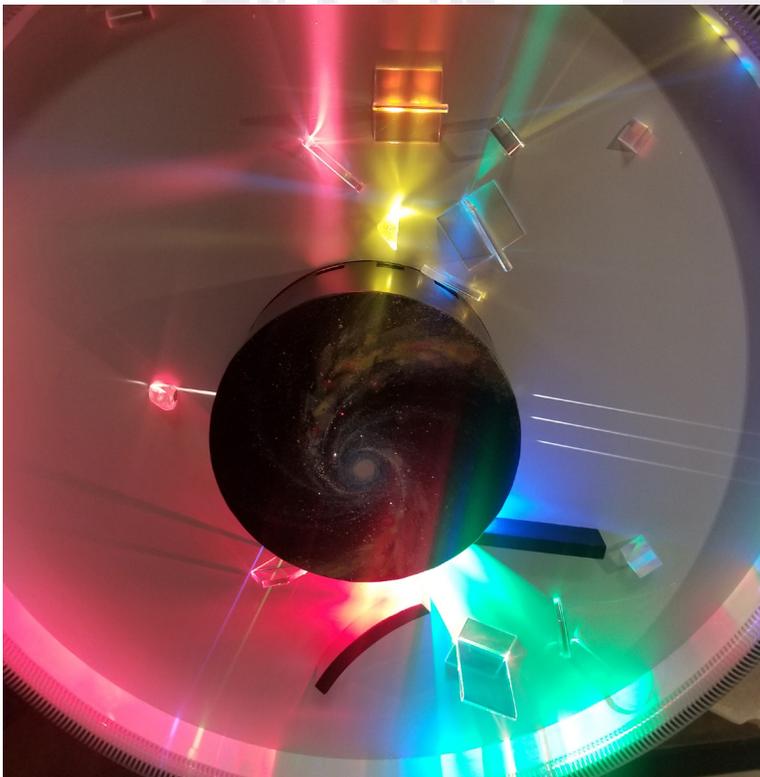


EXHIBITS

The EUREKA! exhibit hall provides over 100 hands-on science displays and exhibits for visitors to explore. Each year we strive to create new displays and rotate exhibits to keep things exciting for returning guests and families! Three large exhibits were introduced in 2019 that provide new ways to explore science & health!

BODY WORKS

Take a **journey from the inside out** through this exhibit that explores the human body through the cardiovascular, musculo-skeletal, digestive, respiratory, nervous, and circulatory systems.



LIGHT TABLE Developed & constructed by one of our retired professional engineering volunteers, this table is designed to demonstrate the effects of light refraction and color.

THE SECRET LIFE OF TEETH

Exploring the development, mechanics, and health of human (and dinosaur!) teeth!



DONORS

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EUREKA! relies on the support of our individual, community, and foundation donors. In 2019, we received **over \$30,000 to support student scholarships for local youth** enrolling in educationally enriching science programs, and over \$350,000 to support our after school, day, and week-long STEAM programs. It is our generous donors that help us provide science education on the Western Slope, inspire a culture of inquiry and exploration, and **help support the next generation of brilliant scientists, entrepreneurs, and change-makers!** Below are Company and Foundation donations made in 2019 and is merely a partial list of our generous donors.

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