The Science Museum of Virginia will look back on 2016 as a year of transformation. Not only did we open our most ambitious gallery ever, **Speed** (which included hanging an SR-71 Blackbird from the ceiling), but we also revitalized a number of smaller areas in the Museum. **Speed** offers the opportunity to understand our world through physical experiences, real objects and a fun perspective. To us, it is the fulfillment of a long-awaited dream to have an exhibit gallery that lives up to the mission of the Museum.

Although smaller in square footage and target audience, **LightPlace** provides a safe place for our youngest guests to begin their exploration of science. The **Inger Rice Learning Center** has completely transformed the second floor of the Museum and allows our educators the opportunity to really engage our guests in more intimate spaces like **Art Lab**, **Animal Lab** and **EcoLab**.

2017 will see the opening of the **Dewey Gottwald Center**, our new multi-purpose special event and exhibition space. Leonardo (not DiCaprio, the other one) comes to Richmond on May 13, 2017 with the North American premiere of **Da Vinci Alive – The Experience**. Visitors will also enjoy the first completed phase of **The Forge**, the Museum’s new maker space on the second floor - a vision we look forward to sharing with you as new initiatives and ideas unfold.

As you read about the many programs and events that took place at the Science Museum of Virginia this year, please know that your support makes it all possible. Thank you for your generosity and for helping us to do more, be more and inspire Virginians to enrich their lives through science.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Conti
When the Science Museum of Virginia began to develop its vision for a new gallery featuring the science of speed, it was an easy choice to focus on an artifact already in its care, the SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft. The fastest production aircraft ever built, the SR-71 was capable of reaching 85,000 feet, flying at Mach 3.2 and reaching a record speed of 2,193 mph – faster than a speeding bullet.

Speed, which opened on May 21, 2016, was the most ambitious undertaking in the Museum’s 40 year history – and the SR-71 was the perfect icon to preside over its engaging galleries and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that would visit the space each year.
The SR-71 was taken apart into seven pieces, transported on tractor-trailer beds to the Museum and then reassembled inside a 15x10-foot hole that was cut into the back wall of the main concourse. The plane was cleaned and refurbished before being suspended from support cables connected to 13 SR-71 Blackbirds that are now sitting on their landing gear, on the ground or propped on pole hangers.

With its dominating size and its angled presentation, the plane is the perfect complement for the stop motion photography used throughout the new gallery as a way of slowing things down to understand speed. “It’s a very powerful display. It’s almost like a snapshot of flight,” Batura says. “It’s really a beautiful, beautiful display. It just draws people in and down my spine because of how awesome it looks.”

The pilings were needed because engineers determined the infrastructure of the nearly 100-year-old building, the former Broad Street Station railroad depot, needed additional structures to support the weight of a very powerful display. It’s almost like a snapshot of flight,” Batura says. “It’s really a beautiful, beautiful display. It put shivers up and down my spine because of how awesome it looks.”

The SR-71 was taken apart into seven pieces, transported on tractor-trailer beds to the Museum and then reassembled before being suspended from support cables connected to four large pilings that were sunk into the ground below the Museum and run up into the attic. The use of the pilings and support cables means the building itself bears no weight involving the 43,000-pound aircraft. The plane was carefully restored to its original condition as its final hanging position was secured. The plane is tilted slightly forward while its wings are banked at an angle that makes it appear as if it were somehow captured and made to pause in mid-air while racing through the main concourse at supersonic speeds.

The pilings were needed because engineers determined the infrastructure of the nearly 100-year-old building, the former Broad Street Station railroad depot, needed additional structures to support the weight of an aircraft that is pointed directly at them and appears to be about to overwhelm them at an unthinkably high velocity – a vision Conti wanted to create for guests visiting the gallery. This feature of the SR-71 is just one of the many intricately manufactured approaches the Museum has taken to get guests talking about speed and experiencing science in a new way. “The whole idea is to change your perspective of things you experience every day in the world around you,” Conti says.

Speed is broken into five major areas: Speed of Sound and Light: Guests learn how to stay safe at supersonic speed, get inside information about the SR-71 Blackbird, see an actual Mercury rain, experience several speeds in a wind tunnel, use a laser range finder to measure distances and climb inside the Museum’s Mercury 7 space capsule.

Sports Speed Matters: Ambitious guests can test their sprinting or arm strength against famous athletes, animals and objects on a short track. They will examine a number of speed-related sports artifacts, including a super-lightweight Titanium France bicycle from the Tour de France.

Too Fast to See: Guests get an up-close look at processes that are almost invisible or too fast for the human eye by playing along with an interactive light race that travels along the gallery’s ceiling, tracking movements in a high speed camera studio, watching the wave pattern of a vibrating string and dripping water that seemingly freezes in time.

Too Slow to See: Guests will see new perspectives on time and human history, explore the outbreak of an infectious disease and witness the surprising speed of erosion.

Sports - and how it all connects to our everyday lives. The restoration offers visitors so much more than just the SR-71. It is a unique lens through which we see how the world has changed over time - from the speed of thought to the speed of commerce to the speed of sports - and how all of connects to our everyday lives.

Falter-Bennett Foundation provided support for the restoration of the historic windows within the Museum’s main Concourse. Virginia Construction Industry Educational Foundation (VCIEF) and Virginia Construction Industry Educational Foundation (VCIEF) and Virginia Construction Industry Educational Foundation (VCIEF) and the Richard and Caroline T. Gwathmey Memorial Trust, and other generous donors including Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Satterfield III and Nathan and Judy Turbeville.

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LightPlace – Where Young Learners Grow Ideas

The Science Museum of Virginia was looking for new ways to further cement its status as a go-to resource and authority in the community on STEM learning – the combined study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. What better way than to start STEM education than with the community’s youngest scientists – in the world of science, there is no such thing as too young to begin the process of inspiration.

In April of 2016, the Museum opened LightPlace, a permanent gallery designed to promote skill development in infants to five-year olds. This multifaceted, hands-on learning gallery is a safe place to begin building scientific foundations for budding scientists and will be an ever-changing environment meant to facilitate cognitive growth. Using light-themed activities, LightPlace introduces children to science by supporting developmental milestones such as social and emotional skills, language, inquiry and problem-solving. Multi-sensory activities include a custom climbing experience, interactive light walls and colorful activities such as sensory play and balance areas. This immersive venue shares light in experiences that help parents to engage their young learners in developing areas that include social and environmental awareness, motor skills, sensory perception, object identification, introductory reading, math activities and problem-solving – in short, the building blocks of STEM education.

“As the country pays more attention to early childhood and the brain development that happens during those first years of life, museums are discovering that they have an important role to play,” says Kimberlee L. Kiehl, Executive Director of the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center and an advisor on the LightPlace project. “Museums provide caregivers with a place to interact with their young children in ways that are developmentally appropriate and that build curiosity and a love for learning.” The Museum would like to thank Wells Fargo for its support of LightPlace.

Inger Rice Learning Center

On the first floor of the Science Museum of Virginia, Speed offers guests a fresh perspective of processes in our fast-paced world. On the second level of the Museum’s east wing, another new venture is devoted to slowing guests down. The Inger Rice Learning Center, dedicated in April of 2016, is designed to spark the curiosity of guests and to inspire an interest in science beyond the classroom. A typical visit to the Richmond facility can easily last an entire day. Filled to the brim with interactive experiences and multiple floors of hands-on learning, Speed is meant for the Inger Rice Learning Center to keep school-age guests in the second-floor wing for smaller bursts of time with comfortable and creative exhibits. The engagement and enrichment of school-age children is an especially crucial mission for a Museum that annually draws roughly 84,000 field trip visitors. Utilizing the intimate feel of this space, guests are encouraged to take their time and interact with educators in ways that allow them to fuel their passions and explore new ideas. With separate labs outfitted to explore ecology, animals and art, the center has become instantly popular with school groups visiting the Museum. The students can sit down and listen to presentations on topics that range from the survival of bees to the changes of the James River. Guests are invited to take part in demonstrations on a broad spectrum of subjects – from thermodynamics to exploring the human eye. The Inger Rice Learning Center continues to be a valuable, open space to engage visitors, spark passion and develop a deeper interest in STEM.
The next chapter in the growth of the Science Museum of Virginia is taking shape at the rear of Broad Street Station. Land was cleared this spring and construction began on the Dewey Gottwald Center, the Museum’s new 21,000 square foot exhibition and community events facility. The center, named for the late Floyd Dewey Gottwald Sr., chairman of Richmond chemical manufacturer Ethyl Corporation, will meet a demand for large capacity of local and special events and blockbuster traveling exhibitions.

From September through April of each year, the Museum will host a number of special events - both large and small - with the goal of continuing to expand our role as a community gathering space. The customizable center will feature a range of events, from conferences and lectures to weddings and retreats. During the summer, the Museum will use the Dewey Gottwald Center to strengthen its position as Virginia’s premier destination for STEM learning. The Museum will host world-class exhibitions, a move made easier by the center’s generous size and room dividers that enable the Museum to attract both large and small-scale events. The Museum scored a coup for the inaugural summer exhibition: Da Vinci Alive – the Experience will make its North American debut in the Dewey Gottwald Center on May 13, 2017. The exhibit is presented locally by Altria Group.

The Dewey Gottwald Center, the first new structure on the Museum’s campus since the Ethyl Dome opened in 1983, was funded in part through a generous gift from the Herndon Foundation. The facility is on track to be completed next spring. When construction is finished, the sleek steel and glass structure - an intentionally significant departure from John Russell Pope design of the original train station - will give the Museum a new face from Leigh Street.
The Science Museum of Virginia is honored to host a number of incredible special events throughout the year.

**STEM Awards**

February 25

The Virginia 529 Kids Zone

April and September

The Science Museum of Virginia was proud to once again partner with Virginia 529 to provide a free, fun and interactive environment designed for young race fans at Richmond International Raceway during the ToyotaCare 250 NASCAR XFINITY Series in April and the Virginia 529 College Savings 250 Race in September. Guests enjoyed hands-on exhibits including our Soaring Satellites Challenge Lab, Science Unplugged portable exhibition and the Museum’s Circuit Station, where guests learned how circuits work and used them to create variable LEDs.

**Camp In**

April and October

The Museum offers unique overnight experiences that provide children with the opportunity to experience science after hours. At the Girls in Science Camp In sponsored by DuPont in October, DuPont volunteers were on hand to facilitate a variety of activities designed to inspire middle school girls in various fields of science. Through its premier partnership with Bon Secours, the Museum offered the Girls in Medicine Camp In in April, where middle school-aged girls met and enjoyed hands-on activities with a variety of Bon Secours professional women in medicine.

**March Ratness**

April 1

The Museum’s thrilling March Ratness: Final Fur Tournament tipped off to a standing-room only crowd where four rats competed to represent Syracuse, Villanova, Oklahoma and North Carolina and guests were encouraged to enter a bracket contest prior to the event with the Museum and RVANews for the chance to win two free Exhibits only passes. Rat Basketball continues to be the Museum’s most attended demonstration as guests witness operant and classical conditioning in action as they cheer on our rat players.

**Volunteer Recognition**

April 10-16

During National Volunteer Appreciation Week, the Museum honored and celebrated its loyal and dedicated volunteers with a recognition cook-out and award ceremony. In 2015, approximately 360 volunteers contributed a total of 21,322 hours to the Museum. Honored that evening with the Lifetime Achievement Award was Darryl Nghee, who has been a Gallery Education Volunteer for almost 20 years and contributed over 3,100 hours. The Museum is grateful and thankful to have such terrific volunteers!
Science on Tap May 7

The Emerging Leaders Council, the Museum’s young professional group, hosted the 2nd annual Science on Tap craft beer festival to benefit the Science Museum of Virginia. The event took place beneath the Museum’s historic train sheds and featured live music, food trucks, local vendors, hands-on science demos and a chance to view the biomes of Virginia. More than 250 guests attended, raising over $50,000 to support the Museum and its mission to inspire Virginians to enrich their lives through science.

Up & Atom May 11

More than 250 women gathered at the Museum to celebrate and support women in STEM. The 11th annual Up & Atom breakfast included inspirational presentations by Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of Engineering and Education Professor Dr. Charline Huguenin, Saint Gertrude’s all-girls robotics team President Molly Powers and Chopped Junior winner and aspiring food scientist Claire Haggan. The event raised over $50,000 to benefit the Museum’s mission and will continue to support women in science.

Messfest June 25

Now in its 16th year, Messfest celebrated the messy side of science in the Museum’s first ever Messfest. Conceptualized, planned and staffed by the Museum’s Leadership Development Team and sponsored by the Virginia Lottery, Messfest allowed guests to enjoy everything painting, liquid nitrogen explosions and volcano eruptions. The Shrine Zoo’s exhibit was magnets and slime where were both a hit with guests while the Science on Tap craft beer festival was a hit with guests, while pigs played hide-and-seek through the air, an arm became a doll and CD, cars in the race track. From bursting smoke bulldozers to sticky Monty Python sandwiches, Messfest was the place to be!

National Parks Adventure Summer Feature Film

The Science Museum of Virginia offered a new giant screen film in the Dome in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the National Parks Service. Narrated by Robert Redford, National Parks Adventure film has stunning visuals of some of America’s most legendary national parks including Yellowstone, Glacier, Yosemite, and Arches. Viewers through time, cross mountain tops and witness the beauty of those pristine and protected places. National Parks Adventure celebrates over 100 years of preservation efforts to maintain America’s wild in this active and exciting adventure through the great outdoors. National Parks Adventure was sponsored locally by CapTech.

OST (Out-of-School-Time) Summer Camps July – August

This summer, the STEM Camp held at the Museum ran for five weeks and included eight groups. The themes focused on engineering and design and had guests building clocks, catapults and newspaper bridges. Participants attempted the Wind Tunnel Challenge in an iterative process over three days. Field trips included a trip to the Richmond Airport, an experience of the city from the observation deck at City Hall and a visit to a Ryan’s Bakery Shop. STEM careers were emphasized through a series of videos of building experiences. The entire Museum was a great resource with visits to Speed, Boost! and The Dome to see National Parks Adventure. The Museum would like to thank the Anne Carter Robins and Walter R. Robins, Jr. Foundation for its support of the Museum’s summer camps.

Science After Dark Third Friday of the Month

The Museum lights up the night with science during Science After Dark – a popular evening featuring events consistent with different and unique themes. From obstacle courses in the Rotunda to the making of alien dry ice bubbles, guests enjoy all-live astronomy presentations, stargazing through telescopes and classic feature film in addition to exploring Museum exhibits.

In July, Science After Dark brought guests from all over to participate in the Museum’s very own Pokémon Go competition, challenging guests to “catch ’em all.” In addition, guests enjoyed the “Ask an Engineer” panel on engineering: the science behind augmented reality apps, followed by a Dome showing of Labyrinth and a chance to build their own Lego Labyrinths. The Museum would like to thank The Robert Leroy Atwell and Lucy Williams Atwell Foundation for its support of the Museum’s public science programs including Science After Dark.

PrepareAthon August 27

Museum guests were given tools and resources during PrepareAthon, a free event designed to teach the community how to be prepared for potential natural disasters. Visitors uncovered life-saving information to protect their families during an emergency and learned more about the importance of resiliency.

PrepareAthon was hosted by Science Museum of Virginia and supported by Ready.gov. Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Virginia Department of Trade & Commerce.
Living Ethics September, October and November

Bon Secours Virginia Health System and the Science Museum of Virginia were pleased to collaborate on a dynamic lecture series intended to provide an opportunity for the community to reflect on what it means to live ethically in a complex world. The 2016 series entitled We the People: Ethics in Politics? featured dynamic speakers including Dr. Eugene Guerry, Ph.D., Dr. Mark J. Rozell, Ph.D. and comedian and founder of RVA Has Talent Micah “bam-bamm” White.

Model Railroad Show November 25-27

The 39th Annual Model Railroad Show brought in visitors over Thanksgiving weekend to join in on one of Richmond’s most exciting traditions. Guests dusted off their conductor’s hats and explored a diverse collection of model train layouts featuring intricate landscapes and miniature cities. Weekend activities included train ride rides, tours of our historic train cars and model train display workshops and featured appearances by Clydesdale horses and blacksmiths.

Dominion Christmas Parade December 3

The Annual Dominion Christmas Parade once again made its way down Broad Street from its starting point at the Science Museum of Virginia. Featuring buzz-worthy balloons, exciting bands and lots of entertainment, the Parade did not disappoint and guests lined the sidewalks for a glimpse of the action and a taste of the Periodic Table’s Blanchards coffee and espresso.

Fruitcake Science December 26-30

The Museum will continue its tradition of celebrating the holidays with science – and fruitcake! This holiday season, Museum visitors will get hands-on and discover the science behind everyone’s “favorite” holiday confection as we burn, drop and freeze fruitcakes.

Noon Year’s Eve December 31

We invite you and your family to join us for this family-friendly New Year’s Eve celebration. With a noon countdown toasted with apple juice, confetti canons and streamers, Noon Year’s Eve has become a Richmond tradition that allows even the youngest Museum visitors to partake in the annual countdown to the New Year. Guest experiences include the Annual Ball Drop, exhibits and hands-on activities throughout the Museum. The Museum would like to thank Dominion for its sponsorship of the 2015 Noon Year’s Eve.

Star Trek Anniversary September 8

The Museum celebrated the 50th anniversary of Star Trek with a special lecture from Dr. Karla M. Mozia, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University about Star Trek technology and its possible real-world applications. Guests then enjoyed a special showing of Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan in The Dome.

Extreme Event Challenge September 15 and October 13

Extreme Event Challenge is a social game that enables people to understand the importance of building a strong, resilient community prepared to serve disasters. Working as a team to overcome simulated emergencies, participants gained a new perspective on resilience learned to prepare for climate change challenges facing our society.

Extreme Event Challenge is a series hosted twice annually by the Science Museum of Virginia under award # NATEC003055399 from the Environmental Literacy Grant (ELG) program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US Department of Commerce.

RVA MakerFest September 24

The third annual RVA MakerFest made its triumphant return to the Science Museum of Virginia and featured interactive demonstrations in science, art, technology, engineering and sustainability. This free, family-friendly event gathered over 7,000 guests who interacted with makers from the Greater Richmond area and experiment STEM education and entrepreneurship in action.

Do the Math! September through January

The Museum’s latest travelling exhibit Do The Math invites guests to bring their mathematical imagination to new altitudes as they uncover a world of ratios and count on ingenuity to build geometrical art of epic proportions. Visitors can discover principles of math with multisensory, hands-on activities that delve into fractions, frequencies and concepts using gears, card shadows to construct stories and boost creativity as they interact with math in motion.

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These ongoing projects bring awareness to STEM fields, encourage guests to get hands-on with science activities and continue to make the Museum a hub for innovative and memorable experiences.

Carpenter Science Theater Company

Thanks to the continued support of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, the Science Museum of Virginia and Carpenter Science Theater Company engages guests through daily performances of exciting shows both new and familiar. This summer the Museum’s staff of live theatre performers opened a brand new show titled Father Time in the Speed Science Theater. This show successfully deals with complicated material, such as the space and time connection, while keeping audiences from ages eight to adult entertained through humor and Dr. Who themed gadgets.

Climate Connections

The Science Museum of Virginia is currently leveraging its investments in climate change and sustainability programming, including a NOAA-funded Rainkeepers exhibition, and the Department of Energy-funded Father Time in the Speed Science Theater. This show successfully deals with complicated material, such as the space and time connection, while keeping audiences from ages eight to adult entertained through humor and Dr. Who themed gadgets.

Informal Learning Partnerships

The Museum continues to forge a few key partnerships that not only better our audiences, but the community as well. Just within this year, the Museum has partnered with the Virginia Association of Science Teachers, Virginia Math & Science Coalition and the Virginia Academy of Sciences. Together, we are continually looking for changes to Virginia’s educational expectations, from how science is taught to requirements for future practitioners. The Museum is helping to look for ways to better support partners, schools and our core audience, among which includes many scientifically inquisitive youth.

The MiX

The Mix was designed as a space specifically for teens, by teens. It is an open, creative environment that allows teens to bring their ideas to life – whatever that may be. This creative space is open year round with afternoon hours extending after the school day. With over 400 members, The MiX is a valuable resource for teens in public schools, private schools and home-educated families across the region. The Museum thanks the Jackson Foundation for its ongoing support of The MiX.

The Muse

There’s an App for that! The Science Museum of Virginia has introduced its very own app, The Muse. Guests can use it to navigate the building, dig into areas that are personally interesting and find out what’s going on in areas near where they are standing using advanced beacon-driven technology. A well-crafted storytelling tool, it features a detailed virtual tour of the cockpit of the SR-71, housing in the Museum’s Special Gallery. The Muse is designed to facilitate this experience by providing information about exhibits, movies and the historic structure.

Out-of-School Time

Out-of-School Time (OST) continues to serve as an integral part of the Museum’s mission while providing enriching opportunities – not only for K-12 students, but for undergraduate and graduate students as well. These students are looking to explore different aspects of our world to participate in current programs via hands-on, experiential experiences. The Museum is proud to offer OST opportunities that extend beyond this classroom and allow students to experience science even when they are not in school. In July, the OST team delivered the Summer STEM Camp after joining with the Virginia Mentoring Partnership to train Virginia Commonwealth University’s (VCU) Vice Librarians. With key partnerships such as these, the Museum is fortunate to offer OST and will continue to develop programming to further the reach of these programs.

Science Within Reach

The Museum’s comprehensive outreach strategy includes making the Museum more accessible to all audiences. The Science Museum of Virginia was proud to announce this summer that it has joined Museums for All, a national initiative to make quality museum learning experiences available to everyone. The Museum is expanding its commitment to being an accessible and inclusive community resource by offering low-income families the opportunity to visit for a nominal fee. Developed by the Association of Children’s Museums and the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences, Museums for All offers grants to visit any participating museum year-round at a greatly reduced cost. Families are encouraged to participate and experience museums across the country – from children’s museums to science centers. The Museum has also made important strides through ambitious programs like the new round Out of School STEM Initiative serving some 600 middle school youth from some of the highest need communities in our region. Work with community partners has also allowed programming tailored to English language learners, individuals who are visually or hearing impaired, and groups with cognitive disabilities and families with Autism spectrum disorders. The upcoming “Curiosity Guide” offers a range of experiences pathways geared toward paths with differing abilities. And, the Museum will soon launch quarterly Minds of All Kinds strategies, which create experiences for people who are sensitive to sound and light levels.

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to be a valuable asset to the mission of the Science Museum of Virginia. Through ongoing collaborations with local organizations and their employees, volunteers generously provide their time free to support the Museum’s ongoing programs and opportunities. In February, the Museum hosted volunteers from Carilion who assembled 600 backpacks that were then distributed to students throughout Virginia as part of a collaboration between the Science Museum of Virginia, Virginia State Parks and the Library of Virginia.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event/Program</th>
<th>Attendance or Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Academy of Science</td>
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<td>American Heart Association</td>
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<td>Richmond Heart Ball</td>
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<td>Ducks Unlimited</td>
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<td>Autism Speaks Light It Up Blue Event</td>
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<td>Dominion Christmas Parade</td>
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<td>Richmond Ballet Ecology In Motion Performance</td>
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<td>Richmond Beekeepers Association</td>
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<td>Richmond Public Schools Valedictorian Luncheon</td>
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<td>Connector’s Heroes</td>
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<td>Science Museum of Virginia Financial Overview</td>
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<td>Change in net assets</td>
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<td>Science Museum of Virginia Foundation Inc.</td>
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</table>
The Science Museum of Virginia reached major milestones in its transformation as a result of almost $40 million in capital investments from the Inspire the World Campaign. While the most visible and dramatic of these—the opening of Speed—continues to wow guests, even the quieter, more contemplative experiences at the Inger Rice Learning Center, LightPlace and The Mix are drawing in and engaging audiences in meaningful ways.

It’s not only the growing numbers, but the breadth of these audiences that is significant. Though the tens of digital learning labs The Mix is their entry point, older youth have a growing sense of ownership of the Museum. Now 400 strong, The Mix membership comprises youth from public school, private school and home-educated families across the region. Almost 50% of members are girls, in contrast to national data tracking the underrepresentation of women in the tech fields.

Annual project support from the Jackson Foundation ensures that we continue to reach a diverse audience of youth with this national model program.

Today, the Science Museum of Virginia truly is an inspiring place for all ages and backgrounds. Visitors enjoy compelling visualizations of weather systems, earthquake activity and shrinking ice caps presented real-time through the NOAA-funded Science on a Sphere®, now on its beautiful new perch in the Inger Rice Learning Center.

As glass is installed in the magnificent Dewey Gottwald Center, we have a glimmer of the landmark to come. Plans are underway to launch this exciting new exhibition and meeting venue in the spring with a new season-long focus on innovation in the spring.

Recent awards from the Marietta McNeill and Samuel Tate Morgan, Jr. Trust and the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services have mobilized our exhibits team once again to begin work in earnest on a dynamic new experiences platform called The Forge. Here, artisanship and skilled trades meet digital design and fabrication to create a tool box like no other. We look forward to opening the first phase as we launch a season long focus on innovation in the spring.

Recognizing gifts of $1,000,000 and above

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We gratefully acknowledge the following donors who are supporting the Museum’s transformation through the Inspire the World Campaign.

The Science Museum of Virginia
The recent passing of Jeanette Moore and John Roberts, whose efforts on behalf of the Museum spanned decades, reminds us of the role that volunteers have played in shaping the Museum you see today and their lasting impact. Both chose to remember the Science Museum of Virginia in their estate plans, continuing their stewardship of this institution.

Jeanette devoted countless hours, personal visits and telephone calls generating support for the Museum’s Annual Fund. She understood that unrestricted support is the bread and butter of the Museum’s operating budget and that sustained current-of-need income is essential to the Museum as it pursues the benefit of its 50th anniversary. The proceeds support the Museum’s general endowment, which continues to contribute annual operating support of the Museum in perpetuity.

John and Jane Roberts established an endowment fund in 1992, which has grown to become the single greatest source underwriting Museum visits from children from low-income communities. While attendance and guest satisfaction continue to climb as a result of the transformation at Broad Street Station, we know that there are segments of the population we may not be reaching—or for whom the Museum experience is difficult to navigate—due to barriers like disability, income or language. The Roberts Endowment lays the foundation for our new institution-wide initiative Science Within Reach, which leverages community partnerships and financial resources to reach underserved audiences with meaningful learning experiences.

The John Russell Pope Society recognizes forward-thinking individuals like Jeanette Moore and John Roberts, who understand the importance of investing in an institution that has great presence in the community today and will continue to engage and inspire generations to come. Please join the John Russell Pope Society by informing the Foundation that you have remembered it in your financial or estate plans. To learn more or inform us that you have already made a provision for the Museum, visit www.smv.org/plannedgiving or call or email Judy Harris at 804.864.1551 or jharris@smv.org.

Endowment Gifts Received

William and Evalane Slaughter
Mrs. Carol Young St. Clair
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Named Endowments

We are grateful to the donors who have established the endowed funds that ensure the long-term viability of the Museum. Income generated by endowment funds is used to support educational grants, scholarships, exhibits, lectures and demonstrations, as well as the general needs of the Museum.

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We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals, foundations, organizations and corporations whose generous annual support during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 helps the Museum make science engaging, meaningful and fun through innovative, exciting programs and exhibits.

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We acknowledge the following donors who have made contributions to the Museum in memory of or in honor of the individuals listed below, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

In Memory of Pat Holder:
- Ms. Jennifer A. Sperberg

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- The Science Museum of Virginia is proud of its relationship with its Premier Partners: Rice Rivers and Virginia529, whose significant annual support impacts the quality and breadth of the Museum’s educational programs, Premier Partners support the Museum with a year-round partnership, offering high visibility recognition opportunities throughout the year. Working from a shared commitment to advance STEM learning, Premier Partners feature visibility at the Museum, as it is a pull to leverage the Museum’s advertising. In addition to receiving benefits for their employees and community partners, Premier Partners fund special educational events, such as the Kids at the Museum International Raceway and Science Museum Girls to Medicine Camp. This high level of support allows the Museum to align work with organizations that are leaders in their industry.

Donors of the In-Kind Gifts and Services
- We thank the following individuals and organizations that provided complimentary goods or services during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. These generous donors valued their goods or services at $250 or more at the time of their donations.


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We offer our sincerest thanks to our Trustees, Directors, Advisory Council and Liaison Committee who generously contributed their time and talents to the Science Museum of Virginia Foundation during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.
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