



**COMMUNITY
IMPACT
REPORT
2020**

Reimagining **The How**

BRINGING SCIENCE TO LIFE AND LIVES TO SCIENCE





OUR MISSION

To bring science to life and lives to science

OUR VISION

To be a leader and partner advancing science learning, quality of life, and economic development in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding area.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND CEO

Dear Friends:

“I kinda wanna be a scientist after this!” These are the words of one excited young lady who took part in the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest, a competition creating wacky contraptions that complete a simple task. This global contest involved every 4th grader in the Allentown School District. That was before. Before COVID-19 changed the way we experience the world. Before science influenced how we could live our lives safely. Before science would become the solution to get us through this pandemic.

This past year highlighted the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math – STEAM in unprecedented ways as we faced challenges that would have once belonged in a world of fiction. Our staff, trustees, supporters and community partners not only met those challenges but they saw a universe of opportunities also unfolding. They relied on experimentation, curiosity, creativity and passion – the same traits that guided Leonardo Da Vinci and that the Science Center strives to awaken in young people.

Together we have all become scientists, innovators, and educators – finding new ways to connect, teach, inspire, and heal during these difficult times. When the Science Center needed to close its doors, it became laser-focused on leveraging our community-based partnerships and using technology to achieve our mission: bringing science to life and lives to science.

Throughout 2020, Da Vinci Science Center continued to play a significant role in connecting students and families throughout the Lehigh Valley to science. Our STEAM Team pivoted to virtual learning complete with hands-on kits that engaged children.

When we were able to welcome visitors back to the Science Center the installations were reimagined to ensure a safe environment for our visitors.

COVID-19 has left an indelible mark on us all. The Da Vinci

Science Center wasn't immune to the economic turmoil caused by this pandemic. Fortunately, with the support from generous donors, public funding through the CARES Act, and grants, we were able to provide the community with engaging and educational experiences. Going forward we plan to leverage the soaring interest in science and to reinforce our programming and financial foundation.

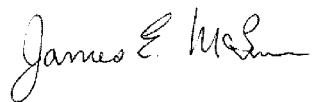
The pandemic also amplified the need to address equity and systemic racism. In June we announced our commitment to working in partnership with our community to champion racial equity.

Science continues to provide our organization with the tools we need to be resilient and to envision and create a brighter, more equitable future. We look forward to a day soon when we can come together and celebrate that bright future.

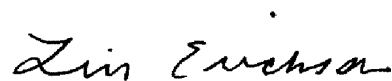
To that end, we are excited to share that our organization has made great strides toward establishing the new Da Vinci Science Center as a state-of-the-art star in downtown Allentown, joining the region's growing constellation of technology, science, and the arts.

In the interim, we invite you to be inspired by the work and the stories highlighted here that sustained us through a challenging year. Science education is now more important than ever as we emerge from the pandemic. If you are able, we ask you to consider a gift to help the Da Vinci Science Center continue to encourage, educate, entertain and inspire the every-day scientists that live within each of us, and in generations to come.

With heartfelt thanks,



James E. McLean, WMS
Chairman of the Board



Lin Erickson
Executive Director and CEO



Hands-On Learning



Navigating in a Virtual and Hybrid World

As the world changed by the minute, the Da Vinci Science Center played a significant role in connecting students and families throughout the Lehigh Valley to science. In fact, the Science Center followed Leonardo Da Vinci's model of invention – problem solving through investigation and curiosity – to create a virtual menu of options, offering traveling school science programs, camps and clubs online. Volunteers aided in everything from developing curriculum to assembling science kits to support hands-on learning.

Despite the pandemic, in 2020 over 99,000 individuals participated in STEAM activities during a time when parents and teachers scrambled to create stable learning environments. The rigorous portfolio of virtual and in-person programs will continue to help combat COVID learning slide and provide standards-based experiences to enhance both classroom education and at-home learning.

Program Highlights

RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINE CONTEST

The Da Vinci Science Center hosted its first annual Rube Goldberg Machine Contest®. Teams from 14 schools embraced the Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist and inventor's zany sense of imagination, creating their own contraptions that solved the simple task of turning off a light.

Three fourth-grade teams from Allentown School District (ASD) were awarded top prizes:

Mosser Elementary received the Rube Goldberg Spirit of Hilarious Invention Award; Lehigh Parkway Elementary received the Rube Goldberg Teamwork Award, and Hiram Dodd Elementary received the Professor Butts' Creative Spark Award.

This project is part of a comprehensive multi-year STEAM program in ASD Elementary Schools supported by The Century Fund.



OUTBREAK ALERT!

When Da Vinci Science Center began offering a youth program in Fall 2019 titled Outbreak Alert!, created by the Boston Museum of Science, no one would have imagined that only months later these lessons would be applicable in a real-world scenario. Thanks to this curriculum, students were better prepared to understand what was unfolding when COVID-19 became a reality.

With support from Sanofi, this program was offered to middle school students in the Pocono Mt. School District.

Sanofi volunteers were able to connect with students, answering their questions about the pandemic, and introduced students to career opportunities.

Welcoming
Visitors in
New Ways



Reimagining Exhibits



Sheltering at home reminded us how important the outdoors and natural world are to our wellbeing so it was only fitting that we went out into nature as we implemented new health and safety operating procedures at our Allentown facility.

BRICKLIVE OCEAN

During the summer and early fall an outdoor, socially distanced experience featuring a Mako shark, squid and other marine life built from interlocking bricks created an ocean of discovery on dry land.

UNDER THE CANOPY: ANIMALS OF THE RAINFOREST

In November, we safely welcomed visitors back inside the center to discover the secrets of rainforests and meet some of the animals who call the rainforest home, including the star of the show, Lulu the two-toed Sloth.

“VOLUNTEERS DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE TIME; THEY JUST HAVE THE HEART.”

- ELIZABETH ANDREW

Our Volunteers



Larry Sabino is a dedicated volunteer.

The tremendous effort by our volunteers to assist us in reimagining and rebuilding our outreach programs and installations in the wake of the pandemic was awe-inspiring. A special thanks to the dedicated summer volunteers from Air Product Retirees and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

Community Collaborations

~ 35,000 STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ANNUALLY PARTICIPATE IN STEAM EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE REGION





“PAPER CIRCUIT WAS REALLY NEAT. I REMEMBERED OPENED AND CLOSED CIRCUITS SO IT WAS EASY TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS TO MAKE THE LED LIGHTS WORK. THE MOST CHALLENGING PART WAS GETTING ALL FOUR TO LIGHT UP, BUT I WAS ABLE TO DO IT.”

- SIXTH GRADER

PBS39 IT'S CAMP

Summer day camps were limited this year, removing a vital resource for families to keep kids moving, learning, and playing once school was out. Under PBS39's leadership, the community came together and provided a virtual alternative.

The Da Vinci Science Center was among 10 community partners that took part in PBS39's "It's Camp! Live from Camp Fowler" virtual camp. The group collaborated to create segments that brought an array of fun activities and science experiments into thousands of local children's homes.

LEHIGH VALLEY CHILDREN'S CENTERS EARLY CHILDHOOD STEM PROGRAM

The Science Center teamed up with Lehigh Valley Children's Centers to offer an Early Childhood STEM Program for all 217 students, their teachers, and their families. Over 600 individuals took part in a unique program that also included professional development and coaching for teachers. Started just prior to the pandemic, the curriculum was modified to meet COVID safety standards but supplied STEM kits that each student kept, created family engagement videos, and provided coaching for teachers and permanent materials for science centers in LVCC classrooms.

GRAB 'N GO STEM KITS CAMPAIGN

Thanks to the generous support from private foundations, individuals and corporations, the science center was able to deliver over 1500 STEM kits to low-income kids at United Way of Lehigh Valley sites. The kits, complete with instructions in both English and Spanish, included materials for up to 20 experiments and activities to keep kids playing and learning all summer long.

Leadership & Mentorship

As a leader in the STEM community, the Da Vinci Science Center provides ongoing education, and networking and mentoring opportunities.

Before programming was interrupted by COVID-19, Career Connection Days connected 1,926 middle school students and families with STEM professionals from over a dozen companies to explore interests in STEM careers.

- 86% learned something new about science, technology, engineering, or math
- 82% became more interested in a career in STEM as a result
- 80% said the event increased their STEM confidence
- 70% intend to do more science inside and outside of school, an important factor in succeeding in STEM

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In Summer 2020, a third cohort of teachers enrolled in the Da Vinci Science Center's Professional Development for Arts Educators program, offered in collaboration with the Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit, and funded by the US Department of Education.

Teachers, all of whom teach in schools with at least 50% of the students eligible for free or reduced meals, receive up to 72 hours of professional development annually for two years, and have access to a lending library of materials that includes 3D printers, laser cutter/engravers, computers, and classroom sets of programmable electronics. These tools are used by their students in visual arts, music, or other integrated STEAM classes. Students become proficient in the inquiry and problem-solving practices used by scientists, engineers, and artists and see new ways to express their creativity.



▲ Teachers and students learn to use technology to adapt for remote learning as seen during this "Moving Masterpiece" project featuring interactive sensors, servo motors, and lights.



The 2020 WISE Forum was held at PBS39. Camille Schrier, Miss America 2020 was one of the panelists as well as a show stopping guest educator at the center.



Building a Community Ecosystem to Support Women in Science and Engineering Study

Research Study Funded by IMLS

The Da Vinci Science Center's WISE initiative has garnered national attention and federal funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). With the support of a two-year grant from IMLS entitled "Building a Community Ecosystem to Support Women in Science and Engineering," the Da Vinci Science Center partnered with a cross-section of community stakeholders to better identify how the community can develop programs and services that address the needs of area women and girls in (STEM) fields.

The results of this study affirmed the need to:

- provide an ecosystem of supports and opportunities for girls to engage in meaningful STEM activities with their peers.
- meet STEM professionals, learn about STEM jobs, and develop relationships with appealing role models and mentors.
- expand programs and networks that support women in their STEM careers.

This knowledge will allow the Da Vinci Science Center and the Lehigh Valley community to expand resources to build a pipeline of female STEM workers to help meet the growing demand for a skilled workforce. Today women hold 49% of the jobs in the region yet represent 29% of the STEM workforce, with lowest representation in engineering, computer and mathematical sciences where much of job growth is occurring. The WISE Initiative is positioned to close that gap and encourage more women to not only pursue STEM careers, but to stay in them.

The WISE Initiative

Through its Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Initiative, the Da Vinci Science Center offers a number of programs and events throughout the year to introduce students to STEM careers and to provide female STEM professionals with the opportunity to network and support each other.

WISE programs and events include: Network events for professionals, Women in STEM Career Connection Days, STEM Girls! Robotics; Girl Scout Programs; and WISE Family Night.

THE WISE FORUM

Presented by Sanofi Pasteur, The WISE Forum & Dinner has become a marquee event drawing a crowd of over 400 science-minded women and girls annually. So what do you do when you can't host a live event for a few hundred friends? You go live on PBS39!

2020 PANELISTS:

Jill Evans, Manager, Customer Service, Bosch Rexroth

Kisha Hortman Hawthorne, Ph.D., FACHE Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia(CHOP)

Megan Deller, Quality Business Team Leader, Cab Over Product, Mack Trucks, Inc

Lisa J. Scheller, President & Chairman, Silberline Manufacturing Co., Inc

Camille Schrier, Miss America 2020, STEM Advocate

Thank you to our WISE Advisory Council Co-Chairs: Erin Armstrong of Braun Medical & Katy WorriLOW of Life Aire Systems for their leadership of the WISE Initiative.

**"WHEN I SEE OTHER WOMEN SCIENTISTS
IT MAKES ME FEEL HAPPY, EXCITED
AND IT'S FUN."**

- MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRL
ATTENDING A WISE PROGRAM.

2020 Hall of Fame Awards

PRESENTING SPONSORS:
HIGHMARK BLUE SHIELD
VINCE AND MICHELLE SORGI

Student Excellence Awards

ALLISON BRATTLEY, SENIOR AT FLEETWOOD AREA HIGH SCHOOL

Allison will begin studying physics at MIT in the fall, and plans to obtain her M.D. and Ph.D in the future.

ELIZABETH CASO, SENIOR AT HUNTERDON COUNTY ACADEMY

Elizabeth is incredibly passionate about patient care, medical research, music, and science and is driven to create a better world. All of this has led her towards her goal of becoming a physician-researcher.

ELENA HUME, SENIOR AT LEHIGH VALLEY ACADEMY REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL

Elena wants to pursue a career in engineering and is very passionate about helping to create a brighter future for everyone.

MIRANDA SONG, SENIOR AT CENTRAL BUCKS HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

Miranda hopes to study computer science and business administration in college and wants to become a leader in the groundbreaking computer science industries of the future.

The Erel STEM Scholarship Award

CARRIE SPANGLER, SENIOR AT WILLIAM ALLEN HIGH SCHOOL

Carrie will attend Penn State as an Agricultural Sciences major, and she hopes to work for the USDA conducting research or advising farmers in navigating the industry.

The Erel STEM Scholarship Award is a needs-based award funded by Fusun Bubernack, philanthropist and entrepreneur, in honor of her parents, Hasan Fehmi & Sabahat Erel, and their commitment to the importance of quality education and the pursuit of excellence.

Educator Excellence Award Winners

Teacher Excellence Award

KRISTIN STUBY, LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL, BETHLEHEM AREA SD, 9TH-12TH GRADES

Kristin is a second career teacher who is certified in math, and she teaches Calculus, Introduction to Engineering, and a Capstone course.

STEM Leadership Award

DANIEL CHRISTMAN, SPRINGHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL, PARKLAND SD, 8TH GRADE

Daniel engages students in hands-on learning experiences where they are required to collaborate, think critically, communicate, and create.

New Educator Excellence Award

SEAN BOYLE, JEWISH DAY SCHOOL, PREK-8TH GRADES

As the STEM Librarian and Education Technology Specialist at the Jewish Day School, Sean engages his students in science, technology, engineering and math.

2020 HALL OF FAME AWARD WINNERS

SPIRIT OF VERROCCHIO MENTORSHIP AWARD Air Products Retirees Association (AirPRO)

GRAND MAESTRO CORPORATE AWARD Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society

DISTINGUISHED FEMALE STEM LEADERSHIP AWARD Susan Schierwagen Vice President, Product Development, Fire Protection, Victaulic

STEAM AWARD Rube Goldberg Machine Contest®

DA VINCI LEADERSHIP AWARD James R. McDaniel, Esq, Sole Proprietor, Law Office of James R. McDaniel

“IT HAD LONG SINCE COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT PEOPLE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT RARELY SAT BACK AND LET THINGS HAPPEN TO THEM. THEY WENT OUT AND HAPPENED TO THINGS.”

– LEONARDO DA VINCI

2020 HALL OF FAME GALA AND AWARD SPONSORS

SPIRIT OF VERROCCHIO MENTORSHIP AWARD SPONSOR Da Vinci Science Center

GRAND MAESTRO CORPORATE AWARD SPONSOR Da Vinci Science Center

DISTINGUISHED FEMALE STEM LEADERSHIP AWARD SPONSOR Victaulic

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STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD SPONSORS B Braun Medical, Bob & Sandy Lovett

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EREL STEM SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SPONSOR Fusun Bubernack and ET&T

INVENTOR LEVEL SPONSORS EMS Consulting and Wojdak Government Relations

INNOVATION LEVEL SPONSOR Buckno Lisicky & Company, Cedar Crest College, Gross McGinley, LLP, Lehigh Carbon Community College, Lin & Mark Erickson, The Pidcock Company, RMG Insurance, Ryan D. Oestreich of Mass Mutual Eastern PA & Thermo Fisher Scientific

VITRUVIAN AWARD SPONSORS Beall Fowler Fowler & Peña Creations



▲ **NEW EDUCATOR EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Sean Boyle



▲ **STEM LEADERSHIP AWARD**
Daniel Christman



▲ **THE EREL STEM SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**
Carrie Spangler



▲ **STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Allison Brattley



▲ **TEACHER EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Kristin Stuby



▲ **STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Elizabeth Caso



▲ **STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Elena Hume



▲ **STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Miranda Song

While we couldn't gather in person for the annual Hall of Fame Awards Gala, we still were able to celebrate the outstanding students, educators and community leaders recognized for advancing STEAM education through videos showcased on our YouTube Channel.

Plans for the Future





While the Da Vinci Science Center continues its high impact work at its current location and throughout the Lehigh Valley, design is underway for the new state-of-the-art facility in downtown Allentown.

DaVinci Science Center isn't simply building a larger space; we are reimagining the ways in which we bring science to life, and lives to science using the power of 21st century technology fueled by the creative energy of a renowned team of designers, artists, educators, engineers and of course, scientists.

Stay tuned for more details in the coming months and join us on our journey!

“I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE URGENCY OF DOING. KNOWING IS NOT ENOUGH: WE MUST APPLY. BEING WILLING IS NOT ENOUGH; WE MUST DO.”

LEONARDO DA VINCI

Our Supporters

Honor Roll of Giving

THE HONOR ROLL OF GIVING RECOGNIZES ALL DONORS WHOSE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS HAVE SUPPORTED THE DA VINCI SCIENCE CENTER DURING THE MOST RECENTLY COMPLETED FISCAL YEAR.

100,000+

Alvin H Butz, Inc.
The Century Fund
W. Beall Fowler
Vince and Michelle Sorgi
US Department of Education

50K-100K

Air Products
ATAS International, Inc.
Bosch/Rexroth Corporation
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PPL
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25K-50K

B. Braun Medical
Bob and Sandy Lovett
PHMC

10K-25K

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1K-5K

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Lehigh Valley Health Network
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 Annette G. Shaw
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 Target Corporation
 Craig and Christine Thatcher
 Steven Thomas
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 Walter Villard

+Does not include in-kind gifts

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 Joe Bondi
 Nyicia Butler
 Allison Dolan
 Matthew Easterwood
 Mary Ellston
 Lin Erickson
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 Ashley Heffelfinger
 Kate Heflin
 Michael Litzenberger
 Carol Luthar
 Kelly Martin
 Jonn McCollum
 Dorothy Michael
 Maureen Michael
 Patricia Pietrobon
 Megan Roselli
 Steven Thomas

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Gladys Barclay

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Greg Butz

Lee and Dolly Butz

Michael Butz

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The Founder's Society:

\$1,000,000+

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PA Department of Education
PA Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program
PPL
Vince and Michelle Sorgi
The Harry C. Trexler Trust

The Legacy Society: \$500,000+

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Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation
The Donley Foundation

The Discovery Society:

\$250,000+

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PHMC
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Frank and Yvonne Schweighardt
St. Luke's University Health Network
US Department of Education
Wyoming Community Foundation

The 1995 Society: \$100,000+

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Arcadia Foundation
B. Braun Medical
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Lehigh University
Norris McLaughlin and Marcus RCN
Rider Pool Foundation
Sanofi Pasteur
Schyler Kemps Foundation
Troan Family Foundation
Hap* and Marcia Wagner

*Deceased

Financials

Statements of Activities			
Years Ended June 30			
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	
	2020	2019	
REVENUES	Admissions, workshops and programs	933,837	1,320,673
	Gift shop	80,975	170,329
	Membership	183,082	281,323
	Special events (net of expenses)	135,625	244,651
	Other	34,436	58,898
	Total Revenues	1,367,955	2,075,874
SUPPORT	Contributions	551,878	685,909
	Grants, government	91,102	147,379
	Grants, private	513,998	349,461
	Donated materials and supplies	66,389	101,928
	Total Support	1,223,367	1,284,677
	Total Revenues & Support	2,591,322	3,360,551
EXPENSES	Program services	2,303,423	2,532,379
	Supporting services:		
	Management and general	443,956	449,631
	Fundraising	233,054	348,359
	Total Expenses	2,980,433	3,330,369
	Change in Net Assets - Operations	(389,111)	30,182
NEW FACILITY	Capital Project		
	Revenues	523,975	567,072
	Expenses	904,831	699,626
	Change in Net Assets - New Facility*	(380,856)	(132,554)
	Change in Net Assets - Combined	(769,967)	(102,372)
	Net Assets, beginning	6,477,690	6,580,062
	Net Assets, ending	5,707,723	6,477,690

Statements of Financial Position

Years Ended June 30

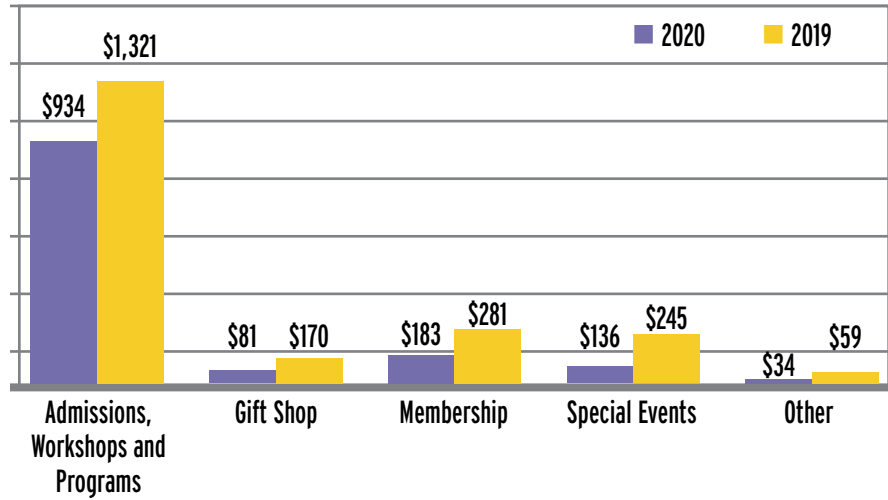
Fiscal Year
2020

Fiscal Year
2019

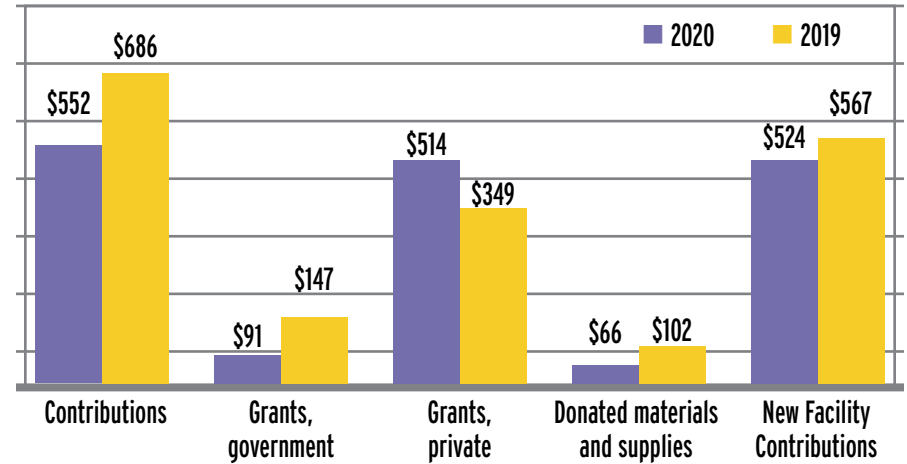
ASSETS	Current Assets:		
	Cash, cash equivalents	657,715	709,762
	Accounts receivable	35,403	56,446
	Grants receivable	144,052	141,048
	Unconditional promises to give	395,533	398,593
	Inventory	14,332	20,652
	Prepaid expenses	154,185	49,346
	Other	52	5,646
	Total Current Assets	1,401,272	1,381,493
	Noncurrent Assets:		
Property and Equipment, net	5,510,537	5,799,821	
Unconditional Promises to give	218,276	303,737	
Total Noncurrent Assets	5,728,813	6,103,558	
Total Assets	7,130,085	7,485,051	
LIABILITIES	Current Liabilities:		
	Current portion of long-term debt	230,378	68,510
	Line of credit	193,374	-
	Accounts payable and other liabilities	26,614	37,837
	Accrued expenses	168,964	166,443
	Deferred revenue	204,633	295,633
	Total Current Liabilities	823,963	568,423
	Long-term debt, less current maturities and unamortized costs	598,399	438,938
	Total Liabilities	1,422,362	1,007,361
	NET ASSETS	Unrestricted	4,797,010
Temporarily restricted		910,713	1,010,412
Total Net Assets		5,707,723	6,477,690
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		7,130,085	7,485,051

* Funding for 2020 planning and design activities for the new facility was received in fiscal year 2021

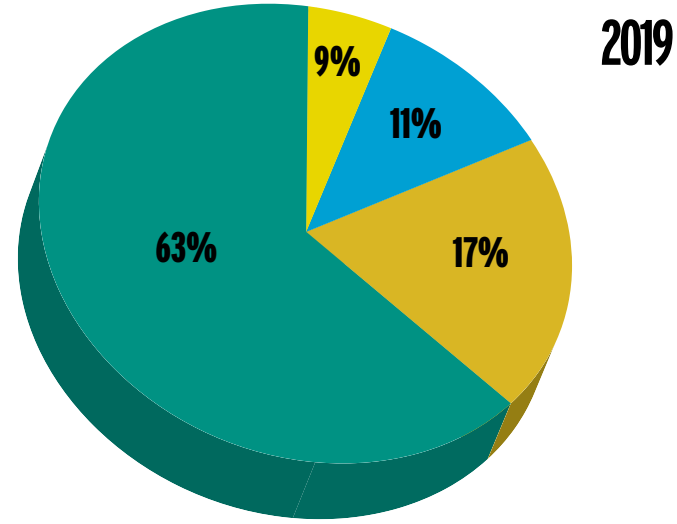
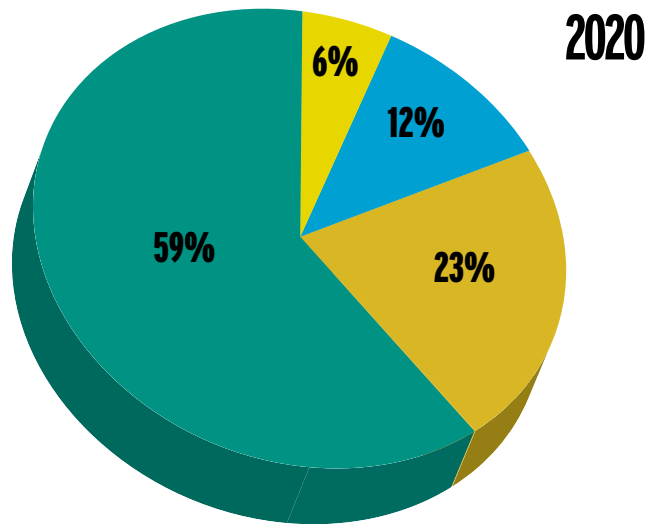
Earned Revenue by Source



Support by Source



Expenses



- Fundraising
- Management and general
- New facility activities
- Program services

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