Annual Impact Report Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)
Arizona Science Center’s mission is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science. We are building enthusiasm for science, technology, engineering and math learning throughout Arizona to expand our top-quality programming for students, teachers and families. Guided by our 2020 Strategic Vision, we are focused on responding to the needs of our community; providing innovative and relevant science experiences; creating a culture of excellence to support our #1 asset – our people; and providing for our long term financial success.

On the following pages, you can read about some of the program highlights we are particularly proud of from Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). These stories represent a snapshot from our year-long journey to inspire curiosity and support hands-on, inquiry-based learning.

I especially want to thank you, our generous community, for your ongoing support of Arizona Science Center. Whether you volunteered your time, made a charitable gift, visited with your family and friends, or participated in a variety of other ways, your involvement and investment in the Center is crucial for our continued success. We are part of the fabric of Arizona and, with your support, we can continue to create and deliver experiences that inspire our guests to Never Stop Wondering®!

Chevy Humphrey
The Hazel A. Hare President & CEO

By the Numbers

500,000+
Curious minds inspired by our STEM educational programs and events

235,414
Students and teachers impacted by the Learning Division

110,861
Guests taken to outer space and around the world in our Dorrance Planetarium and Irene P. Flinn Giant Screen Theater

102,597
Students were engaged in hands-on learning on a field trip to the Center

76,994
Students throughout Arizona benefited from teachers who completed a professional development training provided by the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Center for Leadership in Learning

46,803
Students and teachers impacted through our signature Science on Wheels outreach programs
On September 25, 2015, we opened CREATE – a next-generation educational facility. CREATE is a 6,500 square foot community makerspace where we use both new and traditional technologies to foster active learning and creative problem-solving in a flexible, multi-use environment. At CREATE, we hope to ignite a passion in guests of all ages for a kind of “serious play” that is typical of the most successful scientists, artists, engineers and inventors.

One of the most popular programs this year was our “Hack Nights.” Guests were invited to work with our community of hackers, makers, artists and inventors to generate and construct their own prototypes, models or works of art. Each month had a new theme to get the creativity flowing and included access to tools like littleBits® and Makey Makeys®.

8,488 makers were inspired to design, build and innovate in CREATE this year.

“I met Reagan and his brothers on opening day for CREATE. They were really excited about the facility and told me about this incredibly ambitious project they were working on. I thought it was a perfect opportunity for us to show the public how CREATE works and what we can do for the community. Not many places will allow a 13-year-old to use an industrial size CNC or a 60 W laser, which is something someone Reagan’s age can do at CREATE after taking a few classes.”

Victor Surovec, CREATE Resource Center Manager
Women continue to be underrepresented in STEM. Jobs requiring STEM skills are growing with a lack of available talent to fill them. Our Girls in STEM program is taking steps to change this. On November 14, 2015, girls in grades 4-8 participated in a hands-on CREATE activity and an engineering design challenge utilizing Sphero robots. The girls had the opportunity to engage with 26 local women in STEM who served as mentors-for-a-day to help introduce them to possible career paths. Our goal was not only to expose these girls to STEM concepts in a fun, hands-on way, but to also facilitate a partnership among the local STEM community to help motivate girls to pursue rewarding careers in STEM.

Thanks to our generous sponsors for making these events a great success – APS, Central Arizona Project, Freeport-McMoRan Foundation, GoDaddy and Intel.

119 girls and mentors participated in Girls in STEM programs this year.

Our impact extends beyond our four walls. Through our signature Science on Wheels outreach program, students explore science through interactive, educational activities. From roller coasters to soda bottle rockets to squid dissections, our team of trained facilitators brings more than 43 science topics to life for P-12 students, teachers and families.

Our Science on Wheels team put over 22,600 miles on our vans to deliver 1,124 experiences to 46,803 students and teachers.
We inspire curiosity and wonder through our onsite and offsite programs. From four floors of interactive galleries to science outreach programs, we aim to inspire that “ah-ha” moment – the one where complex concepts start to make sense. This is the power of hands-on, informal learning.

As students, teachers and families explore their own curiosity and motivation, they strengthen their critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration skills. Visitors leave more confident about science and the world around them. They often find that their visit sparked in them a desire to learn, see and do even more.

Learning to connect the physical with the abstract in a place where failure is part of the process, our guests develop a unique perspective of the world around them and express a sense of wonder that no test can measure.

“Wanting to understand how electricity travels, a little boy and his grandfather visited CREATE. I observed them interacting with our Makey Makey® activity. Explaining how circuits and currents work, our team member asked them both to touch their shirts. Nothing happened. Then, they suggested to try holding hands. Eureka! The electrical current passed through them, completing the circuit and connecting generations. It was a powerful moment – both literally and figuratively – illustrating how important the kind of informal learning we foster is for all ages.”

Dr. Andi Fourlis, Chief Learning Officer
Arizona Science Center introduces students to science basics through a wide variety of topics in order to promote discovery. An important component includes out-of-school programs like our year-long Camp Innovation. Students who attend camp show marked improvement in attitudes and motivation – and not just during the summer, but throughout the entire year.* THIS is the power of our informal learning experiences!

More than 1,250 Campers participated in Camp Innovation programs this year.

We presented 71 camp sessions covering 24 topics, including 9 consecutive weeks of summer camp.

Camp Innovation was generously supported by Boeing and the Summer Youth Program Fund of Maricopa County.

*Making Summer Count: How Summer Programs Can Boost Children’s Learning, 2011, Produced within RAND Education, a unit of the RAND Corporation. The research was commissioned by The Wallace Foundation.
Teacher Impact

STRENGTHENING TEACHER CONFIDENCE

Customized specifically to meet the needs of educators, schools and districts, our mentoring, coaching and professional development programs create rich opportunities for teachers to gain experience, enhance their professional knowledge and learn to use science to enrich what they teach. Working with our experts and educators, teachers learn to master a model for teaching STEM which enhances their confidence and competence in the classroom.

Teachers are not only introduced to the specific tools and high-level training needed to succeed, but they also learn by doing: leading to a better understanding of how science is integrated into every subject. Teachers also refine their research skills as they explore their own interests and curiosities.

94% of teachers greatly increased their knowledge, competency and confidence as a result of working with our team this year.

Arizona Science Center’s Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Center for Leadership in Learning provides opportunities for educators to create, relate and innovate with the latest trends in STEM education.

“I really appreciate being able to sit down and go over this kit with someone before I dive in. I feel so much more confident now starting these lessons with my students.”

Sarah Ogden, Teacher, Granite Mountain Middle School, Prescott Unified School District

“Your training has sparked some really great conversations amongst my teachers, and we’re looking forward to the next one!”

Christine Griffin, Principal, Oak Creek School, Cottonwood-Oak Creek School District
We reach far beyond our walls to enhance science literacy in every part of our community. A key component of the Center’s mission is to provide access to those who otherwise would not be able to participate in our programs. Through free admissions for low-income Title 1 schools, to scholarships for camps, to discounts for the community, we make access to top quality science content available to everyone.

144,783 visitors were served through a free program this year.

**OUTREACH AND ACCESSIBILITY**

- Fry’s Free Weekend
- Free School Admission Program
- Fund-A-Bus Transportation Grants
- Free Educator Memberships
- Free Senior Tuesdays
- Blue Star Museum and Active Military Discount
- Act One Culture Pass Official Partner

Fry’s Free Weekend – September 19-20, 2015

Community partners help amplify our impact and provide invaluable support to help us deliver our mission. Fry’s Food Stores is a shining example of a stellar partner! We came together in 2009 to ensure that our community had access to the Center, regardless of their ability to pay. Since then, Fry’s has joined forces with us to host an annual Free Admission Weekend at the Center.

We were able to provide FREE access during Fry’s Free Weekend to more than 22,300 community members this year.
Meet Sylvia Schenkenberger, one of the Center’s amazing volunteers. Sylvia was in a car accident that left her with a traumatic brain injury, putting her on long-term disability from her engineering career at Honeywell. Eight years ago, she decided to put her computer skills back to use and joined our team of dedicated volunteers. Her favorite part about volunteering is that she has gained her confidence back by working with such encouraging and caring people. She also loves getting to meet new guests!

Nothing impacts our ability to grow and share science with more visitors than our people. Arizona Science Center has 135 talented and dedicated team members who help us create and deliver engaging science experiences to over 500,000 curious minds each year. Add to that our 502 Science Corps volunteers and interns who collectively contributed over 23,300 hours, our 57 Trustees who provided thought leadership and support throughout the year, and our invaluable partners from Arizona State University, the City of Phoenix, TGen (and many more), and we have a formula for true success!
Since 2014, Arizona Science Center has hosted the Arizona Science and Engineering Fair (AzSEF) – a statewide science competition for grades 5-12. This showcase event brings together students from all over the state to celebrate their contributions to science research across a vast array of fields.

Arizona Science Center hosted AzSEF on April 6-8, 2016 at the Phoenix Convention Center. A total of 1,150 students in grades 5-12 statewide participated in the competition with over 1,000 projects. Awards were presented in various categories with 15 projects from the Senior Division advancing to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held May 9-13, 2016.

AzSEF is generously supported by Intel, Arizona SciTech Festival, Craig and Barbara Barrett Foundation, GoDaddy, ASU Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solutions Initiatives, Grand Canyon University, SRP, Broadcom MASTERS and Maricopa Community College District.

Arizona Science Center’s programs have the power to change a student’s future trajectory. Nicole is one of those students. She attended BMI @ BNI, our Camp Innovation program presented in partnership with Barrow Neurological Institute, which sparked her passion for biomedical research.

“My hands-on experience... provided me with an incredible opportunity to learn about scientific research, the drug development process, lab safety and procedures, neuroscience and so much more. My time at BMI @ BNI has been instrumental in my decision to pursue a career in pharmacy, biomedical research, medicine or medicinal chemistry. Programs that provide teens with opportunities to explore careers in STEM allow us to make more informed decisions about our future.”

Nicole Sherwood

Nicole took her passion for biomedical research and went on to compete this year in AzSEF with her project: Identifying New Molecular Targets for Pancreatic Cancer Therapy.
A key pillar of our 2020 Strategic Vision is to create engaging science experiences. As part of that commitment, Arizona Science Center hosts a series of limited-run, featured exhibitions each year in the Sybil B. Harrington Galleries. These exhibitions allow us to introduce exciting and relevant new content throughout the year, and help us attract and engage new audiences.

We hosted three exhibitions this year designed to delight and excite which collectively attracted 82,346 visitors.

**Grossology**
The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body
May 23 – Sept. 7, 2015
Sponsored locally by APS

**Dinosaurs in Motion**
Where Art & Science Meet

**POPnology™**
Where Science Fiction Meets Science Fact
Feb. 7 – May 15, 2016
Sponsored nationally by Hyundai, Local Motors, NVIDIA and Quid
Sponsored locally by APS, Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona and U.S. Bank
Revenue*

Arizona Science Center maintains its long-term financial health and sustainability through a balanced model of earned and contributed revenue.

Expenses*

73% of Arizona Science Center’s expenses were spent on the educational programs and services it delivers to the community.

*Unaudited financials
President’s Club

LEADERSHIP GIVING

President’s Club encompasses Arizona Science Center’s circle of exceptional annual donors who share a deep commitment to enriching the lives of the more than 500,000 children, adults, families, students and educators who are inspired, educated and engaged in the wonderment of science each year. Membership is offered to those whose gifts of $1,250 and above were made from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. It is our pleasure to acknowledge the following individuals, foundations and corporations who joined President’s Club in Fiscal Year 2016.

PATRON
$250,000 – $499,999
APS Foundation
Lynn and Jon Madonna
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

SUSTAINER
$100,000 – $249,999
Freeport-McMoRan Foundation
Ellie and Michael Ziegler

BENEFACTOR
$50,000 – $99,999
APS
The City of Phoenix
Fry’s
Intel Foundation
JPMorgan Chase
The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture
Elizabeth and Bryan Saba

AMBASSADOR
$25,000 – $49,999
American Airlines
Anonymous
Arizona State University

LEADER
$15,000 – $24,999
Rebecca Ailes-Fine and Peter Fine
American Association for the Advancement of Science

The Boeing Company
Cities West Publishing
Freeport-McMoRan
GoDaddy
Intel Corporation
Dionne and Francis Najafi
Universal Technical Institute
Wells Fargo Foundation

SCIENTIST
$10,000 – $14,999
The Arizona Republic
BMO Harris Bank
Richard F. Caris Foundation
Lorry Chapman and Nancy Patchak
Kay and Kent Corbin
Craig and Barbara Barrett Foundation
SRP
U.S. Bank
Voya Foundation

INNOVATOR
$5,000 – $9,999
Lynda Adams and Edward Fox
Applied Materials Foundation
ARAMARK/Aventura Catering
Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff
Association of Science-Technology Centers, Inc.
Atlasta Catering Service, Inc.

“Elizabeth and I have made a personal investment in Arizona Science Center because we understand the value of critical thinking and problem solving as tools for lifelong success. Nowhere else in Arizona is there a better educational foundation to foster science literacy and entrepreneurship among our young people. It is both our privilege and responsibility to support this fundamental pathway of access and opportunity for generations to come.”

Bryan Saba, Board Chairman 2014-2016
President’s Club
LEADERSHIP GIVING

Ballard Spahr LLP
David Bauer
Boys and Girls Club of the East Valley
Central Arizona Project
Michelle and Henry Clarke
Connections Academy
Chuck Cooper
Lee and Joe Courtney
Cheryl Dib
DMB Associates, Inc.
Alberta B. Farrington Foundation
Grand Canyon University
Lisa and Jerry Kackley
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Barbara and Todd Lockwood
M Catering by Michael’s
Sandra Matteucci
Lori McClelland and Michael Harris
MidFirst Bank
Kristi and Bob Miller
Mary Ellen and Mark Pendleton

INNOVATOR
$5,000 – $9,999
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Pizzeria Bianco
Qinqin and Tucker Quayle
Nancy Russell
Pam and Jack Saltich
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Summer Youth Program Fund of Maricopa County
Sunbelt Holdings, Inc.
U.S. Bancorp Foundation
Helene and Peter Woog

VISIONARY
$2,500 – $4,999
100Kin10
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Susan and Philip Hagenah
John F. Long Foundation
Kinder Morgan Foundation
Stacey and Bill Langhofer
Mary and Richard Martuscelli
Maricopa Community College
Betty and Hamilton McRae
Cheri and Steve Megli
Debra Radfader
Wells Fargo Bank Arizona
Molly and John West
Connie Wilhelm
Diana and Allan Winston
Jennifer and Steve Zandpour

DISCOVERER
$1,250 – $2,499
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Barbara and Terry Fenzl
Ryan Field
Laurie and Craig Fielder
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RaeAnn Fox
Kelly and Mike Glave
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The Maurice R. and Meta G. Gross Foundation
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Sally and Richard Lehrmann
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Marcia and James Lowman
Elisabeth and Robert Lowman
Kathie and Thomas Marshall
Tammy McLeod and John Hamilton
Dana and Randy McLean
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Kristi and Bob Miller
Mary Ellen and Robert Mittelstaedt
Carole and Arte Moreno
Aimee and Michael Morgan
Karen and George Nackard
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Rose and Harry Papp
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Peter Smith
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Patricia Toombs
Brian Trahan
Melissa Ward and Bill Muster
Cheri and Steve Zandpour
Marcia and James Lowman
Elisabeth and Robert Lowman
Kathie and Thomas Marshall
Tammy McLeod and John Hamilton
Dana and Randy McLean
Denise McManus
Kristi and Bob Miller
Mary Ellen and Robert Mittelstaedt
Carole and Arte Moreno
Aimee and Michael Morgan
Karen and George Nackard
Dana and Rick Naimark
Northern Trust Bank of Arizona
Rose and Harry Papp
Linda and William Pope
Annmarie and Michael Primorac
Kristin Priscella
Patti and Duke Reiter
Linda and Leon Reitz
Joey and William Ridenour
Dr. Robert Robertson
Barb and Mike Rock
Lois and Stephen Savage
Willa and Barry Schneider
Peter Smith
Dennis Thompson
Patricia Toombs
Brian Trahan
Melissa Ward and Bill Muster
Cheri Warner-Beyer and Paul Beyer
 Roxanne and Jim Weaver
Kimberly and Michael Yue

Who says fundraisers can’t be fun? Our Galaxy Gala 2016 delighted more than 400 guests with the world premiere of the featured exhibition, POPnology™. The evening included a POPstar welcome reception with hands-on demonstrations by our POPular staff, an eye-POPping dinner and dessert, followed by a not-to-be-missed Science After Dark Party in CREATE, envisioned by Galaxy Gala Chair Rebecca Ailes-Fine and Vice-Chairs Lisa Shover Kackley and Lee Courtney. Technology-inspired entertainment was provided by Urban Electra, and CREATE activities included an LED jewelry “Bling Bar” and a 3D Scan Station. Guests generously participated in the evening’s interactive CREATE Initiative, which raised funds for the Center’s STEM educational programs.
Arizona Science Center’s mission is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science.

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