



About the Museum

Through the generosity of friends like you, the Virginia Discovery Museum provides hands-on educational opportunities for children ages zero to 8 in a safe environment where children, families, and caregivers can explore, imagine, and discover together. The playful learning experiences made possible by VDM enable children to explore new skills and concepts, build resourcefulness, and develop focus and resilience. In today's world, where opportunities for imaginative play are limited, the Discovery Museum offers an environment in which children from all backgrounds work together to imagine, create, and innovate.

Located on Charlottesville's Downtown Mall, VDM is a community organization that provides families throughout the Charlottesville-Albemarle region with vital early childhood educational resources. Our mission is to make the Museum available to all children in our community, regardless of life circumstances and income level, and we partner with several local and regional groups to ensure our patronage represents the diversity of our region. VDM offers more than 30 educational drop-in classes each month and a Traveling Trunks program, designed in accordance with the Virginia Standards of Learning, to bring Museum resources directly to schools and other community groups.

2016 BY THE NUMBERS

- **52,634:** Museum visitors
- **6:** New exhibits that debuted as part of our Spring 2016 renovation
- **3,643:** Visitors from 34 family and child services agencies granted sponsored admission to VDM
- **2,260:** Children who attended weekly programs to learn about art, science, history, and culture
- **1,100:** Visitors who attended our Kid*Vention community science fair
- **300:** Runners cheered in our Discovery Dash to promote health, fitness, and sportsmanship
- **25:** Scholarships offered in our inaugural camp scholarship program
- **305:** Volunteers, ages 15-85, who contributed over 3,700 hours of service to the Museum

From Our Community

“We are required to provide services to children and their families in settings that would be typical or natural for typically developing children. The Discovery Museum is a rich ‘natural’ environment in which to provide, speech, occupational, or physical therapy to these little ones. We greatly appreciate the free admission policy that allows us to bring families that are not members.”

Susan H. Shaw, Program Director

Infant & Toddler Connection of the Blue Ridge

“The Partnership with the Discovery Museum has greatly enhanced our Learning Ready Programs by providing free, developmentally appropriate family activities for our program participants. Lessons learned during our programs are reinforced at the museum, which puts an emphasis on imaginary play, gross motor skill development, and school readiness preparation.”

Jacqueline Bryant, LPC

Executive Director, ReadyKids

“The museum has allowed our youth to participate in an Olympic-themed summer camp and provides a generous open invitation for the children to use the museum. This partnership has enriched our young residents with a great opportunity to learn and create in a fun setting that is close to home.”

Claudette Grant, Community Organizer

Friendship Court, Piedmont Housing Alliance

Staff & Board of Directors

MUSEUM STAFF

Lindsay Jones
Director of Operations

Kaitlin German
Education Manager

Matt Berman
Exhibits & Marketing Manager

Stephanie Litton
Gallery Coordinator

Kelly Farmer
Volunteer Coordinator

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*Non-Voting Members Currently Acting as Interim Executive Directors

Annual Report
2016



Fostering intellectual curiosity and development for all children of our community.

524 E. Main St., Charlottesville, VA 22902

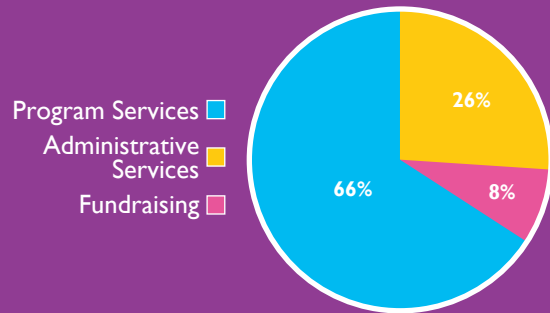
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f i t @vadiscovery

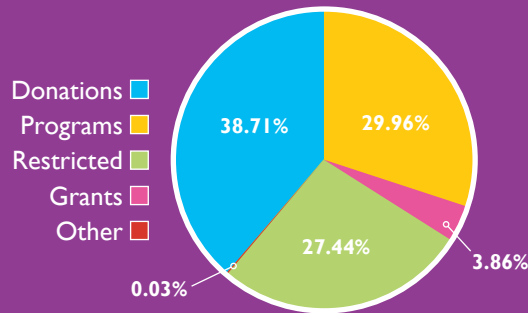
Financial Profile

The Virginia Discovery Museum is dedicated to providing exciting, imaginative, and educational experiences to children and families while closely managing our limited resources. We depend on the generosity of individual donors, foundations, and businesses. Your support for our annual fund helps us ensure access to our programs for all children, regardless of their family's financial situation, while maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for our youngest community members, from our historic carousel to the honey bee observation hive.

Expenses (July 2015-June 2016)



Revenue (July 2015-June 2016)



Become a Donor



We would love to welcome you as a Museum supporter – consider donating to VDM! We are a registered 501(c)(3) charity, and you may contribute by completing the enclosed donor card and returning it to P.O. Box 1128, Charlottesville, VA 22902; scanning the QR code; or visiting vadm.org/donate-to-vdm.

Thank You to Our Supporters

Includes corporate donors, grants, and in-kind donations. We have worked to ensure the accuracy of this list, but contact us if you feel changes are appropriate.

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- Abigail & Lance Kimbrough
- Kurt Kroeger



Partner Spotlight

This year, VDM welcomed seven new partner agencies to our Sponsored Admission Program:

- Habitat Partner Families
- International Neighbors
- The Ishan Gala Foundation
- Southwood Partner Families
- UVA Children's Hospital CHAMP
- Piedmont CASA
- Piedmont Housing Alliance

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- BACON Club of Charlottesville High School
- Baggby's
- Bama Works Foundation
- Beck Cohen

- Better Living Foundation
- Blue Ridge Bread d.b.a. Panera Bread Brandscape
- Buckingham Branch Railroad
- Building Goodness Foundation
- Ceiling & Floor Shop
- Charlottesville Area Community Foundation
- Charlottesville Parking Center
- Charlottesville Pediatric Dentistry
- Charlottesville Track Club
- Child Development Laboratories at UVA
- City of Charlottesville
- Claude Moore Charitable Foundation
- Commonwealth Restaurant
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- Dominion Foundation
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- Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
- Patriot Aluminum Products, LLC
- The Peabody School
- Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Central Virginia
- Prentiss Family Foundation
- Putt Putt Golf Course
- PYE Interiors
- Ragged Mountain Running Shop
- Relay Foods
- Rippin Run Garden Club
- Royer, Caramanis McDonough
- Sedona Taphouse
- Shenanigans
- Sherwin Williams
- S & P Global Marketing Intelligence
- Susan Parmar Photography
- Susan W. Davenport & W. Edgar Spigle Fund
- Tate Pray
- T & N Printing
- Wegmans
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- Target
- Triple C Camp
- UVA Children's Hospital
- UVA School of Medicine
- WHTJ Charlottesville PBS
- WNNRN