May wild hearts never slow, and open minds never close. 2015 Community Report

Dear Friends,

We are truly fortunate to be part of a community that believes in our children, and that play, discovery and art are fundamental in their development. As you read this report, you will see that these beliefs are ever present at the core of The Building for Kids Children’s Museum. This past year has been full of achievements. We developed new, engaging programming, worked with community partners to refresh exhibits, re-branded ourselves with an updated look, and collaborated with multiple local organizations to better serve the needs of our community.

These exciting updates are only possible because of our donors, members and visitors like you. Thank you for supporting our mission of empowering children, engaging parents and energizing our community.

Whether it’s through our educational programming, art education in the da Vinci art studio, field trips, special exhibits, or just a day of fun, we know you and your family will find The Building for Kids a special experience. We hope many of you will find a time (or several!) to visit us this next year to see what we have to offer. As we enter our 25th anniversary year, we can’t wait to show you what 2016 has in store for our community!

Thank you for your support and partnership.

Jarrad Bittner, Executive Director

By the Numbers

- 6,855 Discovery Class Students
- 1,439 Member Families
- Over 100,000 Total Visitors
- 65 Steamboat Stars Visits
- 11,875 Field Trip Visitors
- 2,524 Children’s Parade Participants
- 2,524 Special Events Visitors
- 500 Birthday Party Guests

Board of Directors

Chair
Sherry Coley
Director
Amy Henselin
Treasurer
Dr. John Mielke
Secretary
Neil Wait

Executive Director
Jarrad Bittner

Staff Members

Executive Director
Jemal Bittner
Deputy Executive Director
Michael Wygle
Director of Education
Emily Bowles
Director of Development
Julia Klaski
Director of Finance
Rachel Built
Director of Administration
Jule Burns
Director of Community Outreach & Development
Emily Bowles
Director of Marketing & Communications
Mary Gay Hornseth
Director of Education
Andrea Loy
Director of Communications
Arielle Loy
Director of Fine Arts
Cody Floeter
Director of Thrivent Financial

By the Numbers

- 100,000 Birthday Party Guests
- 3,025 Member Families
- Over 100,000 Total Visitors
- 65 Steamboat Stars Visits
- 11,875 Field Trip Visitors
- 2,524 Children’s Parade Participants
- 2,524 Special Events Visitors
- 500 Birthday Party Guests

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All because of your support

In November of 2015 we begin our 25th year — and we have big things planned! Because of generous community support, you will see the addition of flight simulators in our Gulfstream aircraft, a renewed TheaCare Physicians Oral Hospital, a new Thirst Mutual Funds Water Gallery, a new Pierce fire truck and more! To mention the smaller updates and improvements we are constantly doing to make the Museum awesome for children, parents and the community.

And we will continue to create quality programming, fun field trip opportunities and be an amazing place to spend the day exploring.

Looking forward to 2016.

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Looking forward to 2016.
## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2015 Income: $1,111,051</th>
<th>2014 Income: $721,609</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children's Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>29%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>7%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current &amp; Future Exhibit Upgrades</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
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## Expenses

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2015 Expenses: $961,507</th>
<th>2014 Expenses: $917,907</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Income</td>
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## Empowered children. Engaged parents.

**Make-a-Wish Kids Creations**

Make-a-Wish kids’ Creations was part of a Leadership Fox Creative grant to provide a variety of fun experiences for children. The theme was “Energy in Action” so the kids created art, photos, music, and games to explore a theme related to energy. The Museum hosted a ticketed event in September to celebrate the work of the Make-a-Wish kids. The kids created an art project and performed a live 4-wheel Baja Car race! The event ended with a live auction of the kids’ artwork for Make-a-Wish.

**Exhibit Programming**

Exhibit programming helps us be visible in the community and reach out to families who have disabilities that might prevent them from visiting the Museum. Before the Chapter on Private, we had four exhibits in our drop-in exhibit space. In 2015, the exhibit was just one of several free exhibits in the Space that included: "Discovery Days" and "International Playtime." The exhibit programming events are designed to reduce barriers and increase kids confidence.

**Spectrum Saturdays**

Spectrum Saturdays were created to give kids on the Spectrum an opportunity to enjoy a free hands-on exhibit environment. For the Spectrum Saturday on the third Saturday of each month, kids with disabilities have free admission to the Museum. From 10 am – 10 pm, and can stay and play all day at any exhibit. Kids can join the Autism Society of the Fox Valley for free admission to Spectrum Saturdays. The Autism Society of the Fox Valley is a partner for supporting the program in 2015.

**Outreach Events**

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**Spark!**

Spark! is a program for people living with memory loss and their caregivers. Spark! aims to support the intergenerational Science Cycles part in programs including through college and career training. The Spark! program gives us the opportunity to engage members of the community that might not be regular visitors. Thank you to the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region for their support!

## Energized communities.

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## Thank you for your support!

**Leaders**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>$100,000 &amp; Up</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Builder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explorer</td>
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**Partners**

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**Supporters**

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**Sponsors**

<table>
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<table>
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