



The
Building for
Kids[®]
children's museum



Community Report 2016

Dear Friends,

What an amazing year we've had at The Building for Kids Children's Museum. We hope to share with you just a glimpse of all we have accomplished throughout the past 12 months. With our 25-year anniversary celebration fast approaching in November, 2017 will be even more exciting! We have a few surprises in store; new interactive exhibits, expanded educational programs and even more exciting events. These are all in the spirit of our mission to empower children, engage parents and energize our community.

As a not-for-profit organization, we are so grateful to live in a community that supports and understands the importance of engaged play and early childhood development. Thank you to all of our donors, volunteers, members and visitors - without all of you, we would not be here today.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Museum!



Jarrad Bittner, Executive Director



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MaryGay Hornseth, Educator
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Jenna Sheldon
Abigail Taylor
Rachel Warning



2016 was awesome! What's next?

We had quite a busy year in 2016 and 2017 will be just as exciting! You may have noticed the new Pierce Fire Truck, renovated Thrivent Mutual Funds Water Gallery (including a new water table!), renovated Gulfstream Aircraft and the addition of a Building Block Wall in



Construction Junction. Our exhibit renovations take into consideration kids of differing abilities, making it easier for everyone to come play.



New and exciting programs were added in 2016. Some of these programs include Busy Bees which is an interactive program that incorporates elements of science and art to hands-on activities, Suzuki which uses the Suzuki teaching method to encourage different skills and concept development and Big Arts in the Little Apple which helped inspire visual arts and music appreciation in the Appleton Area School District. Existing programs like Puddle Jumpers, Storybook Stars, Spectrum Saturday and SPARK! have seen an increase in programs, expanded content and increased attendance.

2017 will be filled with inspiring changes as well! The 2017-2018 planned renovations include the Boldt Crane in Construction Junction, Huggies Happy Baby Garden, Kwik Trip, Move It by AZCO and the Renewable Energy House. The Gulfstream Aircraft will be going through stage two of its renovation, adding flight simulators to the exhibit. Some renovations will be minor, updating the spaces and adding some new elements. But some will be major, with the exhibits being completely re-imagined and redesigned.



Programs currently in development for 2017 include art classes, summer camps and more STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programming.



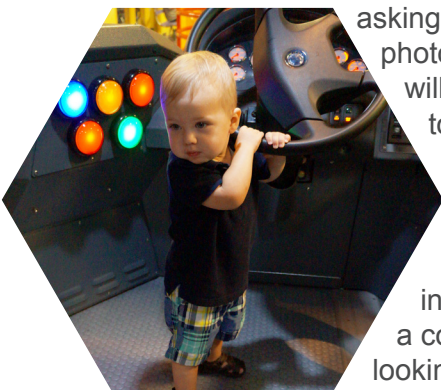
Another exciting project at the Museum is our Innovation Lab. We are in the beginning stages of developing the Lab, which will be a highly programmed space dedicated to engaging children and families in STEM education.

The Innovation Lab will be a space unique to Northeast Wisconsin and children's museums around the state. More than a makerspace, it will be an interactive space for children and parents to experience hands-on STEM learning.

The programs created for the Lab will allow children to engage in activities that encourage creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration and communication. These are life-long skills that will assist children through their K-12 education as well into the workforce. By teaching these skills early, we are creating a foundation for inquisitive and innovative learners.



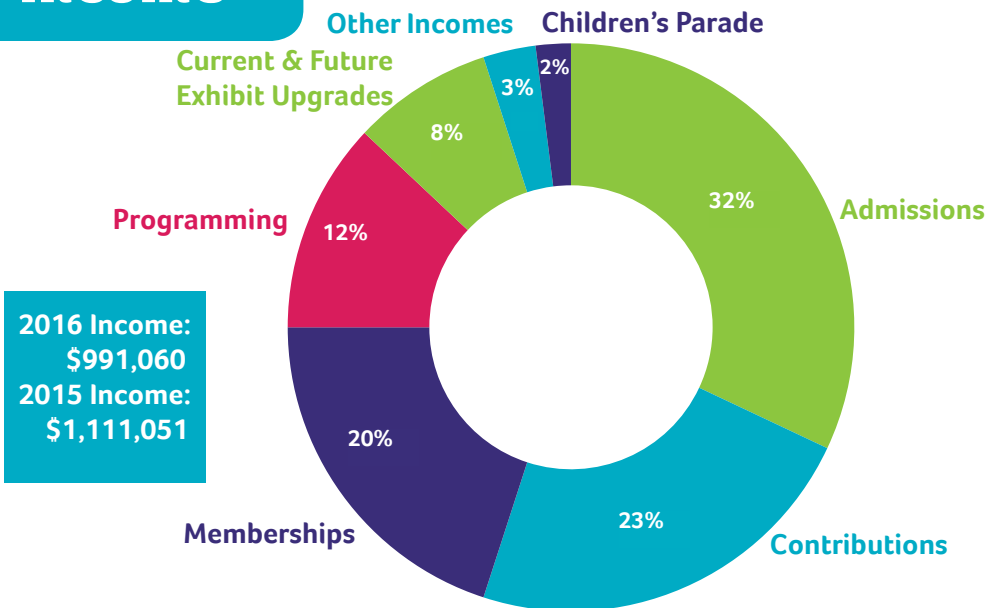
Topping off our exciting and busy year, on November 4 we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary. We will be highlighting the new and updated exhibits, as well as celebrating you! It is because of our generous and supportive community we are able to accomplish everything we do. As part of our 25th Anniversary, we are asking the community to help us by sharing photos and memories of the Museum. These will be collected and curated into an exhibit to highlight where we started and create excitement for the future.



Through it all, we will be asking for feedback from you. We are always interested in your thoughts and ideas. As a community museum, we are constantly looking for better ways to serve you.

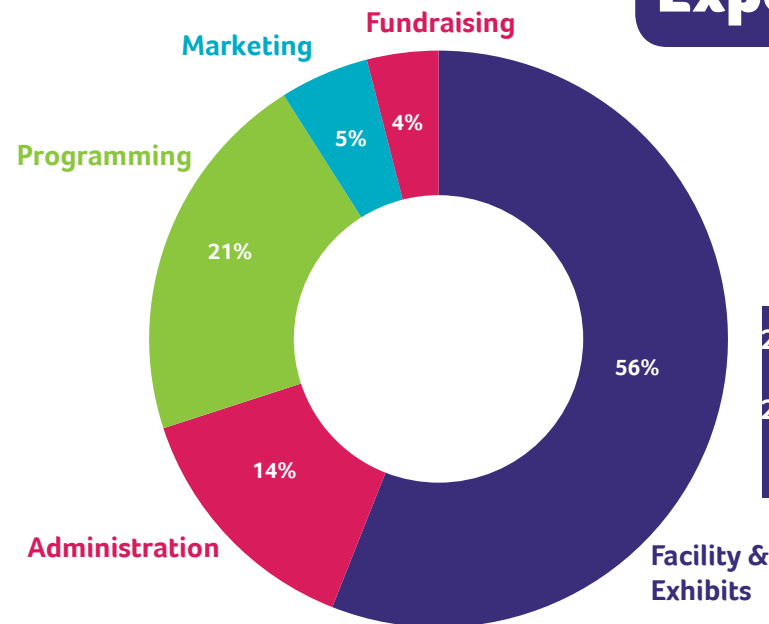


Income



2016 Income: \$991,060
2015 Income: \$1,111,051

Expenses



2016 Expenses: \$953,594
2015 Expenses: \$961,507

*Money that was pledged in 2016, but not received, is not listed. It will be listed in the year received.



2016 - By the Numbers

1,813
Member
Families

6,567
Free Day
Visitors

**More than
108,000**
Total
Visitors

302
Programs

8,292
Discovery
Class
Participants

13,231
Field Trip
Visitors

22
Outreach
Events

2,629
Birthday Party
Guests





Thank you for your support!

Partner: \$50,000 - \$99,999

Dr. John and Sally Mielke
The Boldt Company

Innovator: \$25,000 - \$49,999

Pierce Manufacturing
Gulfstream

Builder: \$10,000 - \$24,999

AZCO Inc.
Mielke Family Foundation
ThedaCare
School Specialty

Navigator: \$5,000 - \$9,999

Appleton Fox Cities Kiwanis Club
Charitable Fund*
Children's Parade Proceeds
Delta Dental
Fox Communities Credit Union
Goodwill NCW
Hartwig Family Foundation
Schneider National Foundation
Stellar Blue
The Bemis Company Foundation
Thrivent Financial -
Outagamie County Chapter

Creator: \$1,000 - \$4,999

A-1 Moving and Storage
Anonymous
Appleton Rotary Club Foundation -
Helen Thom Roemer Fund*
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Sons Silvercrest Fund*
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* Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

Thank you for your support!

Adventurer: \$500 - \$999

4imprint, Inc.
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C.F. Power
Amy and Gary Cebulski
City Café
Festival Foods
Cody and Teresa Floeter
Amy Henselin
Greta W. Rogers Fund*
Doug & Carla Salmon
The Free market
Thrivent Financial -
Employee Match/cause program

Designer: \$250 - \$499

Bay Tek Games
Jarrad and Kate Bittner
Galloway Company
Ironwood Foundation
In memory of Brittany Jean Floeter
Northeast Wisconsin
Building & Construction
Presto Products
Sherwin-Williams
St. Francis Xavier
Catholic School System

Explorer: \$249 & Under

Amazon Smile
Heidi Bates
Katy Compton
James and Gail Cummings
Susan and Louis Eich
Ernst & Young Campaign
Cynthia Flauger
Terry Funk
David Hansen
David and Dorrie Hipschman
Chris Howard
In Memory of Joseph C. Mokry
Rakestraw Enterprises Inc.
Roberta and David Schmidt
Serwas Window Cleaning Service
Larry Siltan
Jon and Rebecca Stellmacher
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Employee Donations
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Keith Wilk



* Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region



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