

ABOUT THE BAKKEN MUSEUM

The Bakken Museum is a nonprofit community museum inspiring a passion for innovation by exploring the potential for science, technology, and the humanities to make the world a better place. Located in Minneapolis, the museum features a world-renowned collection of artifacts, exceptional education programs, exhibits exploring the wonders of invention, plant medicine, technology, and science, and the Florence Bakken Medicinal Garden.



MISSION

The Bakken Museum inspires a passion for innovation by exploring the potential for science, technology, and the humanities to make the world a better place.

KEY PROGRAMS

On-site Education // During youth education programs, students learn to use tools and technology in our makerspace. Offerings range from single-day workshops to multi-week clubs, and each program is designed to foster a sense of confidence and resiliency. On-site education programs focus on grades two through nine.

Off-site Education // Our outreach team travels across Minnesota and the Upper Midwest to provide engaging STEM programs to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The museum's programs use humor and exciting demonstrations to explore the connections between science, technology, and the humanities.

Exhibits + Collections // The Bakken Museum's exhibits and collections explore the cycle of innovation and inspiration. The museum offers seven exhibits, three acres of gardens, and 15,000 artifacts providing historical context for visitors to make connections and ask questions.

66

Minnesota counties served

7,531

On-site education program participants

21,790

Off-site education program participants

20,594

Museum visitors

260

School and community partners

FEATURED PARTNERSHIP

The Bakken Museum launched the Week of Wonder Residency Program. Educators from the museum visit an elementary school for three to five days. Students engage in classroom workshops and attend assembly shows allowing multiple encounters to develop science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) thinking skills while aligning with relevant state standards. By providing a distinct set of experiences for each grade, the program can be repeated annually, allowing for cumulative growth. In the 2023-24 biennium, the program was expanded thanks to a generous appropriation from the Minnesota State Legacy Fund, bringing the program to nearly 4,000 students at schools in Worthington, Red Lake, Saint Michael, and Nett Lake, as well as schools in both Minneapolis & Saint Paul.

WEEK OF WONDER RESIDENCY



FEATURED PARTNERSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE MATH



Over the last several years, Bakken Museum educators collaborated with Minneapolis Public School (MPS) teachers to address specific math benchmark learning standards. During the school year, museum educators delivered our original computational literacy programs to every kindergarten and first grade classroom in the MPS district. In addition, each elementary school in MPS received classroom sets of Bee Bots and a corresponding curriculum to keep learning after our visit. Museum staff designed a series of ten follow-up lessons, using Bee Bots to practice math and coding skills. This collective model, combining a classroom visit, teacher professional development, and leave-behind curriculum, was praised by teachers and is poised to expand into other grade levels for future Minneapolis students.

ADDITIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:

- » Hennepin County
- » Minneapolis Institute of Art
- » Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
- » Minneapolis Public Schools District
- » Minnesota Historical Society
- » Minnesota Science Teachers Association
- » Open Eye Theatre
- » PBS
- » Project Success
- » Red Lake Elementary School
- » St. Paul Public Schools District
- » St. Paul Urban Tennis