

## Agency Purpose

The Science Museum of Minnesota (SMM) is a statewide, nonprofit, educational resource operating the state's largest and only broad-based organization devoted to helping the public—including school-aged youth—to understand issues of science, technology, engineering, and math and prepare them to become the “next generation” workforce to fuel Minnesota’s continued economic development.

The SMM plays a critical role in teaching and inspiring school-age children to understand the world around them. SMM is a key partner with the Minnesota Department of Education, co-sponsoring such events as the Governor’s Roundtable on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Programs are provided both at the museum and in schools across the state. Learning is encouraged by using inquiry science and hands-on activities to stimulate student interest. SMM also provides tools and professional development for teachers and school district science curriculum coordinators to enhance their classroom skills and support state standards and assessments.

SMM also conducts original research, especially in the environmental sciences, to support key management and policy decisions critical for state purposes.

## Core Functions

- ⇒ Advances pre-K-12 student achievement in science and math regionally and nationally.
- ⇒ Fosters civic understanding and engagement on issues of science which impact the quality of our lives—through exhibits, films, lectures, and forums.
- ⇒ Conducts original research that has practical applications for making science-based decisions about use of critical natural resources.
- ⇒ Protects and interprets the 1.75 million objects and artifacts housed in permanent collections at the museum.

## Operations

- ⇒ Offers the widest range of science and technology topics of any museum in the state. Visitor learning opportunities include giant screen films in the popular Omnitheater and 3-D cinema and exhibits about physics and technology, environmental science, ancient life on earth, human culture, and the human body.
- ⇒ Attracts and serves Minnesota citizens from all corners of the state
  - ◆ 54% of visitors live in the suburbs, 24% live in Minneapolis/St. Paul and 22% live in greater Minnesota
  - ◆ 60% of visitors are families with children, 20% are school groups, and 20% are adults without children
- ⇒ Serves students and teachers from across the state in programs at the museum or in their local schools
  - ◆ 150,000 students visit the museum on field trips. The museum provides resources to teachers to tie their visits to classroom activities. Specialized tours and activities are also available.

## At A Glance

### Highlights:

- ◆ 1.2 million people served annually, including 260,000 school children (combined field trip and outreach programs)
- ◆ 1,600 teachers participate in workshops and institutes each year
- ◆ 250 business and government leaders participated in STEM policy workshops
- ◆ 1.75 million objects and artifacts are housed in collections and interpreted by museum staff
- ◆ 300 full-time (FTE’s) and 1,800 volunteers work to engage the public in learning

### FY 2006-07 Operating Budget: \$30.3 million

- ◆ Earned income: \$17.6 million (58%)
- ◆ Restricted project grants: \$7.6 million (25%)
- ◆ Private support: \$4.3 million (14.5%)
- ◆ State appropriation: \$750,000 (2.5%)

### Impact:

- ◆ **Science education:** presents policy forums for education, business, and civic leaders. Center for engaging youth and families in science, technology, engineering, and math.
- ◆ **Science policy:** conducts research with a public benefit (e.g., water quality on the St. Croix, methyl mercury studies). Cares for collections that support ongoing research for state institutions.
- ◆ **Economic impacts:** generates \$90 million in total economic activity, attracting \$6-8 million in new funds each year from outside the state.
- ◆ **Tourism:** serves the largest audience among the state’s museums/zoos, drawing from every county in Minnesota and the five-state region.
- ◆ **Community partners:** shares resources with 60 community based science organizations, 100 social service agencies, and dozens of educational and civic groups to support their educational and service goals.

- ◆ 110,000 students in classrooms across the state are served by SMM instructors annually. Programs include hour-long assemblies, five-day residencies on special topics, trunks of artifacts/activities, and teacher materials.
  - ◆ 1,600 teachers each year participate in our professional development programs to improve their expertise in math and science and to acquire new instructional methods to engage student interest through hands on activities. SMM outreach efforts impact more than 100,000 students annually.
- ⇒ Conducts scientific research in service to the public
- ◆ SMM operates the St. Croix Watershed Research Station (SCWRS) in Marine-on-St. Croix in Washington County. Scientists seek solutions to critical environmental problems such as the loss of biodiversity and degradation of surface and groundwater.
  - ◆ The SMM paleontology program provides both laboratory and field research across the state and around the world. Scientists advance our understanding of the past while creating a foundation for studies that inform the future, advancing such fields as histology and Paleolimnology and working with graduate students and faculty across the state.
- ⇒ SMM is a national leader in the science museum field:
- ◆ SMM is a leading producer of IMAX films, hands-on exhibits, and experiment benches, and youth development programs.
  - ◆ New initiatives include making current science and research more accessible, serving as an outreach partner for scientists at the University of Minnesota, and exploring new models for increasing student success, especially for children who are not succeeding in the current system.

### Key Measures

- ⇒ Visitor research studies and formal evaluations of major exhibits, films and educational programs.
- ⇒ Publications in peer reviewed journals, books, and monographs.
- ⇒ Performance against annual budget and program goals.
- ⇒ Peer-reviewed competitive grants, bringing \$6-8 million in federal funds into the Minnesota economy and supporting employment and product development.

### Budget

FY 2007 Budget: \$30.326 million (\$22.692 million in unrestricted funds and \$7.634 million in one-time projects).

#### Sources of \$22.692 million in unrestricted funds (75% of the total SMM budget)

- ◆ \$17.6 million in earned revenue (admissions, membership, stores, parking, classes, fees)
- ◆ \$3.24 million in unrestricted contributions. *Includes the state grant of \$750,000.*
- ◆ \$1.7 million investment income

#### Sources of \$7.634 million in restricted revenue (25% of the total SMM budget)

Restricted funds support costs outside of the ongoing operating budget for special projects, such as the development of new exhibits, films, and educational programs.

- ◆ Federal grants: \$5.4 million
- ◆ Private contributions and grants: \$2.2 million

### Contact

Science Museum of Minnesota  
120 West Kellogg Boulevard  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
<http://www.smm.org>

Kathleen Wilson, Vice President, External Relations  
Phone (651) 221-9499, Fax (651) 221-4525, E-mail [kwilson@smm.org](mailto:kwilson@smm.org)

*Dollars in Thousands*

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2008-09
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	
<b><u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u></b>					
<b>General</b>					
Current Appropriation	750	750	750	750	1,500
<b>Forecast Base</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,500</b>
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					0%
 <b><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></b>					
<b>Direct Appropriations</b>					
General	750	750	750	750	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,500</b>
 <b><u>Expenditures by Category</u></b>					
Local Assistance	750	750	750	750	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,500</b>
 <b><u>Expenditures by Program</u></b>					
Science Museum Of Minn	750	750	750	750	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,500</b>