



PORT DISCOVERY
Children's Museum

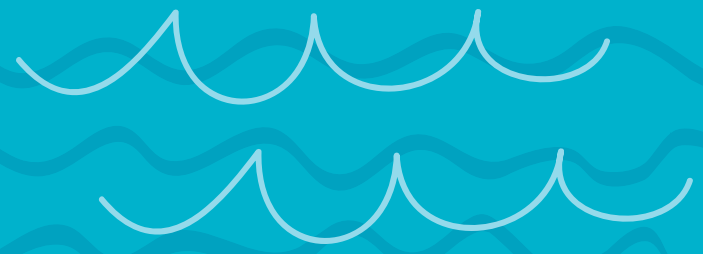
ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2019

July 1st 2018 - June 30th 2019

Fiscal Year 2020

July 1st 2019 - June 30th 2020



DEAR FRIENDS,

In 2019, Port Discovery Children's Museum underwent our first major renovation since we opened 23 years ago! To provide the children and families of Maryland with new and innovative hands-on experiences, the Museum unveiled a long-awaited Port-themed exhibit paying homage to the 300-year-old industry that created Baltimore. We also unveiled a new **SkyClimber**, and major renovations to public spaces throughout the Museum including restrooms, the nursing area, the lunchroom, and the lobby.

Equally important, we continued to invest in our surrounding community by advancing and expanding our free and reduced admission programs. We also expanded our outreach offerings and partnerships allowing us to reach children who have never been involved with the museum before.

All of our worlds changed in the Spring of 2020 due to the Covid-19 global pandemic and the museum had to temporarily close our doors on March 13 -- but how we could continue to serve our children and families everywhere was on our minds and in our hearts.

While we couldn't invite guests back into the museum, we were able to bring families exciting, playful, and fun virtual Creative Art Activities, Music and Movement, Theatre, Early Literacy and Storytimes, Health and Wellness, and STEM activities designed to help children continue learning while they were at home.

Our community partnerships helped Port Discovery reach the children who needed us most in innovative ways. With distribution partners like The Hunger Project and funders like Baltimore Community Foundation, we distributed PlayPacks to low-income Baltimore families with young children. We also partnered in the Baltimore Summer Arts Passports project, leveraging the power of creativity to keep children emotionally healthy during this stressful time. Our staff delivered hundreds of Passports to Heart's Place for inclusion, along with art supplies, in the nonprofit's "weekend survival kits" providing food and toiletries for homeless children at sites across Baltimore. We delivered virtual early literacy programs, PlayPacks, and much-needed family meals to the homes of early learners enrolled in Baltimore City Judy Centers last fall with support from PNC. And most recently, we began a partnership with Belair-Edison School to support a group of Baltimore City youth as they built leadership skills and document their pandemic experiences as members of the Next Generation Youth Advisory Council with support from Baltimore Children and Youth Fund.

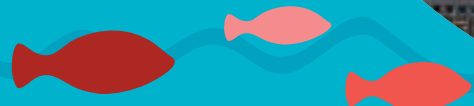
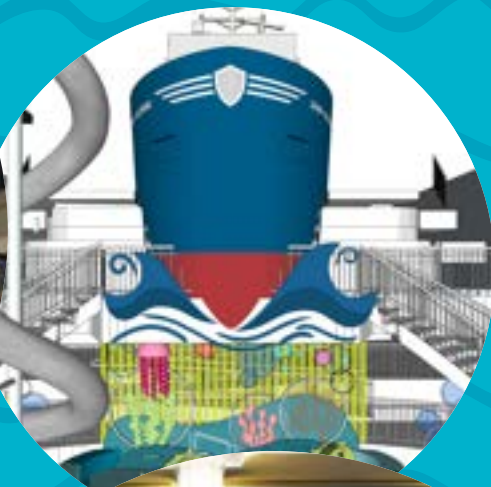
As always, our work would not be possible without the ongoing commitment of our dedicated staff, board of directors, donors, members, and our numerous community partners across the region. We thank you for being part of our past years and we're honored that you have been on this journey with us. Your continued support has made it possible.

With Gratitude,

Bryn Parchman
President & CEO

Dennis Rasmussen
Chair, Board of Directors





NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

By the numbers, PRE COVID July 2019* - March 2020

39% of Port Discovery's non-member guests received free or significantly reduced admission through the Museum's combined access initiatives.

34,000 guests took advantage of completely free admission.

Almost **70%** of all public school groups that visited Port Discovery on a field trip were from schools with Title I designations.

16% of field trip groups to Port Discovery came from out of state.

53.2% of field trips groups to Port Discovery came from outside of Central Maryland.

Almost **8%** of field trips groups to Port Discovery came from Washington, DC.

5,802 children and families visited Port Discovery's **Pop-Up Play Space at the Shops at Kenilworth** in Baltimore County between February and May.

By the numbers, COVID March 2020 - June 2020**

- 1,310 individually assembled project kits packed, bundled into series bags for YMCA of Central Maryland.
- 48 Belair Edison PlayPacks packed and delivered to school for distribution.
- 2,600 PlayPacks were distributed in partnership with The Hunger Project and Weekend Backpacks for Homeless Kids.
- 86 live virtual Museum on the Road sessions.

* The museum was closed January - June of 2019 for renovations.

** The museum was closed March-October 2020 due to COVID.

"Every child is an actor when playing make believe..."

Cailin and Derek
Program Highlight, Theater Program

More than a silly play, we create a space in which children's ideas and voices are heard, respected, and amplified with a robust schedule of in-house and guest performances. When children are given the props and tools to do dramatic play they are given the freedom to explore their world and give new feelings a try. Every child is an actor when playing make believe, but they also experience firsthand that dramatic play is much more than acting, they can operate props, build set pieces, and try out more facets of theater beyond actual performing.



NEAR AND FAR

Port Discovery Children's Museum is and will continue to be an important part of the region beyond the museum walls.

236,452 visitors to the Hereford, Perry Hall, and Towson branches of the Baltimore County Public Library had the opportunity to interact with *Nano*, Port Discovery's traveling nanoscience exhibit.

Port Discovery's **13-week** series of STEM learning provided to students through the Baltimore Library Project clocked in as the longest consecutive series of enrichment programming that Port Discovery has ever offered.

Port Discovery expanded its reach to Western Maryland, providing circus-themed school assemblies to **2,400** students at **6** Washington County schools.

Port Discovery hosted **56** different outside groups and performers at the Museum.

Port Discovery's *Museum on the Road* and *After School* programming reached over **41%** more children and families than in FY18.

Outreach to children and families in Anne Arundel County increased by over **150%**, providing *Museum on the Road* programming to over **1,200** children.

Outreach to children and families in Baltimore City increased by over **13%**, providing *Museum on the Road* and *After School* programming to over **7,000** children.

Outreach to children and families in Howard County increased by almost **40%**, providing *Museum on the Road* programming to over **350** children.

Outreach to children and families in Prince George's County increased by over **14%**, providing *Museum on the Road* programming to almost **950** children.

Outreach to children and families on the Eastern Shore increased by over **117%**, providing *Museum on the Road* programming to almost **950** children.



Barb, Program Highlight, After School Enrichment

The term "after school" doesn't cover what our outreach team provides to schools across the region. Our talented outreach team has the training to inspire and become an educational game changer. To many kids, a visit from Port Discovery Children's Museum is the day that math, science, or art concepts finally "click" inspiring lifelong curiosity. Each of our 5 session series begins way before our staff makes it into the classroom and extends well after the series ends. Unlike other out of the box programs, our talented staff constantly refreshes our program offerings and makes every effort to connect with what students are learning in and out of the classroom- making a visit from Port Discovery Children's Museum a memorable and enriching after school experience.

FY 2019

Thank you for your generosity!

GOVERNMENT

\$100,000+

Maryland State Department of Education

\$50,000 - \$99,999

The Citizens of Baltimore County

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Howard County Government and the Howard County Arts Council

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Maryland State Arts Council

ANNUAL FUND

Innovators

\$100,000+

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Trailblazers

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“Design excellence that provides a different way of seeing the world.”

Hope - Traveling Exhibits

Our traveling exhibits bring a fresh experience to visitors inside the museum and take a piece of Port Discovery to the children that otherwise will not be able to interact with the museum. With a robust network of partner organizations, our traveling exhibits visit libraries, community centers, and fairs across the state. With our “Here We Grow” traveling exhibit, visitors are invited to step into and explore the world of Maryland farming and agriculture. Our design helps children create memorable new experiences while they milk a virtual cow, sort eggs, look into a horse’s body, learn about the rich and social lives of the farmers that bring food to their table- fun stuff while learning about the crucial role that Maryland farming and agriculture play on the region.



FY 2020

GOVERNMENT

\$100,000+

Maryland State Department of Education

\$50,000 - \$99,999

The Citizens of Baltimore County

\$15,000 - \$35,000

Howard County Government and the Howard County Arts Council
Maryland State Arts Council

ANNUAL FUND

Innovators

\$100,000+

BGE
Sylvan/Laureate Foundation

Trailblazers

\$50,000 - \$99,999

The Orokawa Foundation
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Anonymous

Creative Thinkers

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Discovery Makers

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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PD Fans

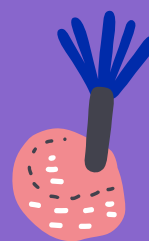
\$500 - \$999

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Derek - Mother Goose on the Loose

The early literacy program, Mother Goose on the Loose, ensures that the immersive museum experience is available to our youngest learners. During this time, children and their caregivers listen and participate in guided rhymes, songs, book readings, musical instruments, and scarf play. Early development tips are provided so caregivers feel empowered to explore and try these activities at home too. Little by little, children experience both familiar and new content while achieving the crucial developmental milestones that bring them closer to school readiness. Mother Goose on the Loose provides catchy rhymes and a tiny taste of all that Port Discovery Children's Museum has to offer for years to come.

Port Discovery Children's Museum makes every effort to accurately acknowledge donors just like you. If an error in recognition has occurred, please contact our development staff at giving@portdiscovery.org

PLAY IT FORWARD

2019

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Play It Forward 2020
PORT DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM



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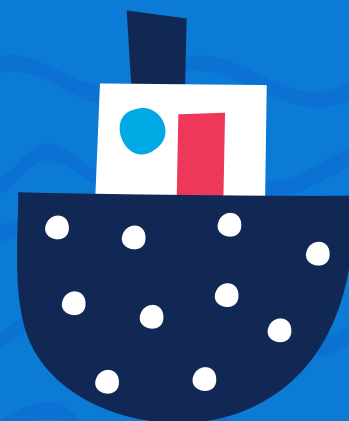
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As the premier children's museum in the mid-Atlantic, Port Discovery Children's Museum educates children and inspires life-long curiosity. We:



- ... Have a positive influence on academic success and success in life
- ... Provide a safe, smart place to engage in child-driven playful learning
- ... Are an innovative thought leader, bringing best practices to our children and families in Maryland and beyond
- ... Extend our impact by taking our programs into the community state wide

Port Discovery Children's Museum
35 Market Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

PortDiscovery.org

Port Discovery Children's Museum has educated children and inspired life-long curiosity since 1998. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit institution funded by admission, individuals, and community support. Visit PortDiscovery.org for more information about Port Discovery's access and education programs and to donate today.