2018 BY THE NUMBERS

- 67,414: Total visitors to the Virginia Discovery Museum
- 14,566: People who visited the Museum for free through Sponsored Admission, Wegmans Pay What You Wish Wednesdays, Bank of America Museums on Us, Blue Star Museums, and the JMRL Library Pass partnership
- 4,065: Service hours donated by 357 amazing volunteers
- 1,534: Field trip visitors, 1,036 of whom visited the Museum for free
- 1,181: Visitors who experimented and explored at our Kid*Vention science festival
- 249: Runners cheered for at our Discovery Dash

One Gift Supports Many …

Your gift supports not only the Museum’s nearly 70,000 visitors but also the 48 service agencies with which VDM partners to offer the Sponsored Admission Program. Participation has grown nearly 300% since 2015 to include over 7,200 free visitors in 2018. Please visit vadm.org/sponsored-admission-program to learn more and support the Sponsored Admission Program.

“We are so thankful that VDM is accessible to our families through the Sponsored Admission Program. Our mothers believe VDM has a safe, welcoming environment, and they love seeing children of all ages, races, and socioeconomic statuses learning, playing, and creating together.”

Ashley Howard, City of Promise
Enroll to Launch Coach

“Many of our CHAMP families (Children with Hemiplegic cerebral palsy Arm and hand Movement Project) have utilized the Sponsored Admission Program and have let us know how much they appreciated this resource. CHAMP serves families from all over the U.S., and while they are here for extended stays, VDM has been a wonderful place for them to play, de-stress, and meet people.”

Jodi Darring, UVA Children’s Hospital
Clinical Research Coordinator

“VDM’s Sponsored Admission Program is a great way for Southwood families to experience the Museum and their programs. Southwood kids have really enjoyed their Summer Camps and other programs.”

Rebekah Coble, Habitat for Humanity
Southwood Youth Engagement Specialist

About the Museum

Through the generosity of friends like you, the Virginia Discovery Museum provides hands-on educational opportunities for newborns to children age 8 in a safe environment where families explore, imagine, and discover together. The playful learning experiences made possible by the Museum enable children to explore new skills and concepts, build resourcefulness, and develop resilience and focus. In today’s world, where opportunities for imaginative play are limited, VDM offers a place where children from all backgrounds work together to imagine, create, and innovate.

VDM offers over 30 educational drop-in classes each month and conducts off-site programming at schools and festivals, including through our StarLab portable planetarium. In response to our 2018 visitor survey, this year, the Museum launched several new STEAM classes, growth mindset-oriented Discovery Workshops, and a monthly Date Night Drop Off Program.

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Executive Director
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Matt Berman
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Myriah Pirhala
Programming Education Manager
Jarrett Knepper
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434.977.1025  vadm.org
@vadiscovery
The Virginia Discovery Museum is a community museum and relies on the generosity of individuals, foundations, and businesses to inspire lifelong learners. Your support for VDM’s annual fund helps provide our youngest community members with educational and playful opportunities for discovery and cognitive development, regardless of a family’s ability to pay admission.

Thank You to Our Supporters

Includes corporate donors, grants, and in-kind donations. We have worked to ensure the accuracy of this list, but contact us if you feel changes are appropriate.

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Anonymous x78
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Anonymous, in honor of Zaida Diner
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Lori & David Balaban
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