What is Explora?

Explora is an innovative experiential learning center that provides exhibit activities and inquiry-based classroom programs to engage people of all ages with scientific phenomena.

At Explora, families use educational, science-rich materials in personal spaces; they get interested in science by manipulating a wide range of physical variables and by engaging in shared learning. Everyone has an opportunity to develop his or her own ideas about what they are experiencing, and parents and teachers see their children as capable and interested science learners.

Explora is driven by our core values of Community, Learning, Generosity, and Sustainability.

Individual Donors

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 Malcolm & Leon Siegel
George Soms
Patricia & Luis Stelmier

I love it here.
#bestplaceever!
Galileo Society
The Galileo Society recognizes and honors those who make a financial contribution to Explora of $25,000 or more.

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Louis & Stacy Abruzzo
Adelmo “Del” & Rebecca Archuleta
Don & Dianne Chalmers
Kay Collins
Jim & Grace Clements
Gertrude Dazzo
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Jane & Michael Flax
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Deborah Peace & Nathan Korn
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Marvin Moss
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Jain Paut
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J. Stephen & Lee Ann Rostler
Susan & Neal Shadoff
Catherine Woodward, in honor of Woody Woodward

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Elizabeth R. Quinn

Gifts in memory of:
Pamela Decker

Community Value
Community is a core value at Explora, and it informs our focus on diversity, collaboration, and achieving shared goals. One way in which we express this commitment is through our Community Partner Membership Program. Each year, Explora provides tens of thousands of no-cost museum memberships to low-income families working with our partner schools and organizations.

We also work with these partners to offer financial assistance for educational programs, such as Explora summer camps.

The parents of one of these campers described the value of their child’s experience this way: “Thank you for another day of amazing learning and creative projects for [our] little one. She comes home so confident, assured, and happy. Each and every instructor she had has given her an amazing experience with scientific, educational fun. It truly does take a community to raise a child, and we believe this community at Explora is truly amazing.”

Explora remains committed to increasing access to quality educational opportunities for all. In collaboration with organizations and individuals throughout our community, we will co-create programs, grow alongside each other, and continue to offer a safe place for people of all ages to explore and deepen their engagement with science, technology, engineering, math, and more.

Explora worked with over 110 community partners and provided over 22,000 no-cost memberships to low-income families this year.

Since 2004, Explora has provided local families with 87,000 of these no-cost memberships.

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Alan C. Buck Memorial Fund
Peter Froning Memorial Fund
Edith Perkins Menning Memorial Fund
Thames H. Wedgewood Memorial Fund
Bill Winchester Memorial Fund
Eric Andrew Youngberg Memorial Fund

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In partnership with the Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) Title I program, Explora continued to engage parents and families by offering a Family Science Night for each of Albuquerque’s 36 Title I schools. More than 17,000 students, their extended families, and their principal teachers participated in this impactful program. In addition, nearly 500 teachers took part in professional development workshops on science practices. They gained skills to help them ask effective inquiry questions when facilitating family engagement during these Explora Family Science Night events—which skills extend to classrooms and beyond.

Explora began a new partnership with the New Mexico Out-of-School-Time (NMOST) program. In partnership with the Albuquerque Community Schools and Albuquerque Community Foundation, Explora held the 2017 NMOST Learning Ecosystem. With this partnership, Explora became the fiscal sponsor. Now housed at Explora, NMOST brings together out-of-school-time providers interested in classrooms and beyond.

In partnership with the Albuquerque Autism Society and strengthened relationships with local families and therapists to develop new resources, summer camps, and sensory-friendly events for children and families affected by autism. Explora staff learned about the various sensory needs of children with autism, and gained skills and strategies to support these children and enable them to have successful museum experiences. We will continue to build and grow relationships with the local autism community, so that families know Explora is always a safe and welcoming space for them. These projects were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and United Way of Central New Mexico.

Partnering for Success


This describes Explora’s partnership and engagement strategy. Here are a few stories about partnering for success.

This year Explora became the backbone organization for STEM-NM, New Mexico’s nationally-designated STEM Learning Ecosystem. With this group, Explora held the 2017 NM Science Fiesta in Tiugas Park, attracting over 3,000 people to this celebration of science, engineering, and art. In addition, Explora and STEM-NM prepared to launch a city-wide, community-based math program, called Learning Ecosystem. With this partnership and engagement strategy, here are a few stories about partnering for success.

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**“Enjoyable way to teach basic scientific concepts. Great job!”**
Explora’s Board of Directors: Calendar Years 2016, 2017

2016 Officers
Dennis Jontz, President
Benjamin Gardner, 1st Vice President
Mary Jo Daniel, 2nd Vice President
Amanda Collum, 3rd Vice President
Cody Coombs, Treasurer
Alicia Kerschner Tappan, Secretary

2017 Officers
Steve Rottler, President
Alicia Kerschner Tappan, Vice President
Benjamin Gardner, Secretary
Kamal Ali, Treasurer

Board Members
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Attorney, New Mexico Legal Aid, Rep., Sowmill Area Neighborhood Association
Kamal Ali 2016, 2017
CEO New Mexico Operations, BBVA Compass
Dale Abeyta 2016, 2017
Professor Emerita and Regents’ Professor, University of New Mexico
Adam Baca 2016
Director, Baca & Howard P.C.
Kara Bohruff 2016
Founding Principal, Native American Community Academy
Amanda Collum 2016, 2017
Special Events, Bernalillo County Economic Development
Cody Coombs 2016
Manager, Financial Planning, PNM Energy
Mary Jo Daniel 2016, 2017
Director, Faculty Research Development and NM EPSCoR Co-PI
Pat Davis 2016
City Councilor, District 6, City of Albuquerque
Les Duda 2016, 2017
Sandra National Laboratories (retired); Educator, Explora
Dana Feldman 2016, 2017
Director of Cultural Services, City of Albuquerque
Matt Ferron 2017
Director, Technology Engagement Office, Air Force Research Laboratory, New Mexico
Jane Flax 2016, 2017
Community Volunteer
Benjamin Gardner 2016, 2017
Partner, Dokker/Pendel/Flax
John Garrity 2017
Director of Development, Harmony Technologies
James Gill 2016, 2017
Chief Financial Officer, Vista del Sol Foods
Beth Gerbin Hsi 2016, 2017
Clinical Study Coordinator, Albuquerque Clinical Trials
Erick Johnson 2016, 2017
Partner, Johnson Commercial Real Estate
Donnie Jontz 2016, 2017
Partner, Lewis, Rocca and Rothberger, LLP
Robert Jung 2016, 2017
Retired Regional President, Wells Fargo Bank
Ryan Kennedy 2017
Attorney, Los Alamos National Security LLC
John Lambert 2016
Wealth Management Advisor, Wells Fargo Advisors
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Project Director, STEM Gateway, University of New Mexico
Dave Scoby 2016, 2017
President and CEO, Kirtland Federal Credit Union
Alexis Kerschner Tappan 2016, 2017
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Executive Director, Albert I. Pérez Foundation
Kathy Tente 2016
Professor, International Business, Anderson School of Management, University of New Mexico
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Nick Eade 2017
Deputy Policy Director, New Mexico Voices for Children
Jane Flax 2016, 2017
Community Volunteer
James Gill 2016, 2017
Chief Financial Officer, Vista del Sol Foods
Paulino Gabrielli 2016, 2017
Retired State Representative, State of New Mexico Legislatures
David Hsi 2016, 2017
Professor & Adjunct Professor Emeritus, University of New Mexico– College Education Program Faculty, Taos, Santa Fe, Gallup, and Las Cruces.

Learning Impact

We would love to do this again. It also inspired us as a school. Our education students also got good modeling about interacting with children and materials.

College Education Program Faculty, Farmington, NM
To address our community’s need for high-quality early childhood education and students better-prepared for the future workforce, Explora further honed its Cradle through Career STEM Learning Strategic Focus, which is designed to engage, educate, and employ New Mexico’s students in STEM. This includes programs and initiatives for Early Explorers, ages 0-4 years, Young Scientists, ages 5-12, and Future Science Leaders, ages 13-adult. Planning for the future included developing strategic partnerships with the University of New Mexico (UNM), the Early Childhood Accountability Partnership, Carisko TTAP Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), Air Force Research Laboratory New Mexico, and more. Explora worked with these partners to pilot new programs, draft feasibility studies and potential business plans, and develop funding matrices for sustainability in our strategic focus growth areas.

In collaboration with UNM’s neuroscience department, Explora provides mentorship opportunities for 40 middle school students as they become journal reviewers and ensure scientists write appealing articles. Kids learn about neuroscience and the peer review process. UNM graduate students support them as they read articles, try hands-on activities, and “tell scientists what to do.” Along the way, the middle school students get STEM mentors from UNM and start to envision themselves as STEM professionals.

Explora’s Cradle through Career STEM Learning Strategic Focus strives to keep New Mexico’s children on pathways to STEM courses of study and careers, while helping the community achieve educational and economic aspirations.

A New Record!

Over 316,000 people experienced Explora last year, up almost 17,000 from the previous year, and a record high for Explora!
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One of our exciting pilot programs, Frontiers for Young Minds (F4YM), is an online science journal for kids. In collaboration with UNM’s neuroscience department, Explora provides mentorship opportunities for 40 middle school students as they become journal reviewers and ensure scientists write appealing articles. Kids learn about neuroscience and the peer review process. UNM graduate students support them as they read articles, try hands-on activities, and “tell scientists what to do.” Along the way, the middle school students get STEM mentors from UNM and start to envision themselves as STEM professionals.

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Explora’s dollar allocations for fiscal year 2016-2017 from audited year-end financial reports

**Revenues**
- $1,797,661 Earned income* 34%
- $421,644 Foundation grants 8%
- $264,479 Corporate gifts and grants 5%
- $209,352 Individual contributions 4%
- $2,615,699 Government 49%
- $5,308,835 TOTAL REVENUE

*Includes program fees, admissions, memberships, rentals, and store sales

**Expenses**
- $2,338,375 Programs 49%
- $650,468 Exhibits 14%
- $1,797,661 General and administrative 29%
- $833,188 Operations 17%
- $4,768,708 TOTAL EXPENSES
- $540,127 Net

Year-end operating cash and cash equivalents: $1,174,542
Partnering for Success


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Explora partnered with the New Mexico Autism Society and strengthened relationships with local families and therapists to develop new resources, summer camps, and sensory-friendly events for children and families affected by autism. Explora staff learned about the various sensory needs of children with autism, and gained skills and strategies to support these children and enable them to have successful museum experiences. We will continue to build and grow relationships with the local autism community, so that families know Explora is always a safe and welcoming space for them. These projects were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and United Way of Central New Mexico.

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Explora began a new partnership with the New Mexico Out-of-School-Time Network (NMOST), becoming that organization’s fiscal sponsor. Now housed at Explora, NMOST brings together policymakers, educators, and out-of-school-time providers interested in ensuring positive youth development opportunities and outcomes through afterschool and summer learning programs.

Premier Partners
City of Albuquerque
Richard J. Berry
City Controllers
Kris Satinich
Issac Benton
Kristen Pelta
Brenda Winters
Dan Lewis
Pat Davis
Diane Gibson
Trudy Jones
Don Harris

State of New Mexico
Governor
Susana Martinez
Lieutenant Governor
John A. Sanchez
New Mexico Senate
New Mexico House of Representatives

Cornerstone Partners
($100,000-$199,999)
Rotary Club of Albuquerque/Albuquerque Rotary Charitable Foundation
Leadership Partners
($25,000-$99,999)
Air Force Research Laboratory
New Mexico
Bernalillo-County
Institute of Museum and Library Services
Intel Corporation
Lobato Memorial/Sandia National Laboratory
State of New Mexico

Contributing Partners
($10,000-$24,999)
Albuquerque Clinical Trials, Inc.
Anesthesia Association of New Mexico, PC
Card’s Baby Products: Imagine Reality
Throughtcoming Investment Management
UNM’s New Mexico EPICOR
Wells Fargo Bank

Supporting Partners
($2,000-$9,999)
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Association for Science-Technology Centers
Baca & Bachelors, P.C.
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ConocoPhillips
Creative Discovery Museum
National Federal Credit Union
Mami Science Museum/Girls Riosnet
Museum of Science, Boston
Peacock Myers, P.C.
The Principal Financial Group
Science Education Solutions, Inc.
Science Museum of Minnesota
Solitary and Associates, LLC
Toyota Dealers Market Program
Urban Enhancement Trust Fund
of the City of Albuquerque
VanDyke Software

Corporate Donors
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Bennett KIB
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ConocoPhillips
Coyote Clay & Color
DK Karonke Keplyes

Drumming
Emilio Thompson Furniture
Five Star Burgers
Flying Star
Geico Who Drives
Gristmill Events, Print and Mail
Ignite核算
Joe Dudley & Hloody Jeff
Kader Coaching
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Los Alamos National Bank
Melinda Gray Andia Environmental Foundation
National Girls Collaborative
New Mexico Clay
New Mexico Science Teachers Association
Nutricent
Oki Yogurt Studio
Onus Nursery, Inc.
Pacific Science Center
Paw Print Law Firm, LLC
Platters of the Southwest
Putumayo World Music
Rita’s Italian Ice
Smith’s Food and Drug Centers
Southwest Regional Education Cooperative
TBR Productions
Tumbleweed Mobile Scheduling
Whole Foods Market

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Aviation Education Foundation
Bank of Albuquerque
Burlington Coat Factory
Coyote Clay & Color

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Fiduciary Foundation
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The Francis & Deirdre Foundation
Franklin E. Wilson Foundation
General Mills Foundation
Hancock Family Foundation
Hunt Foundation
Harry L. & Guyl Miller Family Foundation
Helen Woodward Fund of The Sandia Foundation
Herring Fund
Lieutenant Governor Susana Martinez
Mayor Richard J. Berry
Diane Gibson
Brad Winter
Don Harris
Pat Davis
Diane Gibson
Terry Jones
Don Harris

New Mexico Clay
Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation
Lampkin Family Foundation
McCaw-Collaborative
New Mexico Museum of Natural History Foundation
PetPal Giving
PNM Foundation
Robert J. Stamm and Mary Hemping Fund
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New Mexico Public Education Department
The Robert Noyce Foundation
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Nick & Sheree Evers
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Dorothy Giacomo
Jim & Debby, in honor of Tanner Gill
Kathy & David Hosaluk
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Ken’s Resort
Reg & Bev Rider
J. Stephen & Lee Ann Routier
Susan & Neal Shadoff
Dianna & John Shomaker
Tom Taylor
Janet M. Thompson
Catherine Woodward, in honor of Woody Woodward

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What is Explora?

Explora is an innovative experiential learning center that provides exhibit activities and inquiry-based classroom programs to engage people of all ages with scientific phenomena.

At Explora, families use educational, science-rich materials in personal spaces; they get interested in science by manipulating a wide range of physical variables and by engaging in shared learning. Everyone has an opportunity to develop his or her own ideas about what they are experiencing, and parents and teachers see their children as capable and interested science learners.

Explora is driven by our core values of Community, Learning, Generosity, and Sustainability.

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Explora:
creating opportunities for inspirational discovery and the joy of lifelong learning through interactive experiences in science, technology, engineering, art, and math

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