The Discovery Museum provides dynamic, hands-on STEM experiences that resonate with the innate curiosity, learning desire, and spirit of exploration of young learners. We encourage them to ask questions, solve problems, and engineer solutions today so they are better prepared to embrace the challenges of tomorrow.

Why STEM Matters

- The widest achievement gap of any state in the U.S. is here, in Connecticut
- Only 19.4% of Bridgeport 5th graders are at or above goal for science compared with 59.6% of 5th graders statewide
- Over the next decade, demand for STEM jobs in the U.S. is expected to increase at four times the rate of all other occupations

Why Discovery Museum

IMPACT

At Fairfield County’s only science museum, more contact with young learners leads to powerful outcomes.

Our hands-on STEM programs provide unique experiences and a chance for students to learn by doing, making, and problem solving. In 2015, 35 Summer STEM Explorers programs provided 509 young learners with 15,000 learning hours.

School-Museum collaborations result in more meaningful learning experiences

Our educators go above and beyond the standalone field trip by working with teachers to ensure Museum experiences (offered through 80+ adaptable programs) complement, animate, and illuminate classroom STEM curricula.

STEM CENTRAL @ DISCOVERY

STEM Central @ Discovery is an opportunity to invest in all guided learning programs at the Museum, and STEM learning outcomes.

- Afterschool STEM
- Challenger Learning Center
- Henry B. duPont III Planetarium
- Summer STEM Explorers
- School Programs
- Weekend Workshops

Two-Year Funding Goals

We are pursuing an ambitious renewal of our programs guided by a commitment to offer innovative hands-on STEM learning experiences.

- **Expand Programs** Implementation of K-12 rocketry program, expansion of afterschool enrichment for underserved populations, new weekend workshop offerings, and establishment of weekday offerings for homeschool families.
- **Strengthen Partnerships** Pilot unique partnerships with local schools, nonprofits, and businesses, featuring in-depth collaboration to achieve STEM learning goals.
- **Enhance Guest Experiences** We are overhauling our facilities, including major upgrades to exhibits, our Planetarium, and our Challenger Learning Center, with a focus on offering dynamic and unique self-directed STEM learning opportunities.