



museum of
science+industry
chicago

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MSI TOP FIELD TRIP DESTINATION FOR SCHOOL GROUPS IN 2011

Students help the Museum further its vision to inspire their potential in science

CHICAGO (Jan. 26, 2012) — For the third year in a row, the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) led area museums and zoos in hosting the most school groups, with 351,566 students visiting in 2011.

MSI's school group attendance grew 9 percent over the previous year, when more than 322,800 students visited.

One of the largest science museums in the world, the Museum offers unparalleled educational experiences through award-winning exhibits like *Science Storms* and daily hands-on science programs. Housing more than 35,000 artifacts and nearly 14 acres of exhibits, the Museum is designed to spark scientific inquiry and creativity.

Over 18,000 students in 2011 dove deeper into science during their field trip by participating in educational Learning Labs. Led by Museum educators, students experimented in 15 different programs on forensic science, environmental science, medical technology and more.

MSI also worked with 1,000 teachers in 2011 in science teacher education courses and workshops offered through its Center for the Advancement of Science Education. Courses increase teachers' knowledge of science, improve their teaching skills and demonstrate how to use Museum programs and exhibits to enhance science curriculum.

"We're pleased that so many schoolchildren are able to explore science with us," said David Mosen, Museum president and CEO. "Our vision is to inspire and motivate our children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. We hope these students may have been inspired to look at science in a new way, and maybe even one day pursue careers in science."

MSI offers free general admission to Illinois school groups. Illinois teachers also receive free admission every day, just by showing their educator ID card.

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) offers thousands of fun and interactive exhibits and one-of-a-kind, world-class experiences to inspire the inventive genius in everyone. Through its Center for the Advancement of Science Education, MSI also aspires to a larger vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. Come visit and find *your* inspiration! MSI is open every day except December 25, and regular hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day. The Museum is supported in part through the generosity of the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, find MSI online at msichicago.org or call (773) 684-1414 or (800) GO-TO-MSI outside of the Chicago area.

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