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**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY CELEBRATES 10<sup>th</sup> CONSECUTIVE YEAR AS NO. 1 CHICAGO MUSEUM FIELD TRIP DESTINATION**

**CHICAGO (February 12, 2019)** – The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) is celebrating the 10th consecutive year as the No. 1 field trip destination among Chicago museums.

In 2018, 360,239 students visited MSI, according to [Museums in the Park](#), a coalition of 11 museums located on Chicago Park District property. This marks a full decade of MSI continuously providing fun, engaging science education to students on field trips that are free for Illinois schools and discounted for out-of-state students.

“MSI is proud to be the leader in school group attendance across Chicago museums, providing awe-inspiring learning opportunities to students,” said Andrea Ingram, the Ruth D. and Ken M. Davee Vice President of Education and Guest Services. “Our experiences and group welcoming process are second to none, as these students are at the core of our vision to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering.”

Through The Welcome to Science Initiative, MSI helps children achieve their full potential in science by creating learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom, and removing barriers that exclude them from participating.

**About The MSI Field Trip Experience**

MSI offers several programs to enhance student field trips, and continuously explores new experiences to better serve young, curious audiences.

In the last decade, MSI served 235,000 students in [Learning Labs](#), facilitated hands-on learning experiences aligned to Next Generation Science Standards. Led by a Museum educator, Learning Labs connect with classroom curriculum and engage students in the scientific process, and provide insight into STEM careers including:

- [Mission to Mars: Traveling to Space](#): Design, launch and land a rover on Mars. Includes a live videoconference with a NASA expert.
- [Live from the Heart](#): Talk with a surgical team while watching live open-heart surgery via videoconference.
- [MedLab: Heart Disease](#): Use an ultrasound simulator and complete real medical tests to diagnose heart disease in a human patient simulator.

Among the newer programs are Jr. Science Cafés, where students talk with STEM professionals about their career paths and their personal journeys into science. MSI connected more than 5,000 students to professionals in science, technology, engineering, art and medicine since 2015.

With free or discounted Museum Entry, students can explore more than a dozen MSI exhibits across 14 acres including:

- [Science Storms](#): Investigate the science behind nature's power and control the dynamics of a 40-foot tornado, trigger an avalanche, unleash a tsunami and try more than 50 amazing experiments.
- [YOU! The Experience](#): Celebrate the body, mind and spirit through hands-on experiences. Walk through the Laugh Garden to see the contagious effects of smiling and happiness, go for a jog on a human-sized hamster wheel, and see your heart beat in time with a 13-foot-tall digital Giant Heart.
- [Numbers In Nature: A Mirror Maze](#): Learn about the mathematical patterns found in nature, art, the human body and more inside this 1,800-square-foot mirror maze, a dizzying and mesmerizing array of repeating reflections.

MSI also provides [discounted tickets](#) for all school groups to experiences including: [Coal Mine](#), [Giant Dome Theater films](#), [U-505 On-board Tour](#) and [Future Energy Chicago](#).

Learn more about The Welcome to Science Initiative and the Museum of Science and Industry's dedication to providing quality science education at [msichicago.org/welcometoscience](http://msichicago.org/welcometoscience).

### **About The Welcome to Science Initiative**

The Welcome to Science Initiative helps children achieve their full potential in science by creating learning experiences inside and outside the classroom, and removing barriers that exclude them from participating. Our unique youth-centered approach supports students and everyone involved their success—families, educators, schools and communities. Program strategies focus on improving the quality of science teaching in schools; connecting science to children wherever they are; and showcasing diversity in STEM fields. We place a priority on serving schools and neighborhoods with predominantly low-income student populations.

### **About MSI**

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI), one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and uniquely interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can't be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make you the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Welcome to Science Initiative, the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI's 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 9:30–4 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Extended hours, until 5:30 p.m., are offered during peak periods. The Museum is grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org) or call (773) 684-1414.

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