



Summer 2019

News about events and exhibits at Discovery Center Museum in Rockford, IL

INSIDE:

2

Information
Teen Summer
Volunteers

New exhibits
& upgrades!

3

Special Events

4

Tot Spot
Mini Camps

5

Summer Camps

6

Teacher
Workshops

Blue Star
Museum

Mobile Learning
Adventure

Mornings of Fun

Secret Garden
Events

7

Grants & Gifts

Corporate
Volunteers

CFNIL STEM

8

Bubble Festival

Art Studio
Changes

Kick off summer with our Supertastic Capes & Sparkles event

Don your disguise or polish your crown, and join our gathering of superheroes and princesses. A feisty Arabian Princess and a sincere Spider Hero will be on hand to meet and greet, offer photo opportunities, and sign autographs. Come in costume and bring your imagination for exciting make-believe experiences that use real math and science.

Explore the physics behind super powers as you lift your parent with one hand, or get a grip that sticks to the wall. Fashion a bat belt, create a cape, and use your spidey senses to spot the clues and crack the code in the Science Park. Then come to a special planetarium show and learn to recognize a superhero, a princess, and Pegasus in the night sky!

Assemble a light-up magic wand with the help of a visiting fairy godmother. Create a sparkling crown, play in the snow in summer, gather a mermaid's seashells, and sing along to your favorite songs. Then color a shrinking dragon and put it on a chain to wear!

Stop by the demonstration theater for a show of enchanting color changes that would make any genie proud. Or witness frosty fun and behold how much mayhem can be caused by cold when a snow queen's magic materializes!

You don't need royal blood, super powers, or magical abilities to come to this event...but you might leave with some! Grown-ups can play too (your super-identity is safe with us). Capes are optional.



Saturday,
June 8
6:00-8:30 pm

Admission:
\$15 for the Public
\$7 for Members
Kids ages 1 and younger are free



INFORMATION:

Hours

Monday-Sunday: 10 am-5 pm

Admission

Adult/Child: \$9

Children age 1 and younger and Members: FREE!

Membership

CLIMB SuperPass: \$150/year

Family SuperPass: \$135/year

Family Membership: \$90/year; \$170/2 years

Grandparent Membership: \$90/year; \$170/2 years

Caregiver Membership: \$30/year

Group Rates

Discounted group rates are available for tours, classes, museum rentals, and birthday parties. Reservations required.

Contact Us

Phone: (815) 963-6769

Website: discoverycentermuseum.org

Staff

Sarah Wolf..... Executive Director

Lisa Coen..... Office Manager

Kyler Hartje..... Exhibits Technician/
Planetarium Technician

Michele Larson.. Birthday Party Coordinator

Cheryl Maggio.....Accountant

Joyce Mazzola..... Gift Shop Manager

Lana Paris..... Development Director

Hillary Parks..... Guest Services Manager

Bruce Quast..... Exhibits Director

Mike Rathbun..... Associate Director

Meghan Richards..... Education Specialist/
Scout Coordinator

Jenny Rossol..... Early Childhood Educator

Maggie Ruggerio..... Education Specialist

Corinne Sosso..... Director of Education

Sue Stevens..... Volunteer & Special
Projects Coordinator

Jim Taylor..... Member Relations Manager

Ann Marie Walker..... Marketing Director

Jessica Williams..... Education Specialist

Our Mission

Create opportunities for joyful learning and discovery through hands-on experiences in the sciences and arts.



Summer Volunteer Opportunities for Teens

Are you 13 to 17 years old and looking for something fun to do over the summer months? Do you need service hours for school, scouts or clubs? Do you like working with children and want to give back to your community? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then consider becoming a Y.E.S. (Youth Experiencing Science) volunteer! Here are just a few things volunteers do at the museum ... help families create art projects in the Art Studio, run a station at a special event, play with children in the museum, do face painting, assist with cleaning, or attend off-site programs (e.g. Rockford City Market). To learn more, go to our website and fill out a volunteer application today!

Have you spotted all the recent upgrades and changes in Discovery Center?

Improvements in our **Ag-Zibit gallery**, thanks to a generous grant from Northwest Illinois County Farm Bureaus, include corn plants by the combine that form a field ready for harvest, a new tractor console with better wheelchair accessibility, and realistic tractor and farm animal sounds at the push of a button. More changes are in store for this space, so stay tuned!

You may have noticed that the outdoor **Discovery Park** is always improving with new decking, different fence rails, and improved picnic areas. If you've wandered through the park this spring and noticed all that orange fencing, then you'll know that this year the amphitheater is on the rebuild list. Opening early this summer, the outdoor amphitheater will be a completely renewed area designed to provide the ideal spot for taking in an open-air science demo, or sitting and relaxing while watching your children.

Discovery Center's second floor has seen some amazing installations over the years, with additions to **Tot Spot** and the move of some hands-on tot spot fun outside that gallery so older kids can share in the imaginative play. Because of this exhibit relocation, Woodman's Grocery and the BMO Harris Bank are high on the "favorites list" of the "older-than-six crowd"!

This spring saw the opening of the brand new bigger-than-ever **art studio**. Double the size of the old one, this immersive well-lit space allows junior artists to explore new elements, complete complex hands-on projects, and work within a variety of mediums.

In the works right next door, the **TV Studio** will soon be filled with premiere exhibits that provide the latest in interactive broadcasting, including a new green screen experience, exciting news videos, and animated weather maps for the budding television anchor in your family.

On the drawing board for Discovery Center's first floor is a **bubble area** blow-out! We're working to improve the stand-inside bubble, make a better bubble window, and invent more bubble-ology science fun!



Special Events

All events included with museum admission unless otherwise noted.

Supertastic Capes & Sparkles

Saturday, June 8, 6–8:30 pm

Fee: \$15 public / \$7 members

Don your disguise or polish your tiara, and join our gathering of superheroes and princesses. Come in costume and bring your imagination for enchanting make-believe that uses real math and science. Assess your super-powers, sing a movie tune, meet a fairy godmother, and more! Grown-ups can play too (your super-identity is safe with us). Capes are optional.



Swashbuckling Science

Friday, June 14, 11 am–3:30 pm

Avast there, mateys, ye be in for wet! Assemble your pirate hat, hoist your flag, and test the boat that floats your swag. Put a parrot on your shoulder and a hook on your hand, and get ready to cast off! Landlubbers tolerated; eye patches, peg legs and pirate jokes welcome!

Game On!

Friday, June 21, 11 am–3:30 pm

Angry Birds, Pokémon, Minecraft, and more! Use everyday materials to examine the science, math, and engineering that form the scaffolds of your favorite games. Torch building, oversized Tetris, and sling shot assembly are just the beginning! Can you imagine Discovery Center as a Super-Mario set? Come in your favorite game attire and catch all the fun!



Whoosh!

Friday, June 28, 11 am–3:30 pm

Test the strength of air and design devices that flutter, fly, and float in the breeze! Whip up a wind, pop out a vortex, compare breezes to gusts, and create a contraption for a blustery day. Manipulate materials in a wind column, use your breath to create a work of art, and witness wonders that wind can do!



Kaboom

Thursday July 4, 11 am–3:30 pm

Friday, July 5, 11 am–3:30 pm

Glow lights, rockets, sparkles and flags! Strut your stars and stripes as science and art join hands for this 2-day patriotic celebration. Construct light and sound creations and assemble a red, white, and blue masterpiece. We'll experiment with explosions, launch mini rockets, and more! Dress to get wet: if the weather is nice, we'll have an old-fashioned water balloon toss!



E-I-E-I-O

Friday, July 12, 11 am–3:30 pm

Put on your straw hat and overalls for this rural romp! Meet and greet bunnies, cows, goats, and ducks as we bring a barnyard of fun to Discovery Center! Pet a farm friend, create a rural mural, and find out how agriculture is everywhere everyday. Stuff your brain with farm facts!



To the Moon

Friday, July 19, 11 am–3:30 pm

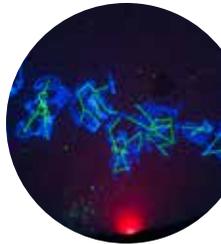
Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Lunar Landing! Tally the technology brought to us by the space age, launch a rocket, and make a scale model of the solar system you can eat! Create a crater, find out about moon phases, and join us for our own version of "race to the moon"!



Unicorn Frolic!

Friday, July 26, 11 am–3:30 pm

Rainbow magic abounds in this prismatic party! Be awed by chemical color changes, and take a planetarium peek at the mythical creatures populating the night sky. Take flight with Pegasus, turn everything iridescent, see the world through a rosy glow, and more!



Splish Splash Splat

Friday, August 2, 11 am–3:30 pm

Little squirts and big drips can help us splat the parking lot when we use our giant sling shot to send things flying! Drench is the word when experimenting with water balloon ballistics! Monkey around with messy stuff, splash together some dripping art, and use unusual techniques to move water! Dress to get wet.



Maker Mania

Friday, August 9, 11 am–3:30 pm

Real tools + recycled materials + imagination = creative fun! Toy cars, musical instruments, and art are just the beginning! We'll also have loads of LEGOs, tons of tape, and oodles of building materials. You'll be amazed at what you can make and take home during this day of fanciful fabrication!



These programs are partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council



Tot Spot Mini Camps *ages 3 to 6*

Tot Spot mini camps offer learning-based play and facilitate group interaction. So let's play, learn, and have fun!



Under The Sea

Session 1: Tuesday–Thursday, June 11, 12, 13; 10–11:30 am
Session 2: Tuesday–Thursday, June 11, 12, 13; 1–2:30 pm

Saturday Mini Camp (2-hour session):

Session 3: Saturday, June 15; 9:30 - 11:30 am

Kids will make octopus mobiles, underwater viewers, whale friends, and even put an ocean in a bottle. Sand will be involved too!



Pete Goes To Camp

Session 1: Tuesday–Thursday, June 25, 26, 27; 10–11:30 am
Session 2: Tuesday–Thursday, June 25, 26, 27; 1–2:30 pm

Saturday Mini Camp (2-hour session):

Session 3: Saturday, June 29; 9:30–11:30 am

Pete the Cat loves camp because he loves to play! We will join him in his storybook adventures and rock out in our new school shoes and our magic sunglasses!



Going On A Safari

Session 1: Tuesday–Thursday, July 16, 17, 18; 10–11:30 am
Session 2: Tuesday–Thursday, July 16, 17, 18; 1–2:30 pm

Saturday Mini Camp (2-hour session):

Session 3: Saturday, July 20; 9:30–11:30 am

What animals roam the African Savanna? Where is Africa? We will pack our jeep and be off to see some lions, elephants, rhinos and more!

Prices for 3-day camps:
\$42 Members / \$48 General Public

Price for Saturday camp:
\$20 Members / \$25 General Public

No discounts for partial attendance
Adults are not required to attend camps for 3- to 6-year-olds but are welcome to come in to play.



Splish Splash

Session 1: Tuesday–Thursday, July 30, 31 and August 1; 10–11:30 am

Session 2: Tuesday–Thursday, July 30, 31 and August 1; 1–2:30 pm

Saturday Mini Camp (2-hour session):

Session 3: Saturday, August 3; 9:30–11:30 am

Plan on getting wet this week! All our fun will be designed around H₂O. Campers will investigate water's solid, liquid, and gas states.



Ooey Goey Science

Session 1: Tuesday–Thursday, August 6, 7, 8; 10–11:30 am
Session 2: Tuesday–Thursday, August 6, 7, 8; 1–2:30 pm

Saturday Mini Camp (2-hour session):

Session 3: Saturday, August 10; 9:30–11:30 am

Experiments and explosions are just some of the fun in this camp. Campers will make predictions and practice their observation skills while combining cornstarch, water, baking soda and more! Practicing the scientific process has never been more playful.



We have birthday parties down to a science!

Our fun-filled hassle-free parties are \$260 for two hours in our private birthday party room. Members receive a 10% discount. Packages include invitations, a "Happy Birthday" plate, napkin and cup for each person; 2-hour use of the birthday party room; time in Discovery Center and staff assistance. Add goodie bags (includes a free museum pass) for \$5/person. Parties are for up to 20 people (adults and children) including the birthday child.

Please check our website for more details as well as for information on basic room rental rates without the package. Call 815-963-6769 to book your party.

Registration for ALL camps:
Online: discoverycentermuseum.org

Call: 815-963-6769

In Person: Come to our office
Monday–Friday, 9 am–3 pm

Cancellation policy for ALL camps:
Registration closes 3:00 pm Monday the week before class. Refunds are available through the close of registration, minus 10%. Discovery Center reserves the right to cancel events, in which case, a full refund will be issued.

Summer Camps *ages 7 to 12*

Sparking curiosity and engaging naturally scientific minds!

Medieval Mayhem

with Burpee Museum of Natural History

June 10–14, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

Knights of the realm, prepare yourselves for a week of adventure! Use your imagination to dig into a camp that sorts out history and mythology through STEM. Go on daily quests with other crusaders, be the engineer and construct castles and catapults, be the archeologist and examine dig sites, be the sorcerer and dabble in medieval chemistry. Face your dragons as you learn swordplay for the stage and “Capture the Crown” in our outdoor science park!



Dino World: The Camp Xperience

with Burpee Museum of Natural History

June 24–28, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

Join the DPA (Dinosaur Protection Agency) in the design and construction of Dino World—a safe haven for newly discovered dinosaurs! DPA agents will learn all about fossils, dinosaurs, and animal behavior. Engage in fossil digs as well as live animal encounters. Scientists and Engineers will assist agents in dinosaur training techniques, DNA extraction, modern dinosaur habitat construction, and more! Join the action in a working PaleoLab where scientists are making real-time dino discoveries and delve into their cutting edge research.



Junior Medical Camp

July 8–12, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

How can you have fun as a medical doctor or scientist? Experience the exciting opportunities available as we dabble into facets of several different medical careers. Conduct experiments and investigations, and engage in hands-on medical science explorations with special guests from the wide field of medicine. Learn basic medical exam techniques, investigate biotechnology, explore forensic science mysteries, and participate in dissections.



Summer camp scholarships

Discovery Center is offering full scholarships to our summer camps. Scholarships are based on financial need and include one free 5-day Discovery Center camp (or mini-camp for preschoolers). These science-based camps provide fun, informal learning throughout the summer. For more information, call 815-963-6769.

Fees:

\$210 Members / \$225 General Public

Bring snack, lunch and drink

Before Care \$5 per day, 7:45–8:45 am

After Care \$5 per day, 4:15–5:15 pm

No discounts for partial attendance



Camp Half-Blood: Lunar Mission

July 15–19, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

Camp Half-Blood returns to train demigods in becoming legendary heroes. Storytelling, live action role-play, plus physically and mentally engaging activities will foster teamwork, develop new skills, and solve problems. We’re traveling beyond Mt. Olympus’s atmosphere this summer to discover the wonders found in our solar system and beyond. Practice engineering design skills, construct and test rockets, design space suits, and build an outpost on the moon!

The Dangerous Camp for Boys

with Burpee Museum of Natural History

July 29–August 2, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

Every boy craves adventure. Exploring uncharted territory, testing our limits—it’s what we’re made for. Based on *The Dangerous Book for Boys*, the best-selling primer on the skills



that every boy should know, we’ll explore the chemistry of explosions, survival skills, the physics of water balloon throwing, land and water navigation, and more!

The Double Daring Camp for Girls

Girls are the queens of adventure...come take risks with us! At the Double-Daring Camp for Girls we push ourselves to the limit and try new things. Jump in to save our Rock River, learn outdoor survival skills, fiddle with physics and construct your own rollercoaster! We harness the laws of chemistry to make explosions both beautiful and exciting! Based on the *The Double Daring Book for Girls*, the best-selling primer on the skills every girl should know.



Imaginarium: Inventor’s Workshop

August 5–9, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm

Strengthen your inventor skills and tackle some intriguing challenges! Real inventors know that moments of failure are necessary on the path to success. Inventing is not a “eureka moment,” but a process that requires collaboration, hands-on STEAM applications, creative problem solving, and entrepreneurship. Use all these skills to invent a robot that can draw, design a thrilling roller coaster ride, build a stable structure using gumdrops, and more! Explore the far limits of innovation and imagination as you build your own creations!



Classes fill quickly!
Register online now at discoverycentermuseum.org

See page 4 for registration information



Attention all teachers

Would you like to earn professional development credits while having fun, plus receive materials to share with your students? If so, Discovery Center's Summer Teacher Workshops are for you! Graduate credit is also available. Get hands-on lessons in properties of matter, or build up your STEM curriculum with workshops on topics including energy, motion, weather, and astronomy! To learn more or register, visit our website at DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/education.



How Does Your Garden Grow?

Wednesdays, 10:30–11:30 am

Explore a hands-on gardening activity in the Secret Garden.

- June 12 Paint a Pot
- June 19 Plastic Pop Bottle Planters
- June 26 Beautiful Bees
- July 3 Wind Spinners
- July 10 Plant Markers
- July 17 Bottle Cap Mosaics
- July 24 Bird Feeders
- July 31 Butterflies
- August 7 Sensational Salsa

Discovery Center to participate in Blue Star Museums

Discovery Center is proud to participate once again with the Blue Star Museums program. Discovery Center, in addition to more than 2,000 museums across America, is offering free admission to active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families this summer from May 18, Armed Forces Day, through September 2, Labor Day. Blue Star Museums is a collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense.



The program provides families an opportunity to enjoy museums and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card and up to five family members.



Mobile Learning Adventure to stop at Discovery Center

On Tuesday, June 11 from 10:30 - 3:30 pm children visiting Discovery Center can explore their career dreams while enjoying fun, interactive games at PNC's Mobile Learning Adventure, a traveling outdoor exhibit highlighting the importance of early education. The exhibit is free and open to the public. It will be located in the parking lot.



Mornings of Fun

We invite children with disabilities and their immediate families to experience Discovery Center's multi-sensory exhibits and activities free of charge before the museum opens to the general public.

Join us from 9-10:00 am on Saturday, June 8. Our favorite spider hero will be swinging in to join us for all the fun!

A healthy snack will be served at 10:00 am and families are welcome to stay and play after the museum opens to the public.

Advanced registration is required. To receive free admission for your family, please visit our website and register at DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/Visit.

Sponsored by:



Secret Garden Story Times

Thursdays, 11:30 am–12 pm

Join us in the Secret Garden each Thursday from 11:30 am to Noon for stories, songs and activities. Take home a special craft each week based on the weekly theme.

- June 13 Pirates
- June 20 Fabulous Frogs
- June 27 Monkeying Around
- July 11 Down on the Farm
- July 18 Blast Off
- July 25 Sharks
- August 1 Transportation Tales
- August 8 Delightful Dinosaurs

Grants & Gifts News

November 28, 2018 through April 30 2019

Thomas & Friends™ Exhibit Sponsors

- BMO Harris Bank
- Coyle-Kiley Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Dr. Zak's Tooth Fairy Castle
- Illinicare Health
- Illinois Bank & Trust
- J.L. Clark
- Midland States Bank
- Northwest Bank
- SwedishAmerican - A Division of UW Health
- Target
- Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau

Special Event Sponsors

- A&P Grain Systems, Inc.
- Comcast
- Nicor Gas
- Rasmussen College
- Rockford Bank & Trust
- Thermo Fisher Scientific

Corporate Gifts

- Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of Rockford
- Savant Capital, LLC

Grants

- Blazer Foundation
- Illinois Arts Council
- US Bank

If you are interested in partnering with Discovery Center to support an event, program or exhibit, please contact Lana Paris at 815-972-2834 or lanap@discoverycentermuseum.org.

You can also donate online to support Discovery Center Museum exhibits, programs, classes and outreach at www.discoverycentermuseum.org. Click on the DONATE button on the home page. Thank you for your support!

Discovery Center takes science activities to students at Rockford Public Schools

Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, Discovery Center brought hands-on STEM activities to 917 students in ten Rockford Public Schools this past spring, hosted school-wide family nights at each school, and provided a STEM focused field trip to the museum in an effort to enhance classroom learning.

Discovery Center staff visited each school twice a month and provided engaging interactive science activities to students in the after-school programs. Each group was introduced to a story about a famous scientist, including the work the scientists did and the personal struggles they experienced as children and adults. Many students could relate to the struggles, which helped engage them in the stories and activities.

Both hands-on and gross motor activities were created to relate to the scientist. For example, astronaut Janice Voss worked in space engineering and robotics, so students designed and completed an obstacle course in which one person was the Mars Rover and other team members acted as Rover operators. Grace Hopper studied computer coding and logic, so students were introduced to computer coding by creating step-by-step instructions for their teacher on how to draw a cat. Nikola Tesla experimented with electricity and made dozens of breakthroughs in electric power, so students engaged in activities related to static electricity. We're so pleased to provide all these exciting, fun and educational opportunities for children in Rockford!



We tweet!

Follow
[@DiscoCenMuseum](https://twitter.com/DiscoCenMuseum)
now!

#Discovery
Center
Museum



Discovery Center
is on Facebook

Check us out
and "like" us today!

Pin with us!

Discovery Center has lots of great ideas on Pinterest on subjects such as STEM activities, science activities for kids, holiday crafts and experiments, science books for kids, and more.



We're on
Instagram!



[@DiscoveryCenterMuseum](https://www.instagram.com/DiscoveryCenterMuseum)

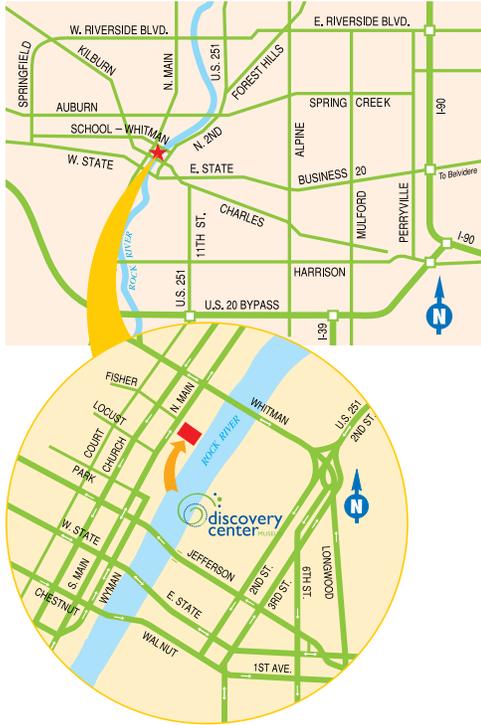
↓ Associated Bank volunteers help spruce up our outdoor park!





At Riverfront Museum Park
 711 North Main Street
 Rockford, IL 61103
 815.963.6769
www.discoverycentermuseum.org

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Rockford, IL
 Permit No. 1011



Address Service Requested

Imagine, explore and create!

Drop into our newly expanded and renovated art studio filled with new furniture and new open-ended activities. It will be open daily from 10:00 am to 4:45 pm. Projects will focus on the creative process and encourage children to use their imaginations and create a piece of art to take home.

As a special treat, on weekdays from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm, kids can get messy and enjoy special art projects. Each week will have a different theme including print making, marble painting, collage and more! Come get messy and leave the clean-up to us! Activities will be led by student interns partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



Bubble Festival

Saturday, September 28

Show times: 10:30 am, Noon, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 pm

Tickets in advance: \$5 Public; \$4 Members;

At the Door: \$6 Public; \$5 Members;
 Museum admission is extra

Enjoy a live performance with Geoffrey Akins! After the show, try some of Geoff's tricks in the Bubble-Palooza Playground as you experiment and explore the properties of sudsy science fun! Giant bubbles, 3-D bubbles, bubble art and more will tempt you to be a bubble-ologist. Good clean fun for the whole family!

Sponsored by: **SWEDISHAMERICAN**
 A DIVISION OF UW HEALTH



Come and visit our 'Discoveries To Go' Gift Shop to find unique, educational and fun STEM kits so you can keep learning ALL summer long. ➔

