



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Sciencenter Capital Campaign Surpasses Goal by 7%**

*“Curious. Confident. Inspired.” raises \$4.1 million for the museum*

**Ithaca, New York** – Today, the Sciencenter in Ithaca, NY announced the successful completion of its multi-year capital campaign, “Curious. Confident. Inspired.” Under the leadership of Greg Galvin and Robin Davisson, the Campaign Co-Chairs, and Sciencenter Executive Director, Charlie Trautmann, the Sciencenter raised \$4.1 million – 7% over its initial goal of \$3.8 million. Campaign funds will support expanded educational programs, the revitalization of museum exhibits, increased access for underserved audiences, and sustainability for the organization through endowment growth.

Since the public launch of the campaign in the summer of 2015, the Sciencenter has enhanced numerous exhibit areas, expanded and developed new educational programs, supported increased efforts to provide access to every part of our community, and undergone facility upgrades. Some of the recently completed Campaign projects include, a new animal room dedicated to the diverse native New York wildlife, an 18-hole science-themed mini-golf course, a revitalized Tidepool Touch Tank in the expanded Ocean Science Gallery, an outdoor playground exclusively for children under 5, and a teen STEM lab, complete with a professional media room. The Sciencenter has also extended educational programming for Head Start teachers and families, and created a Family Learning Area, where Cornell researchers conduct research on early childhood learning. Furthermore, the museum has redoubled efforts to provide access for all through the *Museums for All* \$1 admission program for EBT cardholders, and implemented semi-annual Sensory Hours for children with sensory processing disorder.

“All of us at the Sciencenter are energized every day by the children who can’t get enough of the new exhibits and programs that this campaign has helped us provide our community. We are grateful for the vision of each of our donors in making this investment in youth with us,” said Charlie Trautmann, Director Emeritus of the Sciencenter.

In the months and years to come, Sciencenter guests will see even more additions and enhancements throughout the museum. Still in the works is an expanded Get Fit! exhibit gallery, several interactive exhibits focused on climate, exhibits exploring the science of sound, and more.

“I am in awe of this incredible community and its commitment to empowering our children through science education,” said Sciencenter Executive Director, Dean Briere. “Thanks to the generosity of money, time, and talent of so many devoted individuals, we can look to the future with confidence that the Sciencenter’s impact will continue to grow in Ithaca and around the world.”

Thank you to all of the generous supporters who contributed to making this Campaign a success. For more information about the Campaign, including a complete list of supporters, what’s to come, and photos of completed projects, please visit [www.sciencenter.org/campaign](http://www.sciencenter.org/campaign).

**About the Sciencenter:**

The Sciencenter inspires excitement for science through interactive exhibits and programs that engage, educate and empower. The hands-on museum offers guests of all ages more than 250 exhibits, educational programs, a gift shop, and seasonal outdoor science park. The museum is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. General admission is \$8 (ages 2 – 64), \$7 for seniors (65+), and free to members and toddlers under 2. For membership information, current programs and activities, please visit [www.sciencenter.org](http://www.sciencenter.org). The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail in Ithaca.

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