

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Inspiring the next generation of innovators, engineers, and creative problem solvers



the **Works**[®]
museum
Engineering Fun

Our Mission

Our vision is to serve as the primary pathway for elementary-age youth into engineering, technology, and manufacturing careers, ensuring a highly skilled workforce that is representative of our community.



2021 Message from the CEO

Dear Friends,

Fiscal Year 2021 brought many unique challenges to The Works Museum, but when I look at all our work - both organizationally and in partnership with the educators, families, funders, and volunteers who comprise our community - I couldn't be prouder of what we've accomplished.

To elementary education partners who worked tirelessly to creatively engage students through shifting school models, the members and donors who steadfastly stood with us as we sought new ways to adapt, and the families who registered for camps and virtual programs – we absolutely could not have done this without you.

I also want to acknowledge my amazing staff. Always creative, mission-driven, and passionate about sparking STEM interest in every child we serve, this year the team's efforts were nothing short of extraordinary. Their resilience, persistence, and willingness to adapt allowed us to respond to our community's needs in innovative ways.

As I look to the future, I know the friendships, collaborations, and learning from this year will continue to drive our work. To each and every one of you in our community, you have my sincerest gratitude. We are, as always, here both for you and because of you. Together, we will continue to inspire tomorrow's innovators and engineers.

Sincerely,



Jill Measells
CEO, The Works Museum



Engineering for All Education Programs

Educators across our region showed incredible flexibility during the dynamic 2020-2021 school year, navigating between distance, hybrid, and in-person learning. We listened and responded to the needs of our partners for supportive STEM curriculum, working together to provide programming for students.

Our STEM educators traveled to schools and essential childcare centers, brought hands-on experiences to students, adapted all of our science standards-aligned workshops for virtual delivery, and developed pre-recorded video workshops. In all, these programs reached 9,583 students and teachers at 126 schools. We're so grateful for the educators and community funders who helped to make this extraordinary work possible.



An educator records a virtual workshop for students to follow along at their own pace.



Delivering supplies across the metro for an upcoming virtual workshop.

"I thought the kids would be excited about creating their robots, and they were, but I was surprised when one girl shared later that what she really liked was learning about circuits. So it wasn't just the cool end product, it was the STEM learning that made an impact!"

- Teacher & Workshop Customer

Reaching Populations Underrepresented in STEM

The Works has always been committed to increasing access to inspiring, hands-on STEM experiences.

This year we've invested in expanded partnerships and launching new collaborations to improve access and inclusion for students from populations underrepresented in STEM.

With support from Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) and Lyda Hill Philanthropies, we developed digital content for *She Engineers*, our initiative to increase participation of female identifying youth in STEM. The series includes activities, posters, and worksheets featuring women engineers. These materials are free on our website and available in English, Somali, and Spanish.

We continued our efforts to address economic barriers to participation. This year, over 1,000 children received free or discounted workshops, camps, and memberships through our Gateway access program.

As we look toward the future, we know that increasing equity in STEM education will continue to be a critical focus of our work. Every child can engineer and we look forward to working with our community to increase our impact on the STEM opportunity gap.

My school is mostly ELL learners and students of color. They were very engaged and learned a lot!

- Educator

SHE ENGINEERS



Inspiring girls to explore STEM.

www.theworks.org

the Works
museum
Engineering Fun

Summer 2021 Reopening!

After a 16-month pandemic closure, we welcomed families and school groups back for in-person visits. The summer kicked off with an exciting partnership with Minnesota Children's Museum in which we hosted STEM classes at their location and brought their Curious George: Let's Get Curious™ exhibit here to our gallery.

Summer camp was back in full swing with COVID-19 safety precautions, and we engineered with over 1,000 campers this summer!

"I love the hands-on science that is always part of your camps. The topics are current and applicable and challenging — all made to be fun. Always impressed and always well done."
- Camp Parent



"I like that the activities are varied and interesting, as well as educational. The staff has always been so supportive of kids with different learning abilities."
- Camp Parent

Volunteerism Spotlight



Volunteers from Xcel Energy spent their annual Day of Service with us. The team rolled up their sleeves and helped us with countless projects around the Museum. They sorted K'Nex, moved furniture, cleared out closets, cleaned windows, and pulled weeds. One volunteer even delivered a load of STEM toys to a local school. Their hard work helped us prepare the museum for our upcoming renovation, and we are so grateful for this amazing group of volunteers..



Structural engineers from Meyer Borgman Johnson teach families about building strong structures at a drop-in event.



Iron Maidens FTC, a local robotics team, leads a robotics activity during our month long Tech Fest Event.

Serving our Community Through the Pandemic

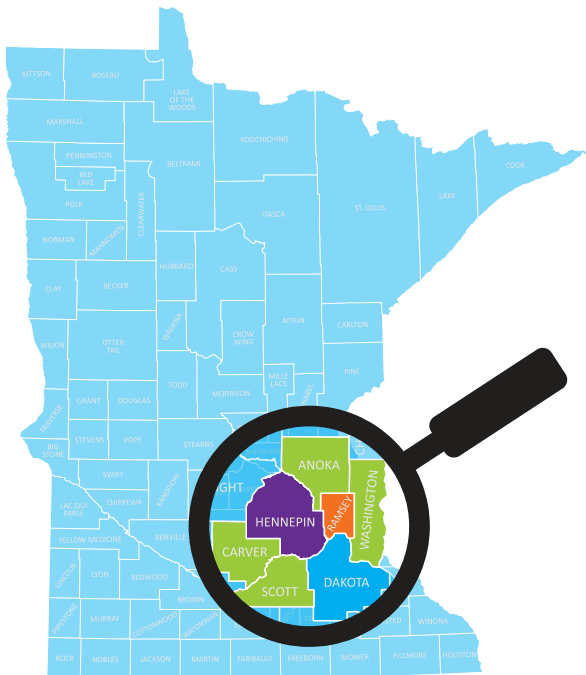
For 25 years, The Works has provided essential, informal STEM education to elementary students across Minnesota. Our focus on kindergarten through sixth grade audiences distinguishes us in the STEM learning community and addresses a critically underserved audience. After a year of learning disruptions, this programming is even more important to students and educators in regaining ground lost during COVID-19.

Meeting our community's educational needs

- **9** Science standards aligned workshops adapted for virtual delivery
- **78** Summer Camps in addition to school break camps throughout the academic year
- **4** Asynchronous video workshops

Our Geographic Reach

Year over year our geographic reach is expanding, moving us closer to our goal of increasing access to stem programming throughout Minnesota.



2020

Hennepin County

60%

Dakota County

30%

Ramsey County

8%

Rest of the 7-County Area

13%

Greater MN/WI

6%

2021

Hennepin County

35%

Dakota County

18%

Ramsey County

12%

Rest of the 7-County Area

20%

Greater MN/WI

14%

Programs and Activities

Every child has the ability to engineer. The Works Museum engages children in exploring their STEM learning potential through experiences that spark long-term interest and inspire career dreams. Through our programs and activities, we serve a diverse population of students and families, working with and for the community to provide high quality educational experiences and to increase equity and inclusion in STEM education.

Fiscal Year 2021 by the numbers

- **1,057** member households
- **9,583** students and teachers from 126 schools participated in hands-on Engineering for All K-6 School Programs
- **1,058** children ages 5-13 participated in Summer and School Break Camps
- **3,466** public visitors explored our Museum Experience Gallery
- **115** volunteers donated their time and expertise
- **1,034** children and families participated in discounted or free programming through our Gateway access program

"Our grandson is always eager to go to his camp sessions... he wants to be an engineer since his experience at The Works."

- Camp Grandparent



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

\$25,000+

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***"The activities were things that they kids don't do
at school and wouldn't do at home. Very unique.
My daughter wanted to go each day!"***

- Camp Parent

Our sincere apologies for any omissions or errors in our 2021 donor listing. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact a member of our Development Team or email support@theworks.org.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Cash \$1,032,549
Accounts and Contributions
Receivable, Net \$114,038
Other Assets \$4,165
Property and Equipment, Net \$16,541
Total Assets \$1,167,293

Liability and Net Assets

Current Liabilities \$249,114
Long Term Notes Payable \$146,454
Total Liabilities \$295,568

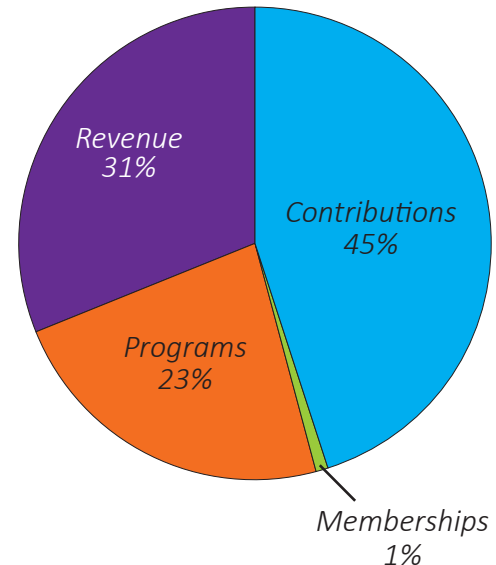
Net Assets

Unrestricted \$568,287
Temporarily Restricted \$203,438
Total Net Assets \$771,725

Total Liabilities and Net Assets
Audited financial reports are available upon request
support@theworks.org

*For more details regarding the Statement of Financial Position,
contact info@theworks.org

**Revenue Total:
\$1,068,131**



**Expenses Total:
\$860,507**

