# As a science and wildlife center, CuriOdyssey helps children acquire the tools to deeply understand the changing world.



# The Year in Review

In 2012, CuriOdyssey enjoyed recording-breaking numbers across the board. The institution saw the highest attendance in its history, exceeding the previous year's numbers by 32%. We also enjoyed a 44% increase in admissions revenue, 32% increase in membership revenue, 204% increase in event rentals, 39% increase in store net revenue, summer camps were 97% full, and school science programs reached nearly 10,00 students.

Photo by Justin Miel

# RECORD-BREAKING ATTENDANCE

More than 135,000 people visited the science and wildlife center between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012. This represents a 32% increase over the previous fiscal year and a 77% increase in attendance over its lowest point in 2008. The increase in attendance can be attributed largely to the organization's focus on developing a new model of science education for young children that provides opportunities for direct interaction with the natural world. Visitors have also enthusiastically embraced CuriOdyssey's three standing science exhibitions, its highly popular camps, daily wildlife encounters, and new Mobile Museum experience.

# RECOGNITION

In 2012, CuriOdyssey was recognized with multiple awards. For the second year in a row, Charity Navigator, America's largest and mostutilized independent evaluator of charities, has awarded CuriOdyssey the prestigious 4-star rating for good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. For the fourth year, CuriOdyssey was recognized by Bay Area Parent Magazine as a Family Favorite museum.

# NEW ANIMALS

This year, CuriOdyssey welcomed new members to its animal family. Many of the additions were made in the walk-through aviary that puts visitors within an arm's length of more than 30 of our native, non-releasable birds. In 2012, we added a greater roadrunner, Eurasian collared doves, and a magpie. We also made significant additions to our Animal Ambassador program. Each of our Animal Ambassadors are vital in helping educate school children, groups, and visitors in the importance of conservation and animal care. The program's newest members include a baby skunk, opossum, hedgehog, and a peregrine falcon. Our animal keepers have been working with each of the animals to train them for use in education programming.

# CONSERVATION

CuriOdyssey embarked on several new conservation projects in the areas of habitat restoration, research, and citizen science. CuriOdyssey is now home to the Bay Area FrogWatch chapter, its newest citizen science project. The chapter is part of FrogWatch USA, and is devoted to monitoring the area frog and toad population through the help of volunteers.

# CURIODYSSEY GOES MOBILE

This year marked the development of the Mobile Museum - CuriOdyssey's newest program that brings science education to young children. Through it, CuriOdyssey partners with local businesses and community organizations that serve families with children five to ten years old. The CuriOdyssey Mobile Museum incorporates science activities, new mobile exhibits that highlight natural phenomena such as sound, mechanics, and energy, and CuriOdyssey's nonreleasable Animal Ambassadors.

# EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

CuriOdyssey continued its leadership in the science education field.

This year, CuriOdyssey established a partnership with the San Mateo County Office of Education's new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Center and KQED to provide professional development for teachers. The institution has also strengthened its link with local schools to develop a program for providing science education programs for all kindergarten, first, and second grade classrooms in a local elementary school.



# Letter From The Director | 2012

# Dear Friends,

"If you could do just one thing to address climate change, what would it be?" a guest at our recent speaker event asked. Without skipping a beat, Nobel Prize-winning climatologist and biologist Dr. Terry Root answered, "Educate children." Are you surprised? We were. And pleased to hear it because, of course, that is exactly what we do.

We are living in a society that has at last come to comprehend that things around us have changed, and we had better do something about it. Where to start? How about at the beginning? That's where we put our focus, right smack on the time when children are orienting themselves to the world.

We all need to take very seriously the staggering capacity for learning that every child carries and to encourage them as if our lives depended on it. Because our lives DO depend on it. Not only are science and technology exciting worlds to explore, they are our path to a safer, more prosperous future. If you are reading this, you are undoubtedly someone who has helped our efforts here at CuriOdyssey, and we thank you. Looking back, we are proud of our many accomplishments toward our goals over the past year, which we've highlighted in this Annual Report issue. Looking forward, we are continuing to build a worldclass, leading-edge learning institution that gets it right, right from take-off, for our newest learners.

Thanks for coming along for the voyage,

Rachel Meyer Executive Director

# Donors - 2011

In 2011 CuriOdyssey changed fiscal years, delaying the inclusion of these donors in an Annual Report. The Board of Trustees and staff of CuriOdyssey wish to express our sincere appreciation to the following donors for their generous support between July 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.

Andrew and Julie Cheng

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# STORIES OF IMPACT: VISITORS

The following are stories and quotes from individuals who have been touched by CuriOdyssey through schoo programs, camp, and visits.

"The kids were especially inspired by the Mistake Lab, where they were tasked with making the strongest possible bridge out of tongue depressors, popsicle sticks, and masking tape. They spent an hour building and testing, and improved step by step."

Rob Delfosse, visitor

Mary Bennett and Hilda Loza

"Mommy, can I just stay and do a little more science?"

phie, vistor



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# STORIES OF IMPACT: CAMP CURIODYSSEY

"Wonderful curriculum! I love how you make science and nature experiences hands-on. Every day when I picked my son up after camp he talked and talked about what he did with great excitement."

CuriOdyssey summer camp parent

"Camp CuriOdyssey was by far the most exciting, fun and (unbeknownst to my child) educational camp he has ever attended. Great job; we'll be back next year!"

CuriOdyssey summer camp parent

"My daughter specifically requested to return to Camp CuriOdyssey this year, and she has thoroughly enjoyed it. I appreciate the science education, the training of the counselors and the convenient camp hours."

CuriOdyssey summer camp parent

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# STORIES OF IMPACT: TEACHERS

<sup>44</sup> My students learned so much about the animals and how they adapt for survival. They especially loved the ferret, Fabio! They also loved being able to feel their animals' coverings, such as fur, feathers and a tortoise shell. They were able to recall specific details about the animals when we got back to school.<sup>23</sup>

\*\* The children enjoyed the program; they talked about it for days! They were also able to recall what they had learned and apply it to science experiments in our classroom."

Anonymous teacher



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# STORIES OF IMPACT: MOBILE MUSEUM

"Thank you so much for bringing your exhibit today. My face hurts from smiling so much!"

Parent at a CuriOdyssey Mobile Museum experience at the Bay Area Science Festival

# FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS

\$50,000+

TomKat Charitable Trust The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

# \$25,000 - \$49,999

Thelma Doelger Charitable Trust Moore Family Foundation

# \$10,000 - \$24,999

Genentech Foundation Winifred Johnson Clive Foundation The Kimball Foundation Oracle Sand Hill Foundation ServiceSource International, Inc. Woodlawn Foundation

# \$5,000 - \$9,999

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# \$2,500 - \$4,999

The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Pacific Gas and Electric Company Anne Riley and Associates Walmart.com Wells Fargo Foundation

# \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous The Barkley Fund Boston Private Bank & Trust Company The Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation, Inc. The Robert Brownlee Foundation Chevron Humankind Matching Gift Program Dodge & Cox The Glastenbury Foundation Lakeside Foundation Edmund and Jeannik Littlefield Foundation Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc. Parthenon Capital Foundation The G.W. Williams Foundation, an advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation

# \$500 - \$999

The Community Giving Fund, a joint project of ProSight Specialty Insurance and Tangram Insurance Services Direct Communication Group Inc., Brian Evars Gap Foundation Gift Match Program Genentech Employee Giving Program Golub Group, LLC Google Matching Gift Program Susan Herman, Clay Herman Realtor Matarozzi Pelsinger Builders The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Potrero Nuevo Fund Ed Stephens and Coldwell Banker Tsais Family Foundation

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Annie Appleby of YogaForce LLC The Century Club of California Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream Foundation Pathwork Diagnostics Lynx Team Richard's Crafts Tulane Montessori Children's House Inc. Beverly and Bernard Wolfe Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund

### GIFTS IN-KIND valued at \$500 and above Barcelino

Carmel Valley Ranch Cooley, LLP Mrs. Kathryn Crosby Equinox Fitness Drew and Athena Flinders Jesse Freidin Photographer Halo - A Blow Dry Bar Michael S. Hensley Party Rental & Sales Co. House Of Ruby Interior Design Peggy Bort Jones Kerns Fine Jewelry Knight Visions Production & Design Sam Malouf Martis Camp Club McCalls Catering and Events Meadowood Napa Valley Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa Pacific Sports Resort Redwood Shores David Penny Construction and Paisley Powell Designs Prescott Ashe Estate Winery Rebarts Interiors Reposturing Dynamics The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco Schumacher Photography Silverado Resort and Spa Tessara Financial Advisors, Inc. Tribal Brands and Tribal Technologies Jennifer and Owen Van Natta

# Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wilbur **REDWOOD SOCIETY**

CuriOdyssey's Redwood Society recognizes those who have chosen to support CuriOdyssey through legacy gifts. Contributions received through legacy gifts help CuriOdyssey build for the future. Members of the Redwood Society will appear in future Annual Reports. New members of the Redwood Society please notify Marilyn Bancel, Director of Development, at 650.340.7567 that CuriOdyssey has been included in your estate plans.

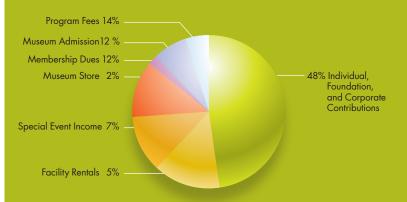
Every effort has been made to be accurate. If your name is not present or you are not recognized properly, please contact Tavi Haberman at 650.340.7573

# Financial Review 2011-2012

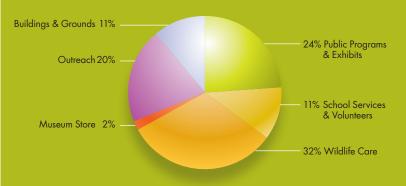
CuriOdyssey saw a substantial increase in both earned revenues and contributed revenues as compared to the prior fiscal year. The numbers presented here do not include noncash adjustments (in-kind donations, depreciation, etc.)

# FY 2012 REVENUES

\$2,367,171 (Oct 1, 2011 - Sept 31, 2012)



# FY 2012 PROGRAMS AND SERVICE EXPENSES \$2,323,639 (Oct 1, 2011 - Sept 31, 2012)





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# Curie dyssey

Photo by Justin Miel