

# CURIODYSSEY news FOR THE CURIOUS



**BUILDING THE  
MINDS OF  
TOMORROW  
TODAY**



**CuriOdyssey**  
AT COYOTE POINT

## ANNOUNCING THE CAMPAIGN FOR CURIODYSSEY

At CuriOdyssey, we treat kids like the geniuses they are. We let them loose to observe wild animals, experiment with scientific phenomena and let the natural world answer their questions. Because learning to think like a scientist early on gives them the tools they'll need to take on the real world challenges of the future.

While we have a 60-year legacy, our journey to reinvent ourselves as CuriOdyssey began just eight years ago. In that time, we've become a nationally recognized science education center and an invaluable resource for the community. We offer more than 100,000 young visitors up-close encounters with real science annually. Summer camps regularly sell out within

days, and we host hundreds of classes for Bay Area schools, with the demand increasing year after year. We're doing all of this work in a building that was cutting-edge for its time. But today, it just doesn't support our expanded mission, and we are squeezing into available space. This community deserves a best-in-class resource that can better serve our kids and suit our programs.

That's why I'm excited to announce that we're raising \$35 million to turn CuriOdyssey into the ultimate serious science playground. We will modernize and completely remake our building utilizing the principles of sustainable architecture. We will vastly increase our usable space, allowing for more capacity, camps, exhibits, wildlife programs and school programs. We will offer new experiences such as a wildlife observation deck and an outdoor natural play area. These changes will take CuriOdyssey from a community treasure to a world-class institution.

Science education is more important than ever, and it's time we give it the attention it deserves. With the new CuriOdyssey as our hub, and by changing the way kids learn about science, we can pave the way for new generations of critical thinkers, problem-solvers, innovators and environmental stewards. So let's build the future of CuriOdyssey so our kids can build theirs.

Please let your friends and colleagues know about the exciting plans unfolding at CuriOdyssey! Help spread the word that our community is creating a world-class hub for science learning right here on the Peninsula.

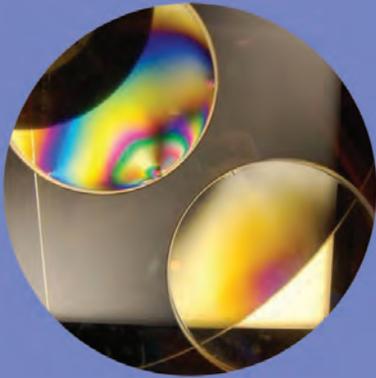
Visit [support.curiodyssey.org](http://support.curiodyssey.org) to get involved.

Rachel Meyer  
Executive Director

# YOU'LL INVEST. THEY'LL INVENT.

Science is a superpower. It's the strongest force we have to change and shape our world. And with this power, our kids can take on any challenge the future holds.

So let's give kids the superpower of science through more exhibits, more classroom space, expansive outdoor play spaces and areas to observe wildlife.



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# What the new CuriOdyssey will look like:



**2X THE NUMBER OF CLASSROOMS.** Currently we have adapted two spaces into classrooms, which simply cannot meet the demand placed on them. With four classrooms in the new CuriOdyssey, we can accommodate many more school programs and grow our summer camp program by 50%. Each classroom will be readily accessible to the outdoors and provide an apt venue for wildlife education programs.

**3X THE AMOUNT OF EXHIBIT SPACE.** Today, we have 32 exhibits awkwardly squeezed into our lobby, courtyard and corridors. The new CuriOdyssey will house 100 exhibits, allowing us to cover many more topics in many more ways. Once we fill up our new space, we'll begin a rotation cycle to feed in our newest ideas. With that, the CuriOdyssey experience will constantly evolve and invite new opportunities for learning and exploration.

**LARGE OUTDOOR NATURAL PLAY AREA.** The land surrounding CuriOdyssey is ripe for adventure. This new play area will offer kids a wild place to safely explore, clamber over boulders and play among the trees.

**IMMERSIVE WILDLIFE OBSERVATION DECK.** The second story of our building sits at the canopy level of the surrounding trees, bringing us eye level to where the wild birds roam. With the new CuriOdyssey, we will take advantage of this rare vantage point with an immersive wildlife observation deck that brings the outdoors inside. This space will invite visitors to be active observers of the unique ecosystem in beautiful Coyote Point Park.

## *Allocation of funds*

*\$11 million will fund education and wildlife programs, exhibit development, campaign costs and partnerships with local schools and community organizations.*

*\$24 million will go towards expanding and modernizing our main building, creating an outdoor natural play area and landscaping with native chaparral.*



# Build it and they will become.

## AERIAL VIEW

The new CuriOdyssey is designed with the environment in mind. The roof of our building will feature state-of-the-art cooling towers that serve as environmentally-conscious climate control. The roof will also feature a platform and station for our popular egg drop education activity. Long walkways and an observation area will provide direct access to the outdoors.



## INTERIOR LOBBY VIEW

The two-story interior of the new CuriOdyssey will incorporate reused and repurposed elements of the current Redwood Hall. In our commitment to sustainability, the design will use the beautiful planks and beams that helped build the museum in the 1980s.

In doing this, we'll retain a piece of our former building as a reminder of our past and the San Mateo County Junior Museum Auxiliary who founded us and helped us get where we are today.



## EXTERIOR ENTRANCE

The new CuriOdyssey boasts a modern, pavilion-style exterior with a universally accessible entrance. Multiple peek-through windows provide kid-height sightlines inside the wildlife exhibits.

A balcony offers views of the park and additional opportunities to connect with nature.



# New Exhibition Now Open!



What do you see when you look through a larger-than-life kaleidoscope? Does the curve of a mirror influence how you view the world? How do reflections change in a mirror that is split into hundreds of little pieces?

CuriOdyssey's *Reflections + Perceptions* is a new, sensory exhibition that enables exploration of visual and tactile perception. Experience surprising optical effects by experimenting with various optical patterns; play with reflective, refractive, optical and translucent materials.

View the world through a different lens in *Reflections + Perceptions*. Now open.

## Thank you for a successful gala!



The Western White House



The CuriOdyssey Gala Committee and Co-Chairs

On Saturday, September 26, 300 guests joined us at the Western White House, hosted by Kalpa and Shailesh Mehta, and raised \$160,000 for children's science education!

We thank all of our donors; your support at the CuriOdyssey Gala gives the superpower of science to more than 100,000 children who visit us each year. Our Fund-A-Need raised an incredible \$84,000 for CuriOdyssey's free science programming for low-income schools and groups, which will account for more than a third of all school programming provided this school year.

SEE THE WORLD THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS IN OUR NEW EXHIBITION



Touch and explore various tactile tiles in the new exhibition.



Play with patterns and observe how light transforms objects.

### BARN OWLS HAVE ARRIVED!

This summer, CuriOdyssey received three female barn owls. These creatures have this name because they will often inhabit buildings, especially barns. This is no accident; barns happen to be very attractive spaces to occupy. There is typically an ample rodent supply inside these structures.



Photo of barn owl by Leigh Simpson

The barn owls in our care each have a varied history. "Winifred" came to us from Native Animal Rescue in Santa Cruz. She was hit by a car and has permanent wing damage that left her flightless. "Zelda" was a former pet who is now imprinted on humans; she also came to us from the Native Animal Rescue in Santa Cruz. "Bernadette" was hatched at the Scovill Zoo in Decatur, IL and was transferred to us in August 2015.

# Leadership Gifts: \$19\* Million Raised To-Date

During the Quiet Phase of the Campaign, The TomKat Charitable Trust, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, together with CuriOdyssey's Board of Trustees, invested a combined total of \$11 million. Many other generous donors joined in to get us to the halfway mark!

We thank all of our visionary leaders who have given to CuriOdyssey's Capital Campaign.

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TomKat Charitable Trust

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*\*Includes a \$2M challenge grant  
conditional pledge from the TomKat  
Charitable Trust  
\*\*In-kind donation*

*You can help give children the superpower of science!*

And now we invite our community at large to join our cause and create our serious science playground here on the Bay in San Mateo County. To get involved and find out more, please come visit, go to CuriOdyssey.org, email [give@curiodyssey.org](mailto:give@curiodyssey.org), or call 650-340-7571.

Thank you to all our staff and volunteers who have brought us to this milestone in CuriOdyssey's history.

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Lisa 'Big Air' Rogers  
**Aeronautical Engineer,  
Class of 2031.**