



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CITY OF CHICAGO

March 14, 2019

Deborah Lahey
President & CEO, Chicago Academy of Sciences/Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
President, Museums In the Park
2430 North Cannon Drive
Chicago, IL 60614

Dear Deborah,

Thank you for your letter and complimentary general admission card to all the Chicago museums and zoos. Unfortunately, our department has a strict gift policy that does not allow us to accept it, and had to return it.

The Chicago Department of Public Health appreciates the gesture and wishes your office much success in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Julie Morita, M.D.
Commissioner
Chicago Department of Public Health

cc: Steven Berlin, Executive Director



MUSEUMS IN THE PARK

2430 North Cannon Drive Chicago, Illinois 60614 312-447-0460 www.museumsinthepark.org

Greetings!

Enclosed is the *2019 Constituent Education Resource Card*, your passport to Chicago's world-class museums!

We hope you and your constituents will use this card to learn first-hand why Chicago's museums, zoos, garden and aquarium draw over **15 million** visitors per year – more than the population of Illinois. These remarkable institutions offer visitors priceless opportunities to explore and enjoy the arts, sciences, nature, and culture.

Each of these institutions offers free admission to Illinois residents at least 52 days a year, and Illinois school groups are always admitted free. Museums offer outreach programs in schools, parks, field houses and community centers, and reach thousands of Illinois residents right in their own neighborhoods.

Chicago-area institutions are economic engines that not only attract tourists, but also provide jobs and support local businesses. They generate tens of millions in state and local tax revenue and produce an estimated **annual economic impact of over \$1 billion!**

With your *2019 Constituent Education Resource Card*, you can explore the ways that Chicago-area museums are making a difference in Illinois. Present your card to receive complimentary General Admission at the following institutions.

Adler Planetarium
The Art Institute of Chicago
Brookfield Zoo/CZS
Chicago Academy of Sciences /
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Children's Museum
Chicago History Museum

DuSable Museum of African American History
The Field Museum
Lincoln Park Zoo
Museum of Contemporary Art
Museum of Science and Industry
National Museum of Mexican Art
National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture
John G. Shedd Aquarium

This card should be used to encourage your constituents to visit our institutions and learn from our collections and exhibitions. Please notify the museum prior to visiting (see back of letter for contacts).

On behalf of Museums In the Park, we welcome you and your constituents to visit us soon!

Sincerely,

Deborah Lahey
President & CEO, Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
President, Museums In the Park



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CHICAGO AREA MUSEUMS & ZOOS HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017, **Chicago Area Museums & Zoos** continued a commitment to providing exceptional service to the citizens of Chicago and the world. These museums welcomed millions of visitors and provided valuable educational experiences to thousands of teachers and students through various special programs. The museums continued their roles as economic engines and provided substantial employment and economic opportunities to the people of Chicago and surrounding areas.

ATTENDANCE

Illinois museums, gardens and zoos on public land offer the equivalent of 52 free days per year along with daily discounts for Chicago residents. Illinois school groups are admitted free.

Total 2017 Attendance	15,848,732
Free Day Attendance	1,467,040
School Group Attendance	1,428,719

MUSEUM STAFF ¹

Total Paid Staff	3,700
Volunteers	7,500
Volunteer Hours Donated	600,000

ESTIMATED ECONOMIC IMPACT ²

The estimated economic impact of Chicago Area museums and their audiences is calculated using the aggregate operating expenses of the museums and their combined total attendance.

Expenditures by Museums/Audiences	\$ 1.1 billion
Full Time Equivalent Jobs Supported	34,000
Household Income Generated	\$ 824 million
Local Government Revenue Generated	\$ 50 million
State Government Revenue Generated	\$ 60 million

¹ As of Dec 31, 2014

² Calculated using the "Arts & Economic Prosperity Calculator," an online tool developed by Americans for the Arts

Dr. Julie Morita

MUSEUMS WORK FOR CHICAGO

Constituent Education Resource Card

VALID JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2019