The California Science Center is pleased to provide special insights to our generous supporters, Members and donors. Here’s what’s in this issue of The Nucleus:

Get to Know the Membership Team – Meet Gloria!
ExploraStore Holiday Discount Extended!
Coming Soon – Virtual Field Trips
Science Beyond the Center
Partners in Learning
Virtual Backgrounds

Science Center family, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy and continuing to learn. During these incredibly difficult times, your vital support enables the California Science Center to continue our mission to inspire science learning in everyone. As we adapt to challenges and find new ways to serve the community with educational programming and exhibits, we reaffirm our commitment to the Science Center’s core values of accessibility and inclusiveness that are at the heart of everything we do.

THANK YOU!

GET TO KNOW THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM - MEET GLORIA!

Gloria Parada, Assistant Membership Manager, has worked at the California Science Center for nearly 12 years – but her affinity started even earlier. Gloria grew up in one of the neighborhoods surrounding the Science Center and still lives nearby. She was hired as a Guest Services staff member.
working in our Discovery Rooms for little learners before joining the Membership Department.

She held the positions of Membership Assistant and Coordinator before earning another promotion to Assistant Membership Manager. In this role, she oversees all on-site, mail, phone and web contributions for the Department, manages constituent data, helps coordinate Member events and is the primary contact providing excellent Membership services.

You may have already met Gloria at a Member event or talked to her on the phone and are familiar with her warm and friendly manner. She jokingly says that she often had notes sent home from school because she talked too much during class. “I have always enjoyed the customer service aspect of my job and love catching up with long-time members during events and seeing how big their children are getting.”

Gloria vividly remembers her first trip to the Science Center when she was in fourth grade and how fascinated she was by Tess in the World of Life gallery and the IMAX Theater. To this day, Hubble 3D remains her all-time favorite IMAX film, which she has seen countless times. While she includes Bill Nye, The Science Guy and Neil deGrasse Tyson as her science heroes, she got hooked on science the first time she visited the Science Center.

Among one of the most memorable exhibitions she has experienced at the Science Center is BODY WORLDS: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies, which made its premiere in the Americas in 2004. A recent thorough cleaning unearthed a long forgotten ticket stub from the exhibition that she had saved as a souvenir. “Experiencing the BODY WORLDS exhibition is what inspired my interest in the medical sciences. It is the reason why I went to nursing school and completed a Medical Assistant Certification.”

During her tenure at the Science Center, Gloria has been a part of many milestones, but considers witnessing Space Shuttle Endeavour being pulled into the Samuel Oschin Pavilion on the evening of October 14, 2012, after trekking the streets of Los Angeles, a true privilege. She was one of 15 employees who was there to see it in its new home for the first time. “Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, I would have never thought that the shuttle would be accessible to not only me as an adult, but also to thousands of children from underserved communities.”
Since then, Gloria has become somewhat of a celebrity in her neighborhood. Many of the children that live there visit the Science Center often and always want to know about the latest events or exhibits.

Gloria’s favorite core value of the Science Center is that it is accessible to everyone, general admission-free. She believes free access to the Science Center’s permanent exhibits and educational opportunities was vital to helping inspire and nurture her love of science. During her formative years, she visited the Science Center many times without paying an admission fee. She is grateful to our Science Center Members for supporting our mission to inspire science learning in everyone and for helping us remain resilient during these unprecedented and uncertain times.

Although she does not have any pets, she loves animals, particularly sloths and the flamboyant cuttlefish. During the pandemic, Gloria has kindled her interests in cooking and baking and enjoys watching The Great British Baking Show and traveling culinary shows. She loves to travel and hopes to visit some of the countries highlighted in these shows after the pandemic subsides. And, she can’t wait to see our Members in person and welcome you back when the Science Center is permitted to reopen!

EXPLORASTORE HOLIDAY DISCOUNT EXTENDED!

We have extended our special 20% discount at the ExploraStore online (double the usual Membership discount!) for our valued Members and donors through December 12, 2020. Just use promo code Members2020 at checkout.

Enjoy several more holiday treats, including FREE GIFT WRAPPING upon request, PERSONAL SHOPPING ASSISTANCE via telephone and CURBSIDE PICK-UP Monday through Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. By calling for shopping service, you will have access to additional ExploraStore items currently not displayed on the website!

Please contact the ExploraStore with your Member number handy for any questions or to receive personal shopping assistance at (213) 744-7422 or endeavourstore@cscmail.org.
COMING SOON – VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS

Calling all teachers! (And Members please share this information with teachers and principals you know.)
Inspire your students and spark their curiosity with Virtual Field Trips, a new California Science Center program for grades K-5. Enjoy access to the Science Center’s unique exhibits and hands-on science activities, and interact with our skilled team of diverse and passionate educators from the comfort of your classroom or learning environment. Explore grade-level specific content in Life, Physical, and Earth and Space sciences aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Learn More

SCIENCE BEYOND THE CENTER

Missing your visits to the California Science Center? Science Beyond the Center gives you behind-the-scenes access to Science Center exhibits in ways you’ve never seen before.

This week, we are pleased to feature Lens on Life the Science Center's photoblog featuring captivating photos and insights from Ecosystems curator Chuck Kopczak's travels above ground and underwater. Learn about and see spectacular nature photos on everything from nudibranchs (slugs of the marine world) to the Sierra Nevada mountain range and kelp forests off the California coast!

You can also take tours through Space Shuttle Endeavour. Experience revealing behind-the-scenes interactions with our
animals, the people who take care of them and the systems that help us keep them healthy. And check out some videos from our traveling exhibitions. New content will be added regularly.

Bookmark the Science Beyond the Center page and check back often to see what's new!

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

Looking for a deeper connection with the California Science Center? Please consider joining the Partners in Learning annual giving program to help sustain the hands-on exhibits, programs and operations that make the California Science Center a world-class educational resource and treasured family destination.

Our Partners in Learning were treated to a special virtual Lunch and Learn presentation by our very own Curator of Life Sciences, Liz Roth-Johnson, PhD. Dr. Roth-Johnson shared a sneak peek at the Science Center's plans for a new addition to the World of Life gallery focused on the processes of reproduction. Contact Abel Contreraz, Development Operations Manager at acontreraz@californiasciencecenter.org to learn more about becoming a Partner in Learning and how to enjoy future Lunch and Learn presentations and other great opportunities.

With our doors temporarily closed to the public, the support of our Partners in Learning donors is vital to helping the California Science Center continue our mission to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone. We welcome your involvement!

Become a Partner in Learning

VIRTUAL BACKGROUND
Download and use these free virtual backgrounds featuring some of our favorite scenes from the California Science Center during your video conference meetings.

Space Shuttle Endeavour arrived at the California Science Center eight years ago. We continue to celebrate Endeavour’s arrival with this dynamic lift off image!

Download

During these challenging and uncertain times, your support as a Member is critical to our ability to continue serving our community with free online science learning opportunities.

Please renew your Membership today in support of our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

If your Membership is not due for renewal and you are in a position to make an additional gift, of any amount, we invite your contribution.

Your generous support will help sustain the California Science Center as a trusted educational resource while we are temporarily closed to the public. Thank you!

Plan today, make a difference tomorrow.

Because you value science as much as we do, help us continue our mission by leaving a gift in your will to the California Science Center. Did you know that supporting the Science Center with a gift from your IRA is tax-free? For more information send us an email.

Renew  Donate  Contact Us
For more information on the California Science Center, visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org or call (323) SCIENCE (724-3623). For Membership questions, please contact the Membership Office at member@californiasciencecenter.org or call (213) 744-7504.

NOTE: The California Science Center Membership Office does not send unsolicited email messages. To have your address removed from our email program, unsubscribe below or send a message to member@californiasciencecenter.org with subject line: “remove from list.” Please include your name and Member number in the body of the message.