

CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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"Chabot is dedicated to sparking curiosity, nurturing exploration, and inspiring a joy in learning."



#### **PICTURED RIGHT**

Youth from the Boys & Girls Club of Oakland engage in Chabot-led activities.



## From Our Leadership

2018 was an eventful year at Chabot.

Everywhere you look at Chabot nowadays, from exhibits to public programming to educational programs, you see something new and interesting. We are rapidly evolving into a very exciting place to be while still honoring the spirit that has made Chabot such a beloved institution for over 135 years.

Over these extraordinary last twelve months we've given our museum floor a significant refresh with three new exhibitions. We kicked off fiscal year 2018 by launching our Project Create initiative, transforming Gruener Astronomy Hall into a hands-on making and tinkering space. Thanks to our partnership with the East Bay Regional Park District and the City of Oakland, we opened our long-awaited Observation Deck, with a suite of exhibits designed and fabricated by San Francisco's Exploratorium. Our evolving and iterative new exhibition, Going The Distance: Our Reach Into Space, debuted in October. This exhibition is a pivotal change in how Chabot highlights the new space renaissance, combining interactive exhibits with artifacts from our partners at NASA Ames, Planet, JPL, Libre Space Foundation, and Space X.

Our educational programs evolved in 2018, as well. Summer Explorers Camp had a successful second season, providing experiences that combine science, engineering, and outdoor explorations, with double the previous year's attendance. Through our innovative partnerships with the Boys & Girls Club of Oakland and Merritt College, we are extending STEM learning beyond our four walls, reaching underserved youth in their own neighborhoods and connecting that learning back to programs right here at Chabot.



Furthering this "Learning Everywhere" initiative, we are deepening our work in Contra Costa County through family science nights at local libraries and schools and field trip program scholarships for Title 1 students. An experimental pilot and an extraordinary collaboration, we welcomed 100 OUSD middle schoolers and their teachers to attend school onsite at Chabot one day per week over the course of the school year. Such an amazing opportunity to model forwardlooking approaches to science education and create meaningful impressions on our kids right now. Through such programs, we are not only strengthening our impact on our local communities, we are prototyping approaches to STEM education that reposition Chabot as a leader in the national dialogue around education reform.

We added key board and staff members; made important maintenance improvements to the Center; were a noteworthy presence at Maker Faire; hosted the Bay Area Children's Film Festival for the fourth year; Tinkerfest, a large scale DIY celebration, was held here for the second year; we celebrated celestial events such as Mars closest approach and the Lunar Eclipse; and we are making significant progress on our Strategic Plan, thanks in part to the award of a transformational grant from the Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation.

Philanthropy is the lifeblood of a non-profit institution like Chabot, and we celebrate our loyal supporters. We are honored to thank the many families who make the Center a part of their philanthropy. We value greatly the charitable foundations that share in and support our mission. And we take pride in the strong relationships we have built with our corporate sponsors. With your support, Chabot can inspire the passion, creativity, and curiosity of an even greater number of youth as they discover and create their own vibrant futures.

Here's to the brightest of futures for Chabot and, most importantly, our kids and the world they will be empowered to create.

Adam Tobin

Executive Director / CEO

Eric Rudney Foundation Chair

Mary Ellen Tong

Joint Powers Authority Board Chair

"Looking forward, we are working on creating richer experiences through timed workshops emphasizing skill building, tool training, and walking our visitors through a project from start to finish. Project Create will continue to experiment with new exhibit experiences including a combination of high and low tech, making it an accessible space. We are also looking to create community build opportunities for visitors to contribute to our space."



**PICTURED RIGHT** 

Project Create, launched in 2018



## Fiscal Year 2018 in Review

October 1st 2017-September 30th 2018

FY 2018 Combined Total Revenue: **\$5,197,752** 





10% Education Programs

**9%** Rental Events

■ 6% Memberships

■ 1% Other



**77 20%** Government





**EXPENSES** 

■ 23% Operations & Facility

■ 6% Administration

■ 6% Fundraising

Solid pieces are Earned Revenue. Shaded are Contributed Revenue



# 2018 Highlights

#### **EXHIBITS** -



PROJECT CREATE



GOING THE DISTANCE: OUR REACH INTO SPACE



OBSERVATION DECK



COURTYARD GARDEN

#### **PROGRAMS**



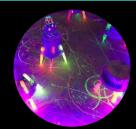
FESTIVAL DAYS: TINKERFEST



COMMUNITY INSPIRED PROGRAMS: FIRST FRIDAYS



EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS: SCIENCE ON SATURDAYS



ON THE TOWN: DRINKERING & TINKERING

#### **EDUCATION**



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: CHAMPIONS OF SCIENCE / GALAXY EXPLORERS



CAMP PROGRAM: SUMMER CAMP



FIELD TRIP PROGRAM



COMMUNITY
OUTREACH: MAKER FAIRE

#### **ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS**



SOLAR ECLIPSE



METEOR SHOWERS: GEMINIDS & PLEIADES



MARS APPROACH



WEEKLY FREE-TO-THE-PUBLIC TELESCOPE VIEWING

In 2018, Chabot realized an active year of launching new experiences for members and visitors through dynamic exhibits, original public programs, engaging educational programs and enriched astronomical events. Chabot is equally proud of the thoughtful, collaborative partnerships with community members and organizations, research laboratories and corporations that helped us create, inform and deliver the new experiences at Chabot.



#### **PROJECT CREATE**

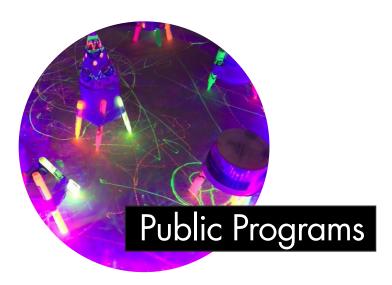
More than an exhibit, Project Create is a tinkering space that encourages visitors to explore, experiment and build (or take apart) using their hands and a few handy tools. Located in Gruener/Astronomy Hall, Project Create invites visitors to spend some time building Marble Machines, creating a movie at Stop Motion Stations, designing at Tinker Tailor, and discovering the insides of a computer at Tech Take Apart.

#### THE OBSERVATION DECK

Opened in April 2018, the Observation Deck invites visitors to observe the world around them in new ways. The 3200 sq. ft. exhibition area features 12 interactive stations. The Observation Deck expansion was made possible through Measure WW funds. Exhibits were designed and build by the Exploratorium.

#### GOING THE DISTANCE: OUR REACH INTO SPACE

Curated by Chabot staff with inspiration and expertise from NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA Ames Research Center, SpaceX, Planet and SatNOGS from Libre Space Foundation, the exhibition explores how humans are expanding our boundaries by moving farther into the Universe than ever before. Highlights include an interactive mission control area, Mars rover driving challenge, and a hands-on lander design and test zone.



#### **TINKERFEST**

The 2nd Annual Tinkerfest celebrated the creative and the curious. Over 20 partnering organizations from the Bay Area and beyond engaged more than 1,000 visitors of all ages in building, playing, and experimenting together. This year, guests took apart two donated cars and one airplane engine.

#### FIRST FRIDAYS

Celebrating its second year, the monthly family-friendly First Fridays evenings continued to showcase community partners around a wide range of themes, ranging from climate to bugs to the solar system.

#### **SCIENCE ON SATURDAYS**

Partnering with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, Chabot was pleased to offer a series of youth-focused science lectures by Lab scientists. All students had free admission to attend the lectures and received a tshirt too.



## GALAXY EXPLORERS AND CHAMPIONS OF SCIENCE

The flagship Galaxy Explorers program provided nearly 200 high school students with an opportunity for hands-on community and team work while developing authentic job skills and increasing their STEM knowledge

For Oakland Unified middle schoolers from Title 1 schools, the Champions of Science continued a year-round program at Chabot, investigating age appropriate topics such as earth sciences, climate education, Nano technology, space exploration, media production, and robotics.

#### **SUMMER CAMP**

The 2018 Summer Camp program was attended by 276 kids entering 1st through 6th grades. Campers chose among four weeklong programs: Mars Adventure, Operation Moon Base, Camp Create, and Eco Animation. Camp days were filled with creative problem solving, skill building and outdoor exploration in the surrounding East Bay Regional Parks. This year, a limited number of full and partial need-based scholarships extended the camp opportunity to even more children.

#### FIELD TRIPS

More than 42,000 school children annually are served by workshops, Challenger Learning Center programs, live demonstrations and Planetarium shows as part of the school field trip program offerings. Since 2009, Chabot has offered free field trips to OUSD public schools.



#### **ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS**

Members, visitors and night owls flocked to Chabot for a variety of astronomical events in 2018, including an over-capacity attendance for viewing the August Solar Eclipse. The Center continues its tradition of offering free, weather dependent Observatory viewing on Friday and Saturday evenings, inspiring more than 10,000 visitors during the year.

The Asteroid Search Program, conducted by Chabot and EAS astronomers, continues to observe and track Near Earth Objects – asteroids and comets that cross Earth's orbit and report findings to the International Astronomical Union's Minor Planet Center.

"For visitors to Chabot, our telescopes are our spaceships to the universe beyond. There is nothing like personally seeing the mountainous cratered terrain of the Moon, the swirling storms of Jupiter, the magnificent rings of Saturn, the glowing starbirth clouds of the Orion nebula and other places beyond. Each person's view through the telescope is a unique and personal experience."



"Our public programs, like Tinkerfest, First Fridays and Science on Saturdays, along with our new exhibits, including the Observation Deck and Going the Distance, have enabled the Center to truly be a canvass for our community partners. Visitors and members are invited to join the rich creativity happening across the East Bay, the region and California, right here at Chabot."



LIZ AUSTERMAN DIRECTOR OF VISITOR EXPERIENCE

#### PICTURED RIGHT

Chabot's 2nd annual Tinkerfest, a day of hands-on DIY for all ages



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