

# Media Kit

Museum Reopening, June 2021

## Summary

During the COVID-19 closure, the Museum has updated many of its exhibits and created some new ones. In addition, the Museum has created new educational programs, which are connected to exhibits that enrich the formal education initiatives underway at the Museum.

## Exhibits

### New exhibit: *Current Science Studio*

The Museum's flagship exhibit in 2021 will be *Current Science Studio*, an exciting new gallery that brings the science behind what's happening in the news to visitors in real time. The experience is anchored by a stunning interactive 360-degree globe called Science On a Sphere® (SOS). When it opens, *Current Science Studio* will feature the world's highest-quality SOS system.

Because many of its key components are backed by digital technology, *Current Science Studio* dramatically lowers the Museum's costs for creating new content. This digital infrastructure will result in frequent changes that give visitors a reason to return again and again. It also makes the gallery a valuable resource for our existing formal education programs, *Museum School* and the *Little Scholars Program*, as well as field trips from area schools.

### New exhibit components in the *Children's Museum*

The Children's Museum is the Museum's most popular exhibit, especially with our core audience of families with young children. We have reconfigured the space and added about 25% additional components to the exhibit. These new components encourage children to consider the value of community, friendship, and cooperation as they learn through the act of play. This is the first major new offering in the Children's Museum since the current building opened and it meets a significant demand we've heard from our audience.

### New exhibits in the *Noble Planetarium Gallery*

During the closure, we have permanently installed new artifacts and hands-on exhibits into this space. When visitors return, they will find objects that have travelled to space, including a piece of the famous Apollo 11 spacecraft. They'll be able to weigh themselves on other planets, see themselves in infrared light, learn about light pollution, and more. This new experience creates another interactive space in the Museum.

### New content in Niches and the Atrium

The Museum's main corridor is populated with a series of niche cases that have been largely unchanged for the past decade. When the Museum reopens in June 2021, the content in every niche will be new. Each niche will use artifacts to tell stories of science and history, such as Fort Worth native Opal Lee and her efforts to establish Juneteenth as a federal holiday. The niches will feature rotating artifacts from the Museum's rich collection, a common request from the public. Those artifacts will be described by

labels and additional text panels. The initial content will include displays on historical weaponry, natural history, Black history, and Native American craftwork.

The Museum's atrium will feature a touring exhibit remembering the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks from [Honor365](#), including a model of the World Trade Center. The Museum is one of only a few stops nationwide and the only stop in Texas. After the Honor365 exhibit leaves, the atrium will feature a display of historical automobiles, including an original Ford Model T.

### New exhibit in the *Heritage Gallery*

The *Heritage Gallery* presents rotating cultural exhibitions, giving our guests the opportunity to celebrate the richness of Fort Worth's diverse communities. From June – December 2021, the *Heritage Gallery* will feature *Changemakers: Local Women, Global Impact*, a celebration of local women who made an impact in science, education, activism, technology, politics, the arts, and more. This exhibit highlights the accomplishments of women throughout the southwest through a series of portraits, biographies, and cultural artifacts.

### New content in *DinoLabs*

In response to interest from visitors, the Museum has expanded the information in our dinosaur gallery, *DinoLabs*. For the June 2021 reopening, each artifact will have its own informational label, and larger signage around the gallery will present both the story of the dinosaurs and information about how scientists study them. We'll also be updating a digital interactive with one in which kids can measure themselves against real-life dinosaurs and discover their true size.

### New content in *Energy Blast*

The Museum's energy gallery, *Energy Blast*, will receive its first update since the opening of the new building more than a decade ago. In that time, the story of energy has changed substantially as the world shifts from fossil fuels to renewable energy. When the building reopens, that new story will be reflected in updated informational panels throughout *Energy Blast*. The result will be a more presentable, informative gallery, that encourages increased visits from field trips.

### Spanish content throughout the Museum

Throughout these renovations, special care has been taken to ensure that content is displayed in both English and Spanish. Previously, only select areas of the Museum were presented bilingually; for the June 2021 reopening, that expands to nearly every bit of educational content. As many families in North Texas speak Spanish at home, this will substantially increase the audience we can serve and positions the Museum as a local leader in multilingual education.

## Theaters

The **Omni Theater** is currently closed due to damage from the February winter storm. Check back for updates. The **Noble Planetarium will be open, and shows will be included in Museum admission.**

## Programs

### Little Scholars Summer Program

The **Little Scholars Program: Summer Session** provides students with a safe, immersive learning environment focused on helping them avoid the summer slide and close the COVID learning gap! Daily

tutoring sessions combined with exploration of Museum exhibits, engineering in the STEAM lab, and walking trips to other museums in the Cultural District will help students gain knowledge in science, history, and writing. Students will also participate in the Read Fort Worth Program. All participants are provided breakfast, lunch, and a daily snack from the Museum Café.

### **Little Scholars Summer Program Pricing:**

- Member discounts
- Scholarships available

### **Summer Field Trips 2021**

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History will once again be hosting field trips this summer! Field trips will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in July from 10 AM -12:30 PM or 1:30 -4 PM. A Field Trip Host will stay with each group to assist with interpreting exhibits, leading demonstrations, and touring groups through the Museum.

### **Summer Field Trip Pricing:**

- \$180 for the first 20 students (\$9/student for additional students up to 120).
- One free adult for every 10 kids (additional adults \$12).
- For an additional per child fee (\$3-\$4) a planetarium or Science On a Sphere® show can be added.

## **Fact Sheet**

### **Reopening:**

Members Preview: June 19-20, 2021

Public Reopening: Friday, June 25, 2021

### **Open Hours:**

**Friday:** 10 AM – 5 PM

**Saturday:** 10 AM – 5 PM

**Sunday:** Noon – 5 PM

**Monday-Thursday:** Closed except for scheduled field trips.

### **Pricing:**

**Ages 3+:** \$16

**Children 3 to 12:** \$12

**Toddlers 2 and younger:** Free

**Seniors 65+:** \$14

**Members:** Free

**Parking:** City parking not included in admission

**Blue Star Museum:** The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History pleased to offer complimentary general admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their immediate families June 18 through Labor Day (September 5, 2021).

**Discounted admission:** See [website](#) for other discounts.

### **Location:**

1600 Gendy Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

**COVID-19 Protocols & Guidelines:**

All visitors ages 5+ (even those who have been vaccinated) must always follow our COVID-19 protocols and wear a face mask covering their mouth and nose and maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet with people outside their group. Visitors who feel ill or have had contact with someone with COVID-19 or related symptoms should stay home and reschedule their visit. Frequent hand washing is encouraged, and hand sanitation stations will be located throughout the site. We encourage all visitors to review our protocols prior to their visit, as they will be enforced. Details can be found on our website.

**Maximum Occupancy:**

3,369

**About the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History**

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History was established in 1941 by educators. It was one of the first children's museums in the country to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. We are an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. Since opening our current facility in 2009, the Museum has expanded offerings for Pre-K - 12 and multi-generational experiential learning that embraces history, science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). In 2021, the Museum celebrates its 80th anniversary.

**Connect:**

Visit us online for information on our many virtual programs or stay connected through our social media channels.

**Website:** [fwmuseum.org](http://fwmuseum.org)

**Instagram:** @FWMSH

**Twitter:** @FWMSH

**Facebook:** /FWMSH