



## MUSEUM FACT SHEET

Kids lead the way at Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose, exploring and discovering through open-ended, play-based learning. Over 150 hands-on exhibits and programs in the sciences, humanities, arts, nature, and health spark curiosity and ignite family fun where children build life skills in creative and critical thinking, problem-solving, and confidence. The nonprofit celebrates people and diverse cultures, creates authentic connections, and builds global understanding. Welcoming more than 10 million visitors since 1990, the award-winning museum inspires creativity, curiosity, and lifelong learning inside the stunning 50,000 square foot purple building designed by the late world renowned Mexico City architect Ricardo Legoretta, and outside in *Bill's Backyard*, the half-acre nature space. [www.cdm.org](http://www.cdm.org)

**Visitors Since 1990:** More than 10 million

**Exhibition Galleries:** Amazing AirMaze, Art Gallery, Art Loft, Bubbles (in Bill's Backyard), Mammoth Discovery, Rainbow Market, Secret of Circles, Streets, LeRoy Neiman Art Studio, Lee and Diane Brandenburg Theater, Cadence Amphitheatre, WaterWays, Wonder Cabinet, World Theater and World Market, Voyage to Vietnam: Celebrating the Tet Festival in the West Wing Changing Exhibit Gallery.

**Outdoor Learning Environment:** *Bill's Backyard: Bridge to Nature* connects children and families to the natural world with ten exhibit features on one half-acre that brings science and environmental education and imaginations to life for children, families, and educators.

*Exploration Portal*, adjacent to *Bill's Backyard*, is the museum's newest outdoor space with eight STEM-based exhibit features that explore the intersection of math, art, and nature.

**Cultural Celebration Series:** Ten culturally rich programs throughout the year invite families of all backgrounds to experience the many customs and traditions represented in Silicon Valley.

### Youth Programs:

- BioSITE (Students Investigating Their Environment)

Discovery Youth and Summer of Service are temporarily on-hold until further notice.

- Discovery Youth (media training and community service program for 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders)
- Summer of Service (service-learning program for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders)

**School Field Trip Program:** Non-guided museum visits can be booked with a minimum of 10 kids per school or qualifying organization. The maximum group size is 150 children and adults.

**FoodShed:** The museum's café is temporarily closed until further notice. Three vending machines offer beverages and healthy snacks.

**Nursing and Quiet Room:** A quiet and private room is available for nursing mothers and those needing a calm space to relax.

**Research at the Museum:** The museum's innovative exhibits and programs are developed and enhanced through the latest education research. The museum is also a resource for formal and informal research through established partnerships with the University of Santa Cruz, Stanford University, and several renowned firms.

**Location:** The striking 50,000 square foot purple building is located in downtown San Jose in lush Discovery Meadow in Guadalupe River Park. The iconic geometric shaped building was designed by the renowned, late Mexico City-based architect Ricardo Legorreta.

Including *Bill's Backyard: Bridge to Nature* outdoor nature space and *Exploration Portal*, the museum's footprint is 83,500 square feet.

**Hours of Operation (Summer Hours):** Tuesday through Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The museum is open Mondays on select holidays and during the week for special holiday hours. Check the museum's website for special hours.

**Admission:** Adults and Children \$18; Seniors (60+) \$16; Infants (under 1 year old) and Members are free.

**Membership:** Annual memberships start at \$195 and offer unlimited free access to the museum for the entire family, guest passes, special discounts, and much more.

**Access and Inclusion:** The museum offers two programs that ensure children and families can visit the museum regardless of ability to pay. The museum is part of the national initiative, *Museums for All*, that allows up to four family members admission for \$2 each with an EBT, Medi-Cal, or WIC card. Since opening in 1990, the *Open Door Policy* has allowed visitors who can't afford the full ticket price to pay what they can.

**Play Your Way:** The museum hosts special evenings throughout the year for children with autism and their families. All the museum exhibits are open and there are sensory-friendly activities during a quieter, less busy time in the museum.

**Event Rental and Birthday Party Venue:** These programs are temporarily on-hold until further notice.

**Parking and Transportation:** Convenient parking is available on Woz Way, Auzerais Avenue, Almaden Boulevard, and at the San Jose Convention Center. Public bus and Light Rail stops are adjacent to the museum. <https://www.cdm.org/visit/plan-your-visit/directions-parking/>

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