# Sustainability Fellowships Program, 2019–2020

## Program overview

The Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability in Science and Technology Museums initiative supports museums in developing and expanding sustainability programming through professional development opportunities, public educational materials, and other resources to promote sustainability science and practice. By leveraging the power of museums around the world, this program has the potential to help millions of museum visitors understand the social, environmental, and economic impact of human behavior on the planet’s future. More information: [**http://www.nisenet.org/sustainability**](http://www.nisenet.org/sustainability)

The initiative’s Sustainability Fellowship program provides professional development and support for museum staff who are interested in developing sustainability-related projects at their museums. Projects can include public programming, events, installations, or exhibits; professional development for museum staff and volunteers; behind-the-scenes efforts to make museum operations more sustainable; partnerships with other community organizations related to sustainability initiatives; and/or initial planning that will create a foundation for future sustainability efforts at your museum.

## Program activities and requirements

In 2019-2020, the NISE Network will support three cohorts of Sustainability Fellows, who will participate in the program for a period of approximately four months. Sustainability Fellows will be required to:

* Attend a two-day in-person workshop at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona where they will network with other professionals, learn about sustainability, share best practices, and brainstorm project ideas to implement at their museums (fellows’ travel expenses will be covered through the program);
* Participate in three 90-minute online workshops, one held prior to the in-person meeting and two held afterwards;
* Develop a sustainability project at their museums that will engage the public in learning about sustainability, make their museum operations more sustainable, provide staff and volunteer professional development related to sustainability, develop community partnerships for sustainability, and/or plan future sustainability initiatives;
* Receive US$1,000 in participant support, payable to your institution, for use at your discretion for staff time, materials, or other expenses;
* Submit an online report describing their project and sharing their experience with the fellowship; and
* Complete a brief online evaluation survey.

### Examples of projects

You don’t need to have a clear idea of what your project will be at the time of your application. This program will allow you to work with peers, experts, and stakeholders at your institution to identify an idea that is feasible and desirable for your organization.

Previous Sustainability Fellows have implemented a range of different projects, which have varied according to their institution’s priorities, capacity, and degree of previous experience with sustainability. Here are some examples to help you think about what might be possible and what you and your organization are interested in:

* A children’s museum created a pollinator garden outside their building and museum visitors collected data at the garden to contribute to a citizen science project
* A science center integrated sustainability related content into summer camp programs
* A science and technology museum incorporated some new sustainability ideas and principles into an upcoming special exhibition
* A cultural center developed a cultural tourism program highlighting local gastronomy and natural environment of a rural mountain area
* A garden offered a family tour focused on the diversity of endemic and native plants, as well as art activities using plant materials
* A natural history museum provided staff professional development so that different departments could contribute to a museum-wide sustainability initiative
* A science center partnered with other organizations to advance energy sustainability and reduce the polarity in public dialogue
* A zoo looked at how they handle recycling and reuse of materials behind the scenes and found low-cost ways to improve the process
* A science museum examined how they create new exhibits and retire old ones and developed guidelines to make their exhibit life cycle more sustainable

## Timeline

There will be three groups, or cohorts, of Fellows in 2019-2020, each with 25-30 participants. A timeline of major activities for the application and for each cohort is provided below.

### Application and awards (same dates for all three cohorts)

* Application due: July 1, 2019
* Awards announced: around July 22, 2019
* Confirmation of participation due from awardees: August 5, 2019

### Cohort A

Workshop activities:

* Flight bookings through ASU travel agent: week of August 12, 2019
* Pre-workshop online session: August 16 or 19, 2019 (your choice)
* Travel to Arizona: September 9 (international) or September 10, 2019 (US)
* Group dinner: September 10, 2019
* Day 1 of workshop: September 11, 2019
* Day 2 of workshop: September 12, 2019
* Travel home: September 13, 2019
* Post-workshop online session #1: October 18 or 21, 2019 (your choice)
* Post-workshop online session #2: December 6 or 9, 2019 (your choice)

Project work:

* September 2019 - January, 2020

Reporting and evaluation:

* Final report due: January 6, 2020
* Evaluation survey link provided: January 6, 2020

### Cohort B

Workshop activities:

* Flight bookings through ASU travel agent: by early December, 2019
* Pre-workshop online session: January 3 or 6, 2020 (your choice)
* Travel to Arizona: January 20 (international) or January 21, 2020 (US)
* Group dinner: January 21, 2020
* Day 1 of workshop: January 22, 2020
* Day 2 of workshop: January 23, 2020
* Travel home: January 24, 2020
* Post-workshop online session #1: February 21 or 24, 2020 (your choice)
* Post-workshop online session #2: April 17 or 20, 2020 (your choice)

Project work:

* January - May, 2020

Reporting and evaluation:

* Final report due: May 18, 2020
* Evaluation survey link provided: May 18, 2020

### Cohort C

Workshop activities:

* Flight bookings through ASU travel agent: by mid April, 2020
* Pre-workshop online session: April 17 or 20, 2020 (your choice)
* Travel to Arizona: May 18 (international) or May 19, 2020 (US)
* Group dinner: May 19, 2020
* Day 1 of workshop: May 20, 2020
* Day 2 of workshop: May 21, 2020
* Travel home: May 22, 2020
* Post-workshop online session #1: June 19 or 22, 2020 (your choice)
* Post-workshop online session #2: August 21 or 24, 2020 (your choice)

Project work:

* May - September, 2020

Reporting and evaluation:

* Final report due: September 8, 2020
* Evaluation survey link provided: September 8, 2020

## Eligibility

The Sustainability Fellowship program is open to museum professionals who are currently employed by an eligible organization, and who have not personally participated in the Fellowship program or Regional Workshop program (see below for more information).

### Organizations

To be eligible to participate in the program, organizations must be:

* Museums and similar organizations, such as: science museums, science centers, children’s museums, natural history museums, nature centers, zoos, aquariums, and parks that offer educational programming and/or interpretation.
* Located in any country of the world (eligible museums do not need to be US institutions). (See below for more information relevant to international participants.)

Please note that K-12 schools, afterschool programs, and libraries are not eligible to participate in the Sustainability Fellowship program. Consider downloading our free digital tools and resources if your organization does not meet eligibility criteria:

* Digital hands-on activities are available for free download at http://www.nisenet.org/sustainable-kit
* Digital workshop materials will be available as as free download in September, 2019 at http://www.nisenet.org/sustainability-fellowship

Repeat fellowships:

* An organization may have more than one person participate as Fellows, but priority will be given to organizations that have not yet been awarded a fellowship.
* If you are unsure if your organization has already participated in this program, please consult the complete list of organizations that have participated (below).

### Individuals

To be eligible to participate in the program, individuals must be:

* Employed by an eligible organization (see above).

Repeat fellowships:

* An individual person can only participate in the fellowship program one time. If you previously participated in ASU’s Sustainability Fellowship program (2016-2018), you are not eligible to participate again.
* If someone else from your organization has participated in the past, you may apply as long as you plan to develop a different project or different phase of the other Fellow’s project. Please note, however, that priority will be given to organizations that have not already had a staff person participate.
* If you are unsure if your organization has already participated in this program, please consult the complete list of organizations that have participated (below).

### International participants

This is an international program based in the United States. Staff from museums located in any country of the world are eligible and welcome to apply. Fellowship activities will be conducted in English and associated materials will be provided in the English language. Depending on your location, you may choose to access the recorded online workshop sessions after the fact, rather than participating live, due to time zone differences. You must, however, attend the in-person workshop in Tempe, Arizona, and complete all other requirements of the program.

## Application

The online application can be found here: **[https://forms.gle/M6brz6Kmb4uPKc8f7](https://forms.gle/M6brz6Kmb4uPKc8f7%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

(Try copying the web address and pasting it in your browser if it doesn’t work to click on the link.)

The application is in Google Forms. We recommend working on your responses to the application questions in a Word processing program, then pasting them into the online form when you are ready to submit. You will receive an automated confirmation when your application is submitted.

**Sustainability Fellowship applications are due July 1, 2019.**

## Previous Sustainability Fellowship and Workshop Participants

### Participating Organizations, 2016-2018

Adventure Science Center, Tennessee

Anchorage Museum, Alaska

Arizona Science Center, Arizona

At-Bristol Science Centre, United Kingdom

Ballyhoura Development, Ireland

Bay Area Discovery Museum, California

Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt

Birmingham Zoo, Alabama

Blackrock Castle Observatory, Ireland

Blue Hill Observatory Science Center, Massachusetts

Bruce Museum, Connecticut

California Academy of Sciences, California

California Science Center, California

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pennsylvania

CECATS, United Kingdom

Centre for Life, England

Centre for Public Awareness of Science and Innovation (CPASI), Zimbabwe

Centro Ciência Viva de Guimarães, Portugal

Centro Cultural Eduardo Leon Jimenes, Dominican Republic

Children Science Centre Kenya, Kenya

Children's Museum of Science and Technology (CMOST), New York

Children's Museum at Saratoga, New York

Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine, Maine

Children's Science Museum Muzeiko, Bulgaria

China Science and Technology Museum, China

Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Ohio

Colchester Zoo, United Kingdom

Connecticut Science Center, Connecticut

Copernicus Science Center, Poland

COSI: Center of Science and Industry, Ohio

Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Alabama

The Deep, United Kingdom

Departamento Administrativo de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación COLCIENCIAS, Colombia

Discovery Center of Idaho, Idaho

Discovery Museum, Massachusetts

Discovery Place Science, North Carolina

Discovery World, Wisconsin

Diversão com Ciência e Arte Museum, Brazil

Dublin Zoo, Ireland

EARTH Limited, Massachusetts

ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Vermont

EcoTarium, Massachusetts

Eden Project, United Kingdom

Energimuseet Danish Museum of Energy, Denmark

Espacio Ciencia LATU, Uruguay

Explora Science Center, New Mexico

Explora Science Centre, Mexico

EXplora Science Technology and Discovery Centre, United Kingdom

ExplorationWorks!, Montana

Exploratorium, California

The Franklin Institute, Pennsylvania

Glasgow Science Centre, Scotland, UK

Glenside Hospital Museum, United Kingdom

Great Plains Nature Center, Kansas

Gujarat Science City, India

Gulf Coast Exploreum, Alabama

Hagley Museum, Delaware

HaritaDhara Research Development and Education Foundation, India

Harvard Museums of Science & Culture, Massachusetts

Houston Museum of Natural History, Texas

International Centre for Life, United Kingdom

James and Anne Robinson Nature Center, United Kingdom

Jardin Botanico Xoxoctic, Mexico

KidsQuest Children's Museum, Washington

Lake Superior Zoological Society, Minnesota

The Leonardo, Utah

Liberty Science Center, New Jersey

Long Island Children's Museum, New York

Lugar a Dudas (Centro Cultural de la Ciencia), Argentina

Maloka Interactive Science Center, Colombia

Maui Science Center, Hawaii

Michigan Science Center, Michigan

Milwaukee Public Museum, Wisconsin

Miraikan, Japan

Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Mississippi

Monterey Bay Aquarium, California

Montréal Science Center, Canada

MOSI, Florida

Mundo Nuevo, Argentina

Muse, Museo delle Scienze, Italy

Museo de Historia Natural, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Peru

Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, Chile

Museon, Netherlands

Museu da Vida / RedPOP, Brazil

Museum of Discovery and Science, Florida

Museum of Natural History, Rhode Island

Museum of Science and Industry, Illinois

Museu da Vida, Brazil

National Museum of Ireland, Ireland

National Museum of Ireland Natural History, Ireland

National Polytechnic Museum, Bulgaria

Natural History Museum, England, UK

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, La Brea Tar Pits and Museum, California

Natural History Museum of Utah, Utah

Nature Lab, Rhode Island School of Design, Rhode Island

Navet Science Center, Sweden

NEMO, Netherlands

New England Aquarium, Massachusetts

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, New Mexico

Ogden Nature Center, Utah

Old Cork Waterworks, Ireland

Ontario Science Center, Canada

OMSI: Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Oregon

Pacific Science Center, Washington

Parque Explora, Colombia

Petrosains, The Discovery Centre, Malaysia

Planetarium Science Center, Egypt

Pueblo Zoo, Colorado

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom

RIMOSA, Rhode Island

Roger Williams Park Zoo, Rhode Island

Roper Mountain Science Center, South Carolina

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre, South Africa

Science Center Netzwerk, Austria

Science Centre AHHAA, Estonia

Science Gallery Dublin, Ireland

Science Museum, London, United Kingdom

Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota

Science Museum Oklahoma, Oklahoma

Science Museum of Virginia, Virginia

Science Museum of Western Virginia, Virginia

Sci-Port: Louisiana’s Science Center, Louisiana

SEE Science Center, New Hampshire

South Dakota Discovery Center, South Dakota

Southwick's Zoo, Massachusetts

spectrUM Discovery Area, Montana

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, New Hampshire

Tellus Science Museum, Georgia

TELUS Spark Science Centre, Canada

Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum, Nevada

Thanksgiving Point Institute, Utah

Thinktank Science Museum, United Kingdom

Traces - Espace des Sciences Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, France

Wild Center, New York

UKZN Science and Technology Center, South Africa

UK Association for Science and Discovery Centres, United Kingdom

Universeum Science Centre, Sweden

University of Nebraska State Museum, Nebraska

Utah's Hogle Zoo, Utah

UWC Atlantic College, United Kingdom

W5, United Kingdom

Walking Mountains Science Center, Colorado

Weather Discovery Center / Extreme Mount Washington, New Hampshire

Wisconsin Science Museum

Wollongong Science Centre and Planetarium, Australia

ZSL London Zoo, United Kingdom

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, United Kingdom

## About the project

Learn more about the Sustainability in Science and Technology Museums program: [**http://www.nisenet.org/sustainability**](http://www.nisenet.org/sustainability)

# Application Preview

The National Informal STEM Education Network (NISE Net) is pleased to offer Sustainability Fellowships to staff at museums around the world. Please fill out this application to be considered for a 2019-2020 fellowship.

Before you begin, please read the program overview carefully (see above, Program overview). Confirm your eligibility for the program, understand its requirement and activities, and determine which of the three cohorts you are available to participate in (see above, Timeline).

Applications for 2019-2020 fellowships will be accepted through July 1, 2019. A total of around 90 Fellows will be selected and notified around July 22, 2019. There will be three cohorts, or groups, of Fellows, who will participate for approximately four months each (September, 2019 - January, 2020; January - May, 2020; and May - September, 2020).

This preview is provided to help you prepare your answers. You must use the online application form, which can be found here: **[https://forms.gle/M6brz6Kmb4uPKc8f7](https://forms.gle/M6brz6Kmb4uPKc8f7%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

(Try copying the web address and pasting it in your browser if it doesn’t work to click on the link.)

## Contact information

### Applicant details

First name:

Last name:

Job title:

Email address:

Phone number, including country code and area code:

### Institution address

Institution name:

Address line 1:

Address line 2:

City/town:

State, province, or other administrative department:

Zip or postal code:

Country:

Institution website:

### Institution type

Which best describes your organization? Please choose one option.

[ ] Science museum or science center

[ ] Children’s museum

[ ] Natural history museum

[ ] Park

[ ] Nature center

[ ] Zoo

[ ] Aquarium

[ ] Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you’d like to say about your organization? (Limit 200 words)

### Institutional budget

What is the approximate annual operating budget of your museum or organization, in US$?

[ ] under $250,000

[ ] $250,000 - $500,000

[ ] $500,000 - $1 million

[ ] $1 - $2.5 million

[ ] $2.5 - $6.5 million

[ ] over $6.5 million

Is there anything you’d like to say about your annual operating budget? (Limit 200 words)

### Geographic location

Please categorize your organization’s location.

[ ] Urban - large city (> 250,000 people)

[ ] Urban - mid-sized city (100,000 - 250,000 people)

[ ] Urban - small city (< 100,000 people)

[ ] Suburban (outside a city)

[ ] Rural (in the countryside)

### Annual on-site attendance

How many visitors does your organization reach each year at your facility? Please enter numbers only. If you do not serve on-site visitors at your facility, please enter zero.

Please briefly describe how your organization determines annual on-site attendance. For example, do you use ticket sales, gate entrance, program registration, visitor logs, staff estimates, or other ways to estimate? (Limit: 200 words)

### Annual off-site attendance

How many visitors does your organization reach each year at locations outside your facility? Please enter numbers only. If you do not serve off-site visitors or do not have an estimate for number of people served annually, please leave blank.

Please briefly describe how your organization determines annual off-site attendance. For example, do you use program registration, visitor logs, staff estimates, or other ways to estimate? (Limit 200 words)

## Interest in the Sustainability Fellowship program

Please briefly explain why you and your organization are interested in participating in the Sustainability Fellowship program. (Limit 200 words)

What do you and your organization hope to gain through participation in this sustainability professional development program? (Limit 200 words)

What do you hope to achieve in your museum and/or community through your participation in the program? (Limit: 200 words)

Is there anything else you would like to add about your museum, yourself, and your own or your museum’s experience with sustainability? (Limit 200 words)

## Program dates

Please indicate which cohorts you can participate in.

### Cohort A, September, 2019 - January, 2020

*The in-person workshop for this cohort will be held September 10-12, 2019.*

[ ] YES - I can participate in this cohort

[ ] IF NEED BE - It is not my first choice, but I can participate in this cohort

[ ] NO - I cannot participate in this cohort

### Cohort B, January - May, 2020

*The in-person workshop for this cohort will be held January 21-23, 2020.*

[ ] YES - I can participate in this cohort

[ ] IF NEED BE - It is not my first choice, but I can participate in this cohort

[ ] NO - I cannot participate in this cohort

### Cohort C, May - September, 2020

*The in-person workshop for this cohort will be held May 20-22, 2020.*

[ ] YES - I can participate in this cohort

[ ] IF NEED BE - It is not my first choice, but I can participate in this cohort

[ ] NO - I cannot participate in this cohort

Is there anything you would like us to know about your availability or preferences for cohorts? (200 word limit)

## Program requirement agreement

### Participation

If you are selected to receive a fellowship, you are expected to participate in the full range of activities for the program along with the others in your cohort. You will:

* Attend a two-day workshop at Arizona State University, on the dates indicated above;
* Participate in three short online workshops, one held prior to the in-person meeting and two held afterwards;
* Develop a sustainability project at your museum that will engage the public in learning about sustainability, make your museum operations more sustainable, provide staff and volunteer professional development related to sustainability, develop community partnerships for sustainability, and/or plan future sustainability initiatives;
* Receive US$1,000 in participant support, payable to your institution, for use at your discretion for staff time, materials, or other expenses;
* Submit an online report describing your project and your experience with the fellowship; and
* Complete a brief online evaluation survey.

All workshops are held at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona (near Phoenix). Fellows’ travel expenses will be covered through the program.

Do you agree to these terms?

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

### Availability

If you are accepted into the program, you will be notified around July 22, 2019, and required to confirm your participation by August 5, 2019. If you cannot participate in the cohort you are placed into, NISE Network may or may not be able to accommodate a date change. If we cannot accommodate a date change, you may be asked to cede your place to another participant. Do you agree to these terms?

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

### Permissions

Do you have the necessary permission from your institution and/or your supervisor to participate in this program, including travel and project work at your museum?

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

If you are an international participant, will you be able to secure the necessary documentation to travel to the US for the workshop dates for which you have indicated you are available?

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

## Application complete

Thank you! Your application for the Sustainability Fellowship Program is now complete. You should receive an automated email from Google Forms with a PDF of your application attached; you may need to check your email spam filter for the automated email.

You will be contacted by a NISE Network representative if there are additional questions about your application. You can expect to hear about the status of your fellowship application around July 22, 2019.

If your status changes or you have additional questions, feel free to contact Bethany Lang: **Bethany.Lang@asu.edu**

## Acknowledgements

The Rob and Melani Walton Foundation is the lead sponsor of the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability in Science and Technology Museums program.