

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>

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 a 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>

(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>

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>

(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

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