

FACTSHEET

What is the Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation?

The Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)3 educational organization dedicated to inspiring a love of learning science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by providing unique opportunities to explore and create. The organization was founded in 2004 as the Children's Museum of Northern Virginia and then, recognizing the need and interest in STEM, it became the Children's Science Center. Operating initially as a "Museum without Walls", the Center grew to serve 24,000 annually at schools, libraries, festivals and other venues at the time of opening its first interactive museum. With the opening of the Children's Science Center Lab in Fair Oaks Mall in 2015, the Center has grown to serve tens of thousands of visitors each year at the Lab and another 20,000 a year with educational programs traveling to all jurisdictions of Northern Virginia. In 2020, the organization officially became the Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation to align with its vision tomorrow, building the Northern Virginia Science Center which will be located in Dulles, Va.



The Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation operates the Children's Science Center Lab at Fair Oaks Mall 11948L Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax, VA 22033 (enter main mall entrance to the left of Dick's Sporting Goods.)
www.childsci.org
703-648-3130

The Lab is focused on families and schools with children aged 2-12 and offers daily general admissions, summer camp, birthday parties, field trips and other group visits. The Lab is 5,400 sq. feet.

Exhibits: The mission of the Lab is to inspire a love of learning science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by providing unique opportunities to explore and create. The Lab has four experience zones offering dynamic content to inspire all learners:

- **Experiment Bar:** Order from a rotating menu of experiments that demonstrate the wonders of science
- **Inspiration Hub:** Hands-on exhibits demonstrating real-world applications of STEM
- **Tinker Shop:** A space for making, creating, building based on open-ended engineering design challenges
- **Discovery Zone:** Hands-on learning designed for budding scientists aged five and under
- **Bio Zone:** Visit our animal ambassadors up close and learn about the amphibians, insects and more.

The Lab facility also includes a flex-space called the **Garage**, for camps, classes, workshops, parties, and occasional mini-expos to showcase STEM talent in-action including local industry and area youth.

Admission and Hours: Admission to the Children's Science Center Lab is \$15.00 for visitors ages 2 years and older, no charge for those under 2. Admission for seniors and members of the military is \$14.00 and the group rate for field trips and other groups is \$13.00 per person. The Lab is open on weekends and most school and federal holidays for timed-entry sessions. Purchase your tickets in advance and save \$2 per ticket at childsci.org/tickets.



Northern Virginia Science Center

Kincora, Routes 7 and 28, Dulles, VA.

The Northern Virginia Science Center will be a world-class interactive science center in Northern Virginia that will help spark, develop and grow an understanding and appreciation that science is everything and everything is science. The Science Center will change the way you see the world. The Science Center is expected to serve over 300,000 curious minds of all ages each year and will be 70,000 square feet. Kincora offers over 150 acres of stream valley parkland where we can offer nature science programs for schools, families and children.

The Science Center is a \$100 million project being developed through a public-private partnership including the Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation who operates the [Children's Science Center Lab](http://childsci.org), a Northern Virginia based non-profit, the [Science Museum of Virginia](http://sciencemuseumofvirginia.org) an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Loudoun County and Kincora. Northwest Federal Credit Union is the Lead Naming Building Sponsor and Dominion Energy is the first Title Partner and Gallery Sponsor. For more information about the Northern Virginia Science Center, visit novasci.org.

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