

Equity Statement

As a Science and Technology Museum, Discovery World is committed to providing quality museum experiences and meaningful STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) education programming to students – regardless of financial abilities and backgrounds. We firmly believe that inclusion results in better science, and as part of our efforts to generate excitement for STEM and empower young people underrepresented in science-related fields, we are dedicated to:

- **PARTNERING WITH DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS** through STEM education opportunities.
- **UTILIZING AN EQUITY LENS AS A TOOL FOR ORGANIZATIONAL DECISION MAKING** in areas such as program development, exhibit planning and hiring.
- **PROVIDING AN INCLUSIVE AND SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT** where individuals are respected and treated equitably.



Discovery World will continue to uphold this mission by:

- Revisiting this Equity Statement on an ongoing basis, as we create new content and increase access.
- Continuing efforts to increase diversity in senior leadership positions within the museum and on our Board of Directors.
- Increasing access to STEM education and resources, through museum initiatives like-
 - Access 414, providing museum admission to Milwaukee County residents participating in Wisconsin Works, WIC, My WI Childcare, and Wisconsin Quest
 - Summer Camp Scholarship Program
 - Discovery World's School & Community Initiative (SCI), which offers educational programs free of charge to economically disadvantaged and educationally at-risk schools and organizations.

School & Community Initiative (SCI)

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Wisconsin maintains the largest achievement gap between white students and African American students—a crisis that has persisted for more than a decade. At a time when, for many, education is being led at home, some research has suggested that the pandemic will serve to further widen this gap. Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, has declared that closing the achievement gap is “imperative for our state,” (2019) especially for Wisconsin’s lowest performing minority students, as test scores continue to decline or remain stagnant year to year.

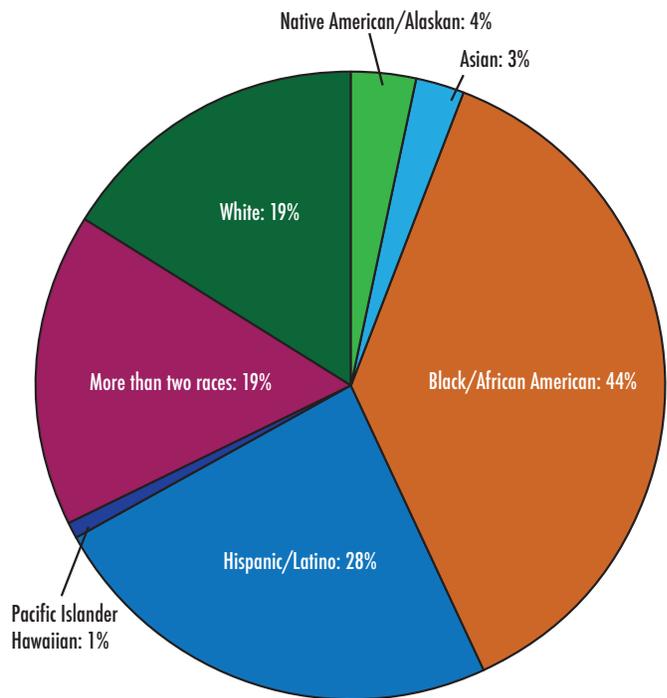
Discovery World is offering programming through SCI that aids in bridging this demonstrative gap. Our virtual education programming, live streamed or pre-recorded to classrooms around our state, provides STEM educational experiences, labs, tours and experiments. The organization is currently offering the program to schools at no cost via corporate and foundation underwriting. We recognize that many schools do not have the resources to participate, and yet, their students need the science education more than their peers in more affluent areas of the state.

Roughly 97% of schools who participated in SCI have an economically disadvantaged status of 50% or higher, as determined by the Department of Public Instruction. Vetting for schools to qualify for programming at no cost is based on the DPI School Report Cards. Schools with an Economically Disadvantaged rate of 50% or higher, or a School Report Card rating of 72 or lower, qualify for funding.

Of all students participating, over 80% are considered minorities (sampling from 96 schools participating in the 2020/21 school year).

Sampling of names of schools served with a high poverty and high minority population—

- 95th Street School
- Escuela Vieau
- Bryon Kilbourn Elementary
- Marvin Pratt Elementary
- La Causa School
- Brown Street Academy



Participant Backgrounds