

Date of Report: April 15, 2003
Date of Next Status Report: NA
Date of Work Program Approval: July 1, 2001
Project Completion Date: April 15, 2003
LCMR Work Program 2001 – Final Report

FINAL REPORT

I. PROJECT TITLE: Project GreenStart: Environmental Education

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Total Biennial Project Budget: \$340,000

\$LCMR Appropriation: \$340,000
\$Amount Spent (through April 15, 2003): \$340,000
\$Balance: \$0

Legal Citation: ML 2001, 1st Special Session [Chap. 2], Sec.[14], Subd. 10g.

Appropriation Language:

10 (g) Project Green Start: Environmental Education \$340,000
\$340,000 is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Children's Museum to construct habitat exhibits for environmental education activities.

II. & III FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY

Earth World is Minnesota Children's Museum's most popular permanent gallery. *Earth World* includes a series of Minnesota habitats that guide and encourage children to explore the seasons and cycles within wetland, forest and prairie. It is an immersive environment that allows visitors an opportunity to get an "inside" view of the wonders and mysteries of nature. More than 370,000 Museum visitors are introduced to Minnesota habitats and environmental concepts each year in *Earth World*. This includes 71,469 school age children (7,000 from a partnership with the St. Paul School District for K-2) and 1,616 Access members and their families (memberships given to lower income families through programs with Ramsey County RAP Headstart, Habitat for Humanity, Anoka County Headstart and the Museum Adolescent Parent Program).

With LCMR funding we updated and strengthened two main habitats in the *Earth World* gallery – wetland and forest. In these areas, we designed and implemented the

following: a large freshwater aquarium that allows display and interpretation of native turtles and fish; an interactive turtle shell that supports dramatic play; a bouldering wall that allows children to “climb” laterally on a replicated stone surface, allowing practice and development of gross motor skills; a beaver den that allows children to “become a beaver” by putting on beaver costumes and entering the beaver den; a stream and water play area where children can explore the properties of flowing water using natural materials; and, a renovated ant hill maze. At the same time, educational activities were added to extend the learning experience about Minnesota habitats. The redevelopment includes new baby animal components and the Lodge, where staff conduct informal educational programs aimed at teaching children about the Minnesota habitats of wetland, forest and prairie.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Information obtained through research, prototype testing and evaluation has been implemented as a successful gallery renovation. All participants in the gallery experience (children and their adult caregivers) will benefit from the retrofitting of the gallery through increased depth of experience, a variety of age appropriate learning activities and the experience of playful exploration and learning.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Concept Development

Deliverable products expected in this result include a written exhibit treatment, educational goals and messages and concept sketches.

LCMR Budget: \$1,891

Balance: \$0

Personnel	
Exhibit Developer	\$ 1,705
Exhibit Designer	\$ 186
Exhibit Fabricator	\$ 0
Equipment	\$ 0
Development	\$ 0
Acquisition	\$ 0
Other	\$ 0

Completion Date: September 30, 2001

Result Status:

Written exhibit treatment: Complete

Educational goals and messages: Complete

Concept Sketches: Complete

Result 2:

Preliminary (Schematic) Development

Deliverable products expected in this result include written visitor experience objectives, written exhibit walkthrough, preliminary component list and floor plan, consultation with architects, white model.

LCMR Budget: \$5,507

Balance: \$0

Personnel

Exhibit Developer	\$ 3,946
Exhibit Designer	\$ 1,513
Exhibit Fabricator	\$ 48

Equipment	\$ 0
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Development	\$ 0
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Acquisition	\$ 0
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Other	\$ 0
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Completion Date: February 28, 2002

Result Status

Written Visitor Experience Objectives: Complete

Written Exhibit Walkthrough: Complete

Preliminary Component List And Floor Plan: Complete

Consultation With Architects: Complete

White Model: Complete

Result 3:

Design Development

Deliverable products expected in this result include detailed exhibit activity descriptions, working drawings, prototypes of activities for testing, construction documents and request for construction bids. Demolition and construction of the 5th floor program area.

LCMR Budget: \$18,677

Balance: \$0

Personnel

Exhibit Developer	\$ 10,168
Exhibit Designer	\$ 2,986
Exhibit Fabricator	\$ 1,023

Equipment	\$ 0
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Development	\$ 0
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Acquisition	\$ 0
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Other

Exhibit Fabrication	\$ 4,500
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Completion Date: July 31, 2002

Result Status:

Program area:

Detailed exhibit activity descriptions: Complete.

Working drawings, activity prototypes: Complete.

Construction documents and request for construction bids: Complete.

Demolition and construction of the 5th floor program area: Completed in Result 4.

Result 4: Fabrication and Installation

Deliverable products expected in this result include demolition of existing 4th floor exhibits and fabrication of interactive components.

LCMR Budget: \$177,206

Balance: \$0

Personnel

Exhibit Developer \$ 12,662

Exhibit Designer \$ 10,641

Exhibit Fabricator \$ 18,302

Equipment \$ 0

Development \$ 0

Acquisition \$ 0

Other

Exhibit Fabrication \$ 130,663

General Construction \$ 1,140

Architect Fees \$ 3,611

Books \$ 112

Lighting Supplies \$ 75

Completion Date: December 31, 2002

Result Status:

Demolition and construction of the 5th floor program area—complete.

Demolition and fabrication of existing 4th floor exhibits—complete.

Development, design and fabrication of the wetland area—see Result 4A.

Result 4A: Wetland Area Design, Development, Fabrication & Installation

This result represents a continuation of Result 4 and includes those sections of the gallery that were not completed in result 4. Deliverable products expected in this result include the design, development, fabrication and installation of the wetland area of the gallery. A contract was entered into with Themescapes, Inc. on Jan 29, 2003 for the completion of this work.

LCMR Budget: \$131,480

Balance: \$0

Personnel	
Exhibit Developer	\$ 4,000
Exhibit Designer	\$ 3,875
Exhibit Fabricator	\$ 2,010
Equipment	\$ 0
Development	\$ 0
Acquisition	\$ 0
Other	
Exhibit Fabrication	\$ 108,500
General Construction Supplies	\$ 746
Architect Fees	\$ 2,166
Costume Fabricator	\$ 1,922
Carpeting	\$ 5,860
Books	\$ 207
Exhibit Props	\$ 2,194

Completion Date: February 28, 2003

Result Status: Complete

Result 5:

Opening and Post-Production

Deliverable products expected in this result include post installation changes and improvements.

LCMR Budget: \$5,239

Balance: \$0

Personnel	
Exhibit Developer	\$ 1,000
Exhibit Designer	\$ 1,000
Exhibit Fabricator	\$ 2,727
Equipment	\$ 0
Development	\$ 0
Acquisition	\$ 0
Other	
Electrical	\$ 276
Books	\$ 38
Exhibit Props	\$ 198

Completion Date: April 15, 2003

Result Status: Complete

V TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET

All Results: Personnel	\$77,792
All Results: Equipment	\$0
All Results: Development	\$0
All Results: Acquisition	\$0
All Results: Other	\$262,208
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$340,000

A.) ATTACHMENT A

VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING

A. Past Spending:

Andersen Corporation has been a major partner in support of the *Earth World* gallery since it opened in our new building. They gave the lead gift of \$500,000 for *Earth World* development and installation. Andersen Corporation also has provided growing programming support with annual operating gifts. This support allowed the creation of school workshops with environmental themes, the development of Tree Top Canopy, a special presentation area, and the creation and operation of *Windows on Earth World*, a series that brings live animals to the Museum every second Sunday - a highlight for many Museum visitors and members.

In 1997 the Museum partnered with the Department of Natural Resources to launch Project GreenStart. With a legislative appropriation of \$170,000, Project GreenStart allowed many important enhancements to the Museum's environmental education programs for young children. In the first year the program focused on making *Earth World* Gallery rich with interactive experiences for children, caregivers, staff and volunteers. This gallery and programming has become a model that children's museums around the country seek to emulate. In GreenStart's second year the Museum initiated outreach programming. GreenStart programming went into neighborhoods in collaboration with Minneapolis-based *Way To Grow* to provide environmental education in urban communities as part of a kindergarten readiness program.

B. Current and Future Spending:

The Museum's commitment to early childhood environmental education continues to be a strategic priority. Base funding for the *Earth World* gallery and GreenStart programs is included in our current operating budget. In addition, resources have been allocated for the redevelopment of certain exhibit areas in need of modification. We anticipate continued Andersen Corporation support and will be approaching the Bayport Foundation for future support.

In the 2000 Legislative session, the State of Minnesota appropriated \$500,000 in bonding money to develop *Rooftop ArtPark* on the 4th floor of Minnesota Children's Museum. This new gallery will be adjacent to *Earth World* and allow for complementary messages and a deeper, richer educational experience. However, the development of *Rooftop ArtPark* and redevelopment of *Earth World* are completely separate projects in the planning and implementation phases and are administered separately. While this project is related to the *Earth World* gallery redevelopment and expansion, it is a separate project and is administered as such.

C. Project Partners:

- Joel Stedman, Head of Interpretive Services, MN Department of Natural Resources
- Kathy Kinzig, Executive Director, Eco Education,
- Jim Roe, Director of Exhibits, MCM
- Larry Ackerley, Exhibit Designer, MCM
- Bette Schmit, Exhibit Developer, MCM
- Rebecca Stendahl, Interpretive Specialist, MCM
- Subcontractors: Themescapes, Inc.

D. Time:

The project was completed in the appropriation time period.

VII. DISSEMINATION

The opening of the new exhibits will be widely publicized to the general public through press releases, photo opportunities, web site announcements, and a grand re-opening celebration. In addition, trade publications and professional organizations will be notified of the project and appropriation.

VIII. LOCATION

The project will take place at Minnesota Children's Museum, located at 10 W. 7th St. in downtown St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN 55102.

MINNESOTA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
Project Greenstart: Environmental Education
for Minnesota's Youngest Citizens
Project Number: EE50
LCMR Recommended Funding: \$340,000
REVISED BUDGET - 04-14-03

		Result 4A: Wetlands Design, Dev, Fab & Install			
		Jan-01-03 to Feb-28-03			
MCM			Invoice #1	Invoice #2	
Account #	Description	Budget	1/01/03-1/31/03	2/01/03-2/28/03	Balance
5000	Exhibit Developer	4,000.00	3,322.73	677.27	-
5000	Exhibit Designer	3,875.00	1,270.60	2,604.40	-
5000	Exhibit Fabricator	2,010.00	276.00	1,733.92	0.08
TOTAL Wages Salaries & Benefits		9,885.00	4,869.33	5,015.59	0.08
5600	Printing	-	-	-	-
5610	Photography	-	-	-	-
5810	Books for Programs	207.00	52.62	154.62	(0.24)
5820	Program Materials	-	-	-	-
5830	Aquariums & Filtration Systems/Sheet PI	746.00	-	746.49	(0.49)
5835	Exhibit Props	2,194.00	94.15	2,099.82	0.03
5860	Lighting Supplies	-	-	-	-
5999	Architect	2,166.00	2,165.98	-	0.02
5999	General Construction	-	-	-	-
5999	Electrical	-	-	-	-
5999	Demolition	-	-	-	-
5999	Carpeting Instalation	5,860.00	-	5,860.00	-
5999	Costume Fabricator	1,922.00	400.00	1,521.52	0.48
5999	Veterinarian	-	-	-	-
5999	Aquarium Consultant	-	-	-	-
7410	Exhibit Fabrication	108,500.00	52,785.00	55,714.88	0.12
TOTAL		131,480.00	60,367.08	71,112.92	0.00

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Project Number: EE50
LCMR Recommended Funding: \$340,000
REVISED BUDGET - 04-14-03

MCM Account #	Description	Result 5: Opening & Post-Production Mar-01-03 to Apr-30-03			Total Project		
		Budget	Invoice #1		Budget	Invoiced	Balance
			3/01/03-3/31/03	Balance			
5000	Exhibit Developer	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	33,481.00	33,481.00	-
5000	Exhibit Designer	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	20,201.00	20,201.00	-
5000	Exhibit Fabricator	2,727.00	2,727.23	(0.23)	24,110.00	24,110.15	(0.15)
TOTAL Wages Salaries & Benefits		4,727.00	4,727.23	(0.23)	77,792.00	77,792.15	(0.15)
5600	Printing	-	-	-	-	-	-
5610	Photography	-	-	-	-	-	-
5810	Books for Programs	38.00	38.34	(0.34)	357.00	357.58	(0.58)
5820	Program Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
5830	Aquariums & Filtration Systems/Sheet Pl	-	-	-	746.00	746.49	(0.49)
5835	Exhibit Props	198.00	197.56	0.44	2,392.00	2,391.53	0.47
5860	Lighting Supplies	-	-	-	75.00	75.00	-
5999	Architect	-	-	-	5,777.00	5,776.98	0.02
5999	General Construction	-	-	-	1,140.00	1,140.00	-
5999	Electrical	276.00	275.87	0.13	276.00	275.87	0.13
5999	Demolition	-	-	-	-	-	-
5999	Carpeting Instalation	-	-	-	5,860.00	5,860.00	-
5999	Costume Fabricator	-	-	-	1,922.00	1,921.52	0.48
5999	Veterinarian	-	-	-	-	-	-
5999	Aquarium Consultant	-	-	-	-	-	-
7410	Exhibit Fabrication	-	-	-	243,663.00	243,662.88	0.12
TOTAL		5,239.00	5,239.00	(0.00)	340,000.00	340,000.00	(0.00)