



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT





# MISSION AND VISION OF WHITAKER CENTER

Located in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is the Capital Region's premier center for arts, education, entertainment and cultural enrichment. Whitaker Center is composed of four main venues – Harsco Science Center, PNC Innovation Zone, Select Medical Digital Cinema, and Sunoco Performance Theater.

## Our Mission

To serve as the center for scientific, artistic, cultural and educational activities to enhance the region's quality of life and economic vitality.



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## MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

2022 marked an exciting year for Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts that could be defined in one word – momentum!

In 2022, the Whitaker Center embarked on a transformative journey, expanding its reach and impact in science and the arts. New leadership, staff, and board members worked together to turn the page since the pandemic and reimagine the Harrisburg region's "Crown Jewel."

The highlight of that journey was the opening of the PNC Innovation Zone, our new space to use purposeful gaming to teach 21st-century computer skills. Whitaker Center is among the country's first science and technology centers to have a dedicated space. We're grateful to have so many partners, including our lead partner, PNC Bank, who recognize the changing landscape of STEAM education and provide the resources to allow us to innovate our offerings.

Whitaker Center brought in the first traveling exhibit since COVID-19 – POPnology. This exhibit that blended science fiction and science fact brought widespread acclaim, captivating visitors with interactive displays, cutting-edge technology, and thought-provoking content.

The Select Medical Digital Cinema was busy, showing a rotation of more than a dozen educational documentaries, including the new feature documentary Wings Over Water. There was a great response to some Hollywood classics shown on the big screen – such as Jurassic Park, Back to the Future, E.T., and Elf.

Education is integral to the mission of the Whitaker Center, and 2022 was no exception. The education department thrived, with solid

summer camp attendance, expanded educational program offerings, and strong staff hires. We're particularly proud of the education team's work to help bridge the STEM gender gap and provide access to high-quality education to all.

Our dedication to the arts has elevated the cultural landscape of our community. The Whitaker Center has become a hub for artistic expression, hosting fabulous local groups. Our resident groups – including Theatre Harrisburg, Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, Market Square Concerts, and Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet- hosted performances that enthralled audiences and brought joy to countless lives. Additionally, we hosted dozens of performances for local schools and non-profit organizations.

We are grateful for your ongoing support as we continue to build upon this incredible momentum. Your generosity and commitment enable us to create unforgettable experiences and inspire lifelong learning for individuals from all walks of life. Together, we can shape a future where science and the arts intertwine to foster creativity, innovation, and a deeper understanding of our world.

Thank you for being a vital part of the Whitaker Center family. We look forward to sharing many more exciting developments with you in the years to come.

**With sincere appreciation,**

*Marsha Everton*

Board Chair

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts



# WHITAKER BY THE NUMBERS

In **2022**, Whitaker Center had **140,000** visits from **80,000** visitors.

**758 girls**

participated in the  
Girl Scout Badge  
workshops



**217 school  
groups**

visited Whitaker  
Center for a  
field trip



**16,000 tickets**

sold for Sunoco  
Performance Theater  
performances



**24,075**

**admissions**  
sold to Harsco  
Science Center



**1616**

**high school  
students**

participated in  
SurgeryLive!



**505**

**high school  
students**

participated in  
SurgeryLive!  
Extension



**584 children**

attended summer  
STEAM camps



**201 girls**

participated in Girls  
in STEM Workshops



**107 site visits**

by Whitaker on  
Wheels



**525 children**

participated in  
Little Learners





## EDUCATION, THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO.



### Girls in STEM Workshops

Girls in STEM workshops are designed for young ladies in grades 3-6, who participate in activities that connect with real-world applications of STEM through design, programming, coding, engineering, and more.

Fall 2022 Workshops:

- Incredible H2O
- Kitchen Chemistry
- Natural Disasters
- STEAM Jewelry Making

**Supported By:**

**The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation & Bayer Fund**

### SurgeryLive!

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts and Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center created an innovative partnership designed to stimulate the interest of high school students for careers in health care. With the support of Highmark, Surgery Live! connects students to the operating rooms of Hershey Medical Center through interactive high-definition video conferencing technology.

Examples of Operations Performed in SurgeryLive!:

- Sleeve Gastrectomy
- Robotic Cholecystectomy

A facilitator guides the students' discussion with operating room staff, demonstrates surgical instruments used in the operation, and explains factors that cause disease and contribute to conditions that place patients on the operating table. The program then transitions live to the operating room where students see and hear the surgical teams. The surgeon explains each step of the procedures and the students can ask questions during the program. No experience compares to this interactive, live program!



**Supported By:**



**PennState Health**  
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center





## EDUCATION, THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO.

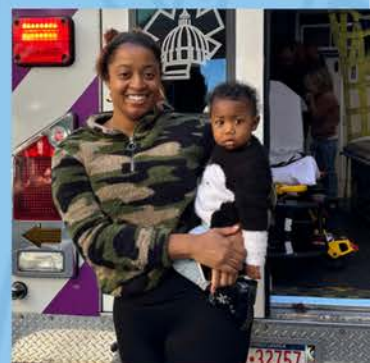


### Little Learners

Little Learners at Whitaker Center is an interactive STEAM program filled with lots of fun and hands-on activities. We sharpen our science processing skills as we experiment, read, explore, sing, and create. Learners have time for structured weekly activities as well as time to explore our KidsPlace exhibit.

#### Monthly Topics Include:

- Jump into Fall
- Spooktober
- Health Safety
- Agriculture and You
- Winter Weather
- Wonderland



Supported By:



PENN NATIONAL  
INSURANCE

### Girl Scouts

We offer workshops for Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors! There are a variety of workshops from robotics to painting. Girl Scout badge workshops are programs that facilitate the earning of a Girl Scout Badge. Each program is made up of a series of activities, that often build on each other, to complete the requirements needed to earn the badge. All materials needed to earn the badge are supplied and activities are led by an educator. The badges are also purchased by the Whitaker Center and distributed at the end of the program. This is a great way for girls to earn badges that their leaders or parents may not have the skills or experience for!

#### Examples of Badges Earned:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Water
- Sky
- Digital Movie Maker







## PNC INNOVATION ZONE FEATURING THE PURPOSEFUL GAMING STUDIO

PNC Innovation Zone uses purposeful video gaming to teach computer science, coding and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) skills. Managed by the Whitaker Center team, we proudly offer various learning programs to groups and to the public.

The site of the former Whitaker Center Wonders Store, PNC Innovation Zone is among the first of its kind - and serves as a national model for science and technology centers to offer innovative programming.

Whitaker Center's newest program, Gamers and Coders, include STEAM topics for students grades 3-8. Each session includes innovative, technology-based activities designed to introduce and reinforce computational thinking skills.



Whitaker Center has partnered with Comcast to become one of the region's largest "Lift Zones" offering free, robust Wi-Fi to all guests.



## YOUTH RISE: STAND TOGETHER

Youth Rise: Stand Together is a workforce development program that introduces youth of color to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community leaders. The intent of this program is for middle and high school students to have meaningful interactions with professionals of color and to bridge the gaps in opportunity for youth in the Capital Region.

Facilitated program sessions guide participating high school students through career exploration, soft-skills development and preparation for their post-high school goals. Whitaker Center for Science has partnered with Big Brother Big Sisters of the Capital Region to provide STEM activities that introduce JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) discussion topics, helping to facilitate difficult and emotional conversations between students and mentors.

**Thank you Big Brother Big Sisters  
of the Capital Region!**



## WEEKENDS WITH WHITAKER

Weekends with Whitaker is a new program this year, coinciding with our newest film, Wings Over Water, and supports further exploration of major themes. This program is intended to encourage students to model the dynamics of ecosystems. Additionally, to creatively describe relationships between these magnificent birds and the landscape they navigate, and to better understand the ways in which they relate to each other. Students are able to consider their role in the natural world as citizen scientists, both as active participants and observers of nature.

### Programs offered this year include:

- Citizen Science and Bird ID
- Macroinvertebrates
- Trees and Dichotomous Keys
- Nature Scavenger Hunt





## WOW - WHITAKER ON WHEELS

Our Whitaker On Wheels program, commonly referred to as W.O.W., is a mobile science center that offers preschools, daycare centers, and elementary schools the opportunity to bring interactive STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) stations directly to the children they look after and teach.

### Programs offered this year include:

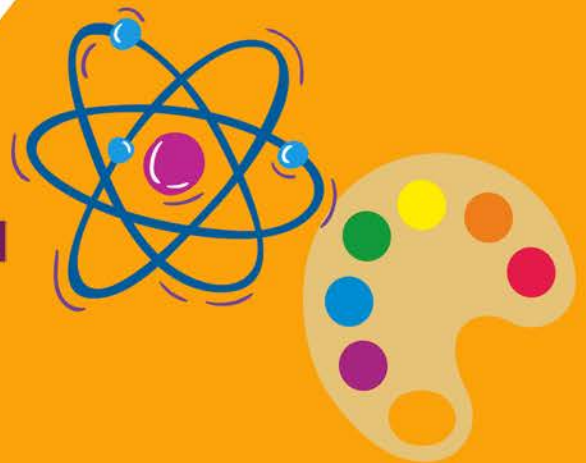
- Sensory Explorers
- Mini Masterpiece
- Dino Dig
- Push and Pull Games
- Science Olympics
- Mighty Engineers
- Best of WOW



The WOW van was upgraded to its new appearance with the help of the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation.

# THANK YOU

## UPMC PINNACLE FOUNDATION





## THE ARTS



### This year's slate of shows:

- ABBA Mania
- Almost Queen
- Blackmore's Night
- Brian Culbertson Featuring Marcus Anderson & Marqueal Jordan
- Chelsey Green & The Green Project
- Citizen Cope
- Dance Revelation: Together
- Fillmore East: The Final Concert
- Get The Led Out
- Glenn Miller Orchestra
- Henry Rollins
- Janis Ian The End of the Line - Farewell Tour
- Kenny Wayne Shepherd
- Lucinda Williams
- Soul Comedy Featuring Sommore
- Steve Hackett - GENESIS Revisited
- Studio 22 Dance Presents: A Holiday Classic
- The Machine Performs Pink Floyd
- Tower Of Power

### Theatre Harrisburg

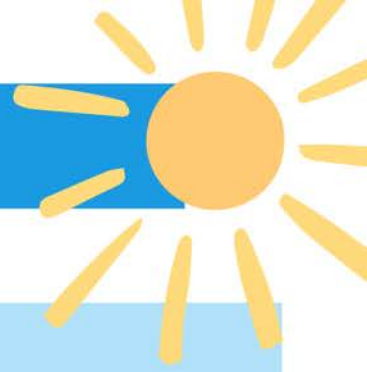
- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- Legend of Sleepy Hollow
- The Secret Garden
- The Spongebob Musical

### Thank You

- Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet
- Frances Mohler Dance Company
- Susquehanna Dance Academy







### Grades K-1:

- Wacky Weather
- Squish, Splat, Ooze!
- Storybook STEAM
- 3,2,1 Blast Off!
- Adventures in Engineering

### Grades 2-8 (*varies by camp*):

- Girls in STEM
- Innovation Zone
- Musical Theatre
- STEAM Storytelling
- Messy Chemistry
- Forces of Nature
- Exploration Space
- Engineering Extravaganza

Total Summer Camps  
Participants:

584

**THANK YOU!**







## SCIENCE CENTER TRAVELING EXHIBIT

Our new traveling exhibit, POPnology, is a fusion of science fiction and science fact at Whitaker Center. This limited-time exhibit celebrated and explored the greatest works of innovation and imagination in history. POPnology consists of dozens of interactive elements that demonstrate the connection between pop culture and real-world technology and is perfect for all ages.

### Highlights of the exhibit included:

- Oculus Rift™ virtual reality
- Local Motors showcasing the Strati, the world's first 3D printed car and live 3D printing
- Mars Rover
- City of the future building area
- Virtual projecting games
- Futuristic musical instrument technology
- Jet pack from Disney's™ The Rocketeer
- Autopia car from Disney's™ Tomorrowland
- Classic arcade games like Donkey Kong
- Props from Back to the Future including the DeLorean time machine complete with the Flux Capacitor
- Artistic renderings from visual futurists who created the look of Blade Runner™, Star Wars™, Alien™, and much more.



## WINGS OVER WATER

Our newest film, *Wings Over Water*, tells the story of the epic journeys of three amazing bird families – the Sandhill Crane, the Yellow Warbler and the Mallard Duck – with extraordinary footage of their fascinating behaviors.

As the glaciers retreated at the end of the last ice age, they left an astounding gift of connected rivers, lakes and wetlands across the heartland of North America. Today, these largely unknown water highways remain an oasis for sustaining wildlife. From the herds of bison that still roam the Great Plains to the vital honey bees that pollinate our crops and especially for the millions of magnificent birds that migrate along these “flyways.”

In correspondence with the film, Whitaker Center participated in Lights Out Harrisburg. Committed partners of the Lights Out Harrisburg Coalition will be turning off (and/or dimming) exterior and interior lights during the migratory season's overnight hours. Using lighting controls, education, and manually ensuring lights are dimmed and turned off will help reduce bird collisions and save countless migratory bird lives each year. By doing so, we can help minimize light pollution during peak migration to help birds navigate as they make the trek to their breeding or wintering grounds.



### Thank you

- Ned Smith Center for Nature & Art
- Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Pennsylvania American Water
- Appalachian Audubon Society





## 2022 WOMEN IN STEM EVENTS

### WOMEN IN STEM NETWORKING NIGHT

On May 3, 2022, Whitaker Center celebrated our Women in STEM Networking Night.

**Keynote Speaker:**

La-Kita Gilmore, Associate Director, Strategy Operations Transformation, AT&T Services, Inc.

**Featured Panelists:**

Sue Engels, Vice President, IT Delivery Innovation, Technology and Delivery, Capital Blue Cross

Kristen Del Grosso, CFP®, Senior Vice President Banking Market Manager, PNC Private Bank

Catherine Wilsbach, P.E., LEED A.P.,  
Director of Land Development, LIVIC Civil



Proceeds benefit Whitaker's Girls in STEM initiative, which creates fun and welcoming environments for girls in our community to build their skills and confidence in STEM.

### 2022 WOMEN OF IMPACT: CELEBRATING WOMEN IN STEM AWARDS PROGRAM

Whitaker Center was proud to host the fourth annual Women of Impact: Celebrating Women in STEM Awards Program on September 21, 2022, to recognize 12 women and 1 organization who have made significant contributions to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

**Keynote Speaker:**

Bilita Mattes, D.ED.,  
Provost & Chief Academic Officer, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology  
Executive Director, STEM-UP Network

**Award Winners:**

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • Marissa Bankert  | • Daelyn Stabler     |
| • Karyn Bashore    | • Stacy Pagán        |
| • Adelle Schade    | • Srinija Amisthapur |
| • Leena Pattarkine | • Rachel Fogle       |
| • Panther Ram      | • Andrea Viazanko    |
| Foundation         | • Melissa Tarhovicky |
| • Sarah Schaub     | • Dharanija Padyala  |



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Community Partners

- ABC 27
- Better Homes and Gardens
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region
- Capital Blue Cross
- Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (CASA)
- Girl Scouts
- HARSCO
- The Hershey Company
- Highmark
- M&T Bank
- Penn National Insurance
- Penn State Health
- Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
- PNC Bank
- The Salvation Army
- The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation

# M&T Bank

Understanding what's important®

### BUNNY TRAIL

- > Indoor Trail
- > Crafts
- > Candy & Snacks
- > Easter Bunny
- > Showings of Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown



### TRICK-OR-TREAT TRAIL

- > Indoor Trail
- > Crafts
- > Candy & Snacks
- > Showings of It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown



### LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

- > Live Music
- > Milk & Cookies
- > Visit by Santa
- > Crafts
- > Science Experiments
- > Showings of Holiday Movies



*Thank you to our event sponsors: M&T Bank, The Hershey Company, and Better Homes & Garden Capital Region!*



## TRÈS BONNE ANNÉE

This year with the help of Très Bonne Année through Fund-A-Need, an engaging educational exhibit was placed in the Forces of Nature Exhibit on the lower level of the Harsco Science Center. After a total of \$15,000 was raised, Whitaker Center was able to purchase Topobox, an Earth Science Augmented Reality Sandbox. TopoBox is a sandbox that uses projectors to superimpose topographic elevation on a sandbox, creating an incredibly interactive earth science exhibit. When using Topobox, users can create different geographic formations, from mountains to valleys to river deltas to flood plains, and watch the water collect and flow over various watersheds.



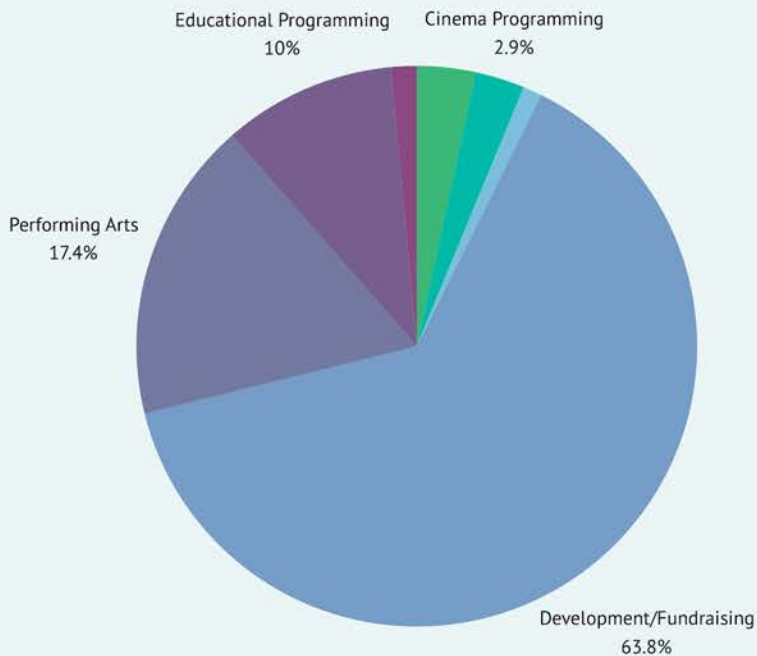
**THANK YOU**  
**TRÈS**  
**BONNE**  
**ANNÉE**



## FINANCE

Fiscal Year: October 1st, 2021 - September 30th, 2022

### GROSS REVENUE SOURCES



GENERAL SCIENCE CENTER ADMISSION	95,535
CINEMA PROGRAMMING	81,336
GIFT SHOP	459
TICKETING	30,222
DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING	1,809,219
PERFORMING ARTS	493,999
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING	282,435
FACILITIES RENTALS	42,156

### OPERATING EXPENSES

#### Program Services

HARSCO SCIENCE CENTER	844,469
SUNOCO PERFORMANCE THEATER	1,074,606
SELECT MEDICAL DIGITAL CINEMA	274,503
PNC INNOVATION ZONE	78,010

#### Management & General

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	1,321,103
WONDERS MUSEUM STORE	395
CAFE	7,319

#### Fundraising

DEVELOPMENT & MEMBERSHIP	255,677
SALES & MARKETING	98,645

#### TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

**\$3,954,727**



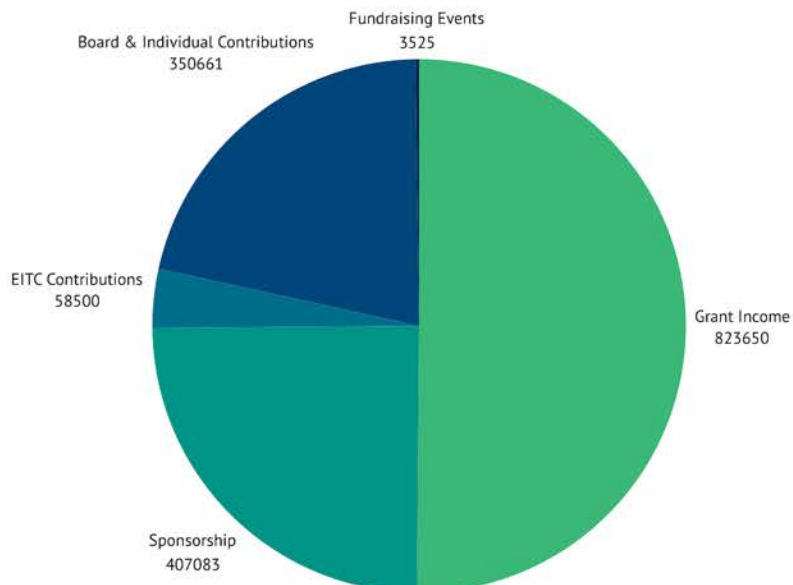
## FINANCE

Fiscal Year: October 1st, 2021 - September 30th, 2022

### FIXED ASSET ADDITIONS

	FY 2021	Disposals	Additions	FY 2022
BUILDING & IMPROVEMENTS	31,647,124	-	1,203,849	32,850,973
EXHIBITS	2,355,848	-	-	2,355,848
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	2,518,846	-	68,804	2,587,650
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(21,168,699)	-	(1,052,305)	(22,221,004)
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>15,353,119</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>220,348</b>	<b>15,573,467</b>

### DEVELOPMENT & REVENUE



FUNDRAISING EVENTS	3,525
BOARD & INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	350,661
EITC CONTRIBUTIONS	58,500
SPONSORSHIP	407,083
GRANT INCOME	823,650



## GIVING TO WHITAKER CENTER

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

#### **\$25,000+**

Carole DeSoto  
Gary D. & Sylvie St. Hilaire  
Harold McInnes  
R. Timothy and Mary Webber Weston

#### **\$10,000 - \$24,000**

Marsha Everton & Jack Stover  
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#### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Andy Enders  
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#### **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

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Nicole Conway  
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Christine Sears

#### **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

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#### **\$200 - \$499**

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Karen Deklinski  
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Thomas Gentzel  
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Dharanija Padyala  
Marian Warden

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## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!



## CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, CIVIC, AND GOVERNMENT GIVING

### **\$100,000+**

PNC Bank  
The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation  
Vibra Healthcare

### **\$50,000 - \$99,999**

Dauphin County  
Highmark  
UPMC

### **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

Josiah W. & Bessie H. Kline Foundation  
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  
The Foundation For Enhancing Communities

### **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Bayer Fund  
CHUBB  
Comcast  
Community Foundation of Collier County  
Anne M. & Philip H. III Glatfelter Foundation  
M&T Bank  
Mid Penn Bank  
Orrstown Bank  
Penn National Insurance

### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Bobby Rahal Toyota  
Brody Science Fund for Youth - TFEC\*  
PPL Electric Utilities  
Toyota Motors North America  
UGI Utilities, Inc.

\*The Foundation For Enhancing Communities



## CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, CIVIC, AND GOVERNMENT GIVING

### **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

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Fulton Bank

Hershey's Ice Cream

Bill and Beverlee Lehr Fund - TFEC\*

Penn State Health

Traditions Bank

### **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

ABC 27 WHTM-TV

A.P. Williams Construction

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Joan S. and Joseph K. Goldsmith Fund #2 - TFEC\*

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Iron Valley Real Estate of Central PA - The Wendell Hoover Team

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Mowery Construction

NAI CIR

S&T Bank

Schwalm Technologies

Tröegs Independent Brewing

PFM Asset Management

### **Under \$1,000**

Capital Blue Cross

Jaguar Land Rover Harrisburg

Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA

Lancaster County Community Foundation - Brown Schultz Sheridan & Fritz

Penn State Harrisburg

Dr. Thomas R. Stone Fund - TFEC\*



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Marian M. Warden  
William W. Warren, Jr.  
Mary Webber Weston  
Richard E. Willey  
Kenneth Wolfe  
Meron Yemane  
LeRoy S. Zimmerman

### President Emeritus

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Michael Hanes, Ph.D.



## WHITAKER CENTER STAFF

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Chief Operating Officer & Vice President of  
Finance

**Michael Ringenbach, MPH**

Vice President of Development

**Heather Woodbridge**

Vice President of Operations

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Director of Production, Events, & Ticketing

**Peggy Jo Taylor**

Director of Operations & Personnel

**Sarah Throckmorton**

Director of Education

### *Accounting*

**Patty Kuharic**

Accounting Manager

### *Development*

**Riley Blatt**

Development Coordinator

### *Box Office*

**Billy Hartmann**

Technical Director

**Hannah Kiscadden**

Box Office & Events Associate

**Cole Medley**

Group Sales & Box Office Supervisor

### *Education*

**Lexie Duttera**

Science Center Manager

**Kristin James**

STEAM Curriculum Manager

**Steve Lockhart**

Innovation Program Educator

**Elyse Rittle**

Early Childhood Educator





# WHITAKER CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND THE

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts  
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[info@whitakercenter.org](mailto:info@whitakercenter.org)  
(717) 214-2787

