

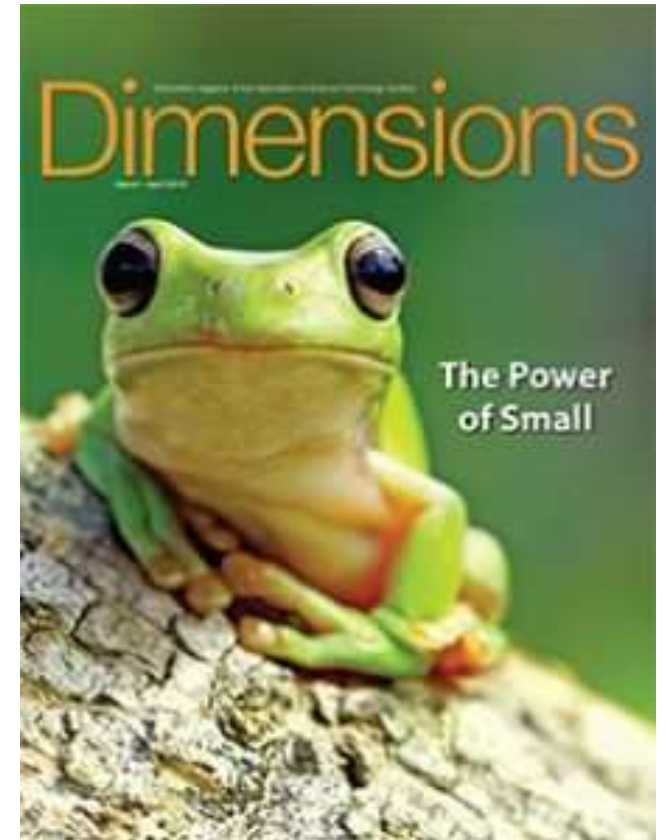
The Power of Small: A Strategic Advantage

Lara Litchfield-Kimber, Mid-Hudson
Children's Museum

Cara Lesser, KID Museum

Lisa Regalla, Bay Area Discovery Museum

Charlie Trautmann, Sciencenter



March/April 2019

Mid-Hudson Children's Museum Poughkeepsie, NY (USA)



By the Numbers

Annual Budget: \$989,000

Annual Attendance: 80,000 visitors

Sq. Ft. of Exhibits Space: 6,500

Number of Staff: 12





kid-museum.org



Mission

Empower every child with the skills to invent the future with creativity, curiosity, and compassion.





Approach

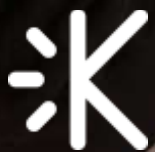
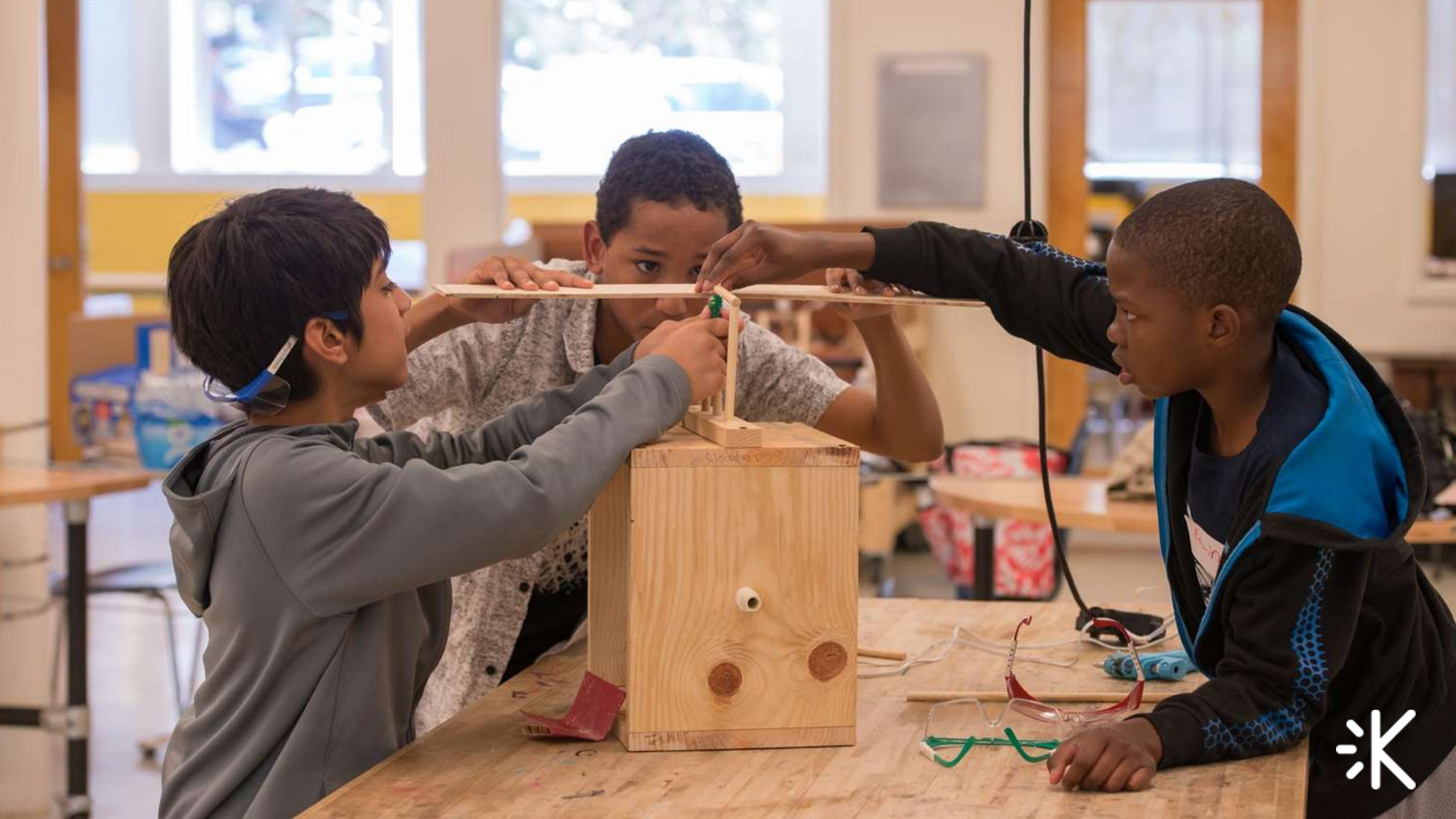
- Creative learning space for kids and families, schools and educators
- Focus on fostering creativity and global citizenship through maker learning
- Serve as innovation lab and community catalyst to reimagine learning for the 21st century



KID Museum's Learning Philosophy



 **MIND OF A MAKER**
Empowering kids as creative problem-solvers, curious, continuous learners, and global citizens & changemakers.







The Power of Small

- 7500 SF in public library
- 30 staff members (20 FTEs)
- \$2.7M annual operating budget

- 55K visits annually
- District-wide partnership with 165K student school system
- 52% students served from under-resourced communities
- Demonstrated impact

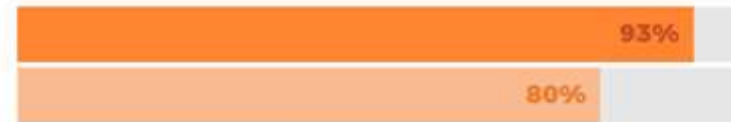


KID Museum's Invention Studio Impact

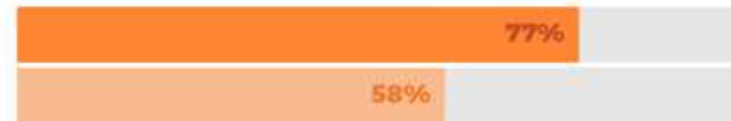
Evidence of Impact

Harvard University's PEAR Institute found that Invention Studio students made significant gains in STEM and 21st century skills, exceeding the impact of other programs nationally.

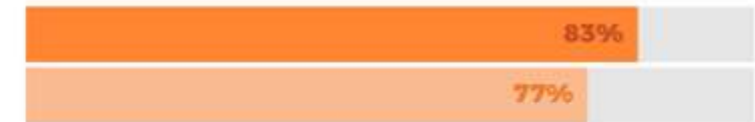
Science Interest



Science Enjoyment




Perseverance



Critical Thinking



 KID Museum's Invention Studio Program

 STEM Enrichment Programs Nationally



Impact through Partnership



- Leverage the power of a small, nimble nonprofit in partnership with the reach and impact of school system
- Meaningful collaborative design with teachers, principals and district leaders
- Iterative process consistent with our learning philosophy
- Trust and relationship-building are foundational
- Recognize that change will be fast and slow; stay open & optimistic
- Don't be afraid to start

Small on Wheels: BADM's Try it Truck

Lisa Regalla, Director of STEM Learning & Innovation
lregalla@badm.org



Bay Area
Discovery
Museum

Our mission is to transform research into early learning experiences that inspire creative problem solving
BayAreaDiscoveryMuseum.org / Facebook & Instagram: @BayAreaDiscoveryMuseum / Twitter: @BADM_org

Annual visitation - 350k
Budget - \$7.5mm
Sq ft (indoor) - 15,125
Staff - 53 FT, 44 PT



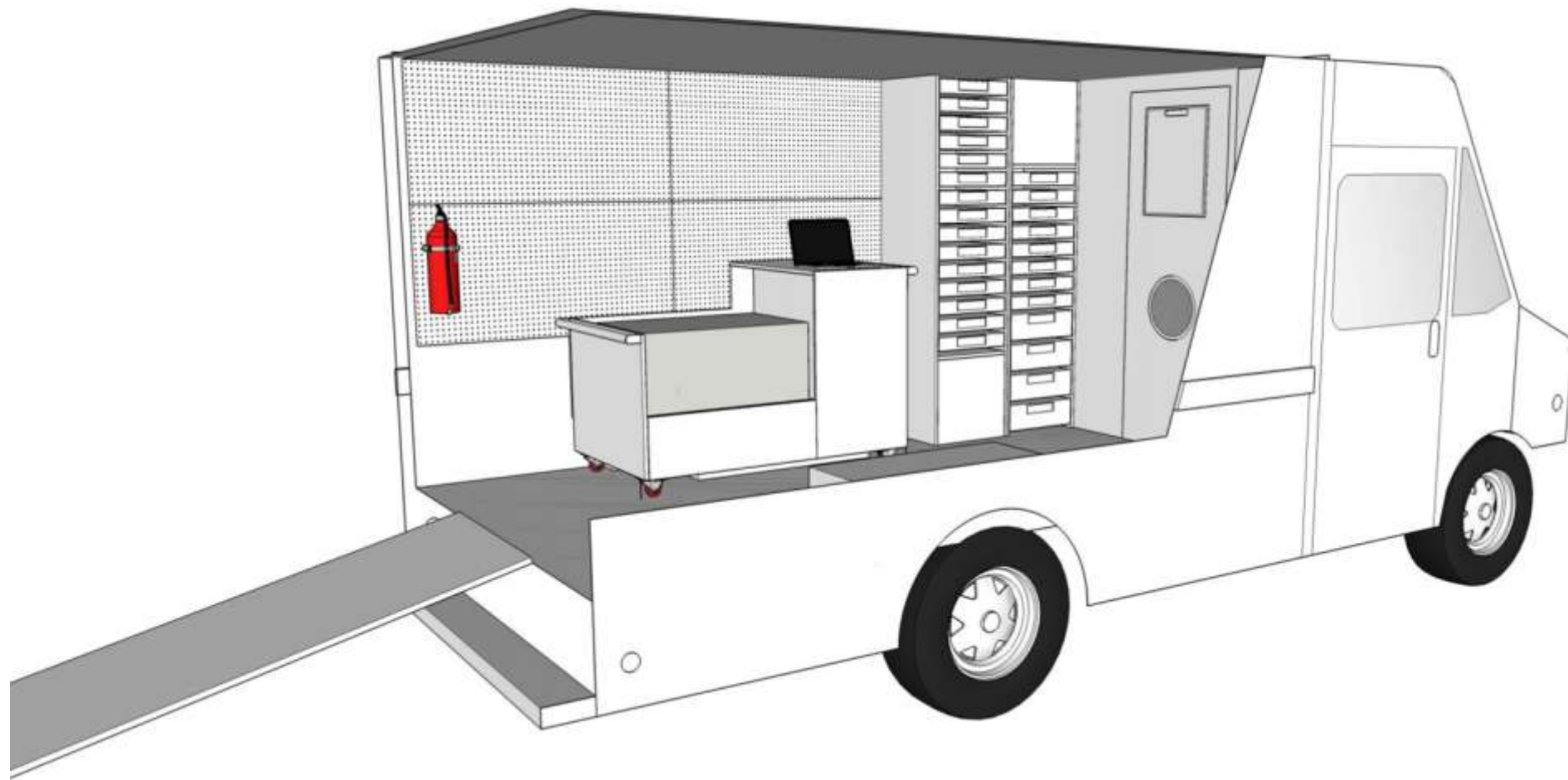
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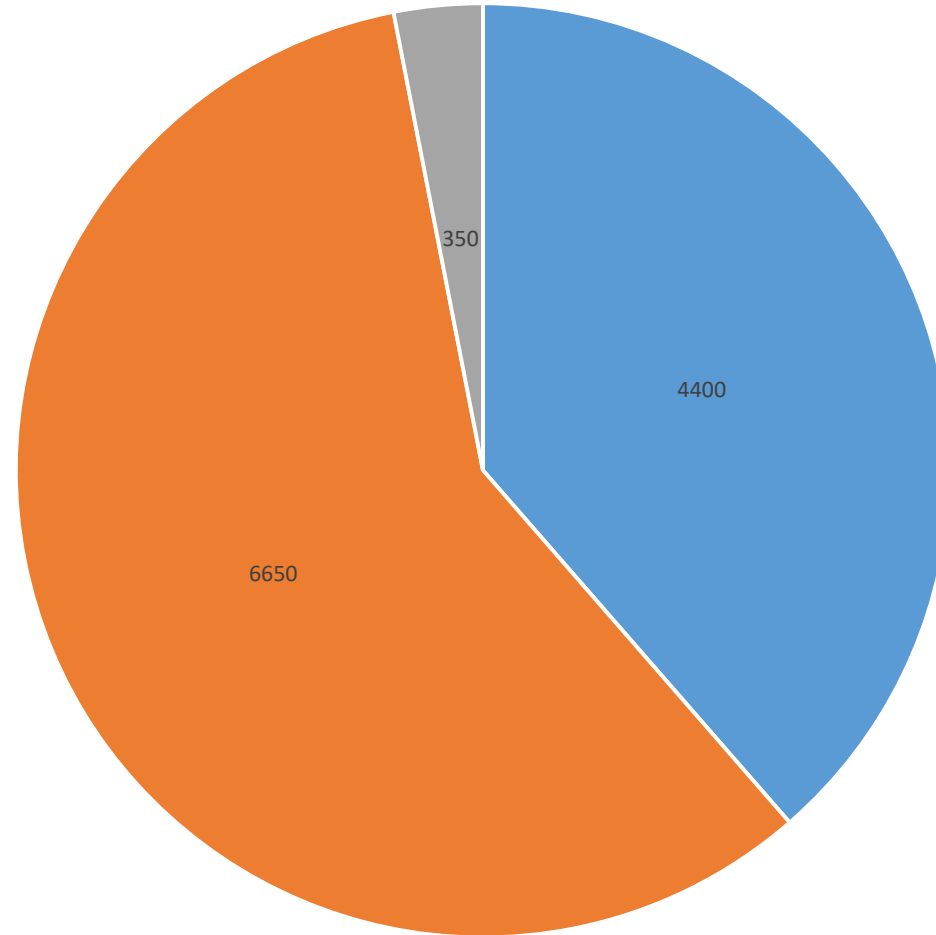
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Reach

Total children: 11,400

Total adults: 3,900



■ Library ■ School ■ Community & Corporate



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Total children: 11,400

PERCENT OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS BY COUNTY

SAN FRANCISCO - 12%

SAN MATEO - 18%

MARIN - 8%

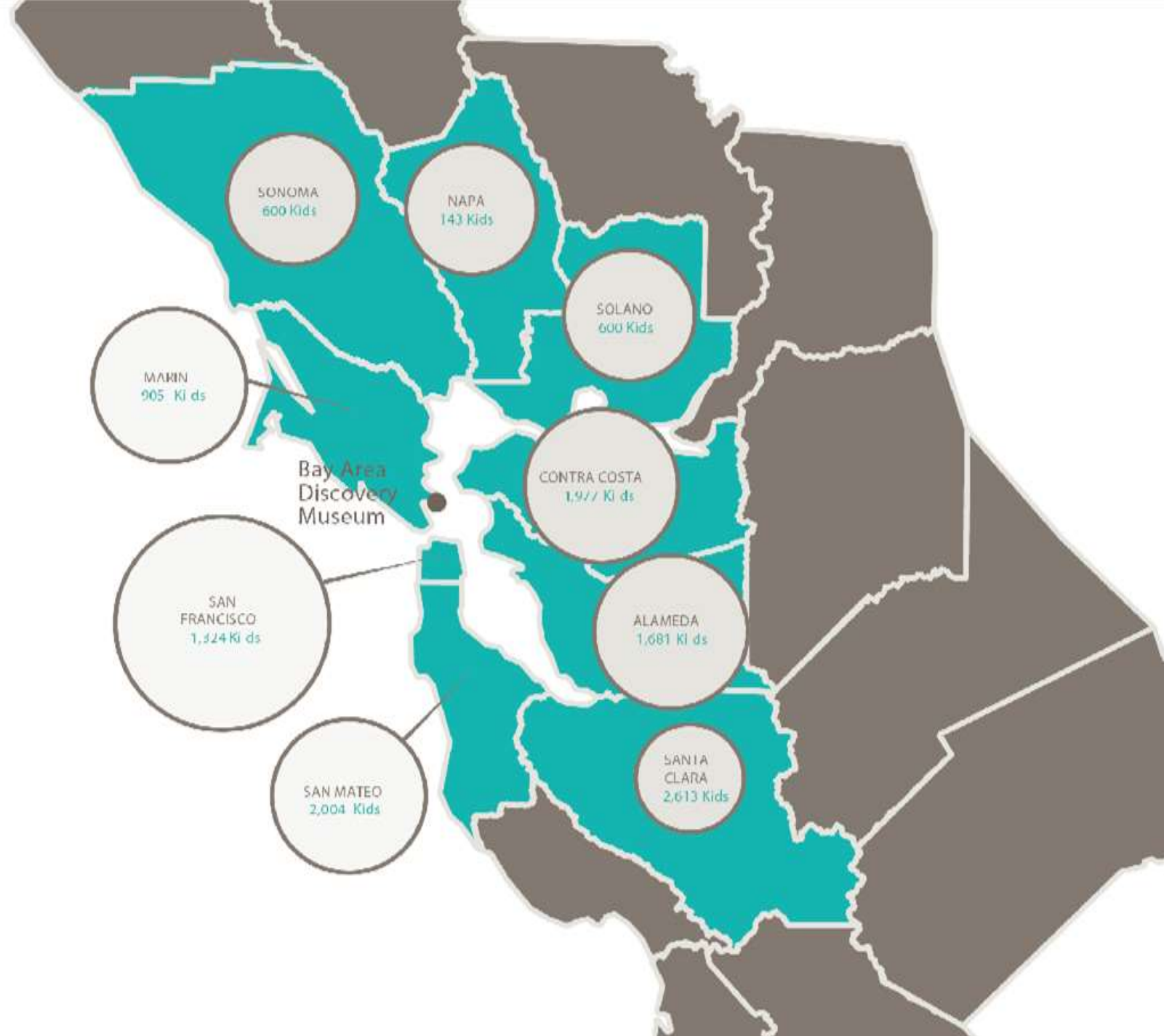
CONTRA COSTA - 18%

ALAMEDA - 15%

SONOMA - 5%

NAPA - 1%

SANTA CLARA - 23%



Bay Area
Discovery
Museum



Charlie Trautmann

Executive Director,

Emeritus

Sciencenter

Ithaca, NY



Overview of the Sciencenter

Size: 32K SF, Exhibits 10K SF

Core staff: 27

Budget: \$3 million

Attendance: 100 K

Some Characteristics of Small

- A. Flatter organization structure
- B. Faster decision making
- C. Broader measures of success
- D. Closer to community



Power of Small

Deep Community Collaboration:
The Discovery Trail



Reflection Question

**As a leader, how can you strategically leverage
“small?”**

Reflection Question

How can we design for flexibility to maximize success?

Reflection Question

What aspects of your partnerships have been most successful in promoting broader community impact?