

Science Museum Collaboration: Update to the VA ACS Executive Committee

10 July 2021

Our enhanced collaboration with the Science Museum of Virginia has resulted in significant improvements to build chemistry into their programming. In 2020, we provided a \$1,500 grant to refresh and enhance the chemistry programming at the Science Museum of Virginia. The progress was delayed due to staff shortages related to Covid-19. The VA Section granted the Science Museum of Virginia a 1-year extension to complete the work.

Science Museum staff and evaluated 17 experiments and selected their favorites to include in the radical reactions programming.

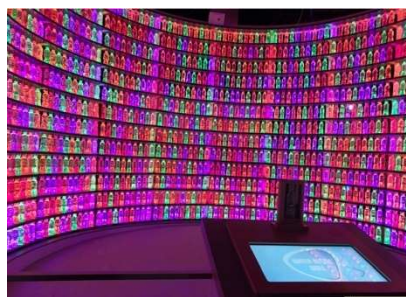
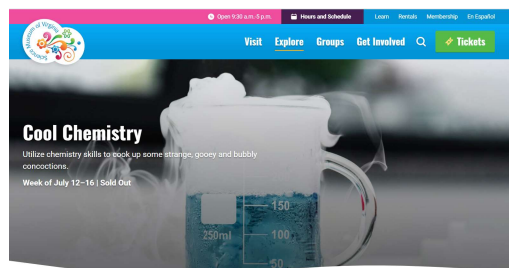
Some of the final experiment titles include:

- Flaming Vapor Ramp
- Testing Invisible Fire Extinguisher
- Testing Orange Juice to Strawberry Float

These will be included in a week-long summer camp for elementary school students “Cool Chemistry”, which is sold out.

In addition, the Science Museum has been working with other community partners to build chemistry content into both their in-person and on-line content. Content is either chemistry focused, like the video link below or contains chemistry facts embedded in the presentation like the quizzes included in the water wall exhibit.

[Science Shorts: What is a Chemical Reaction? - Bing video](#)



Next Steps

I will work with the Science Museum staff on an article for the bulletin that summarizes this initiative and other activities resulting from our long-standing relationship that we have the Science Museum of Virginia. The Science Museum would like to present a proposal for funding at the September 2021 meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Walters, Member At Large, Science Museum Liaison