



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date September 30, 2017

Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: Bay Area Discovery Museum

Organization URL: www.BayAreaDiscoveryMuseum.org

Mission/purpose of your organization:

The Bay Area Discovery Museum (BADM) has been a nationally recognized leader in early childhood education for over 25 years, and a valued educational destination for children ages 0-10, parents, caregivers, and educators. We have a long history of expertise in the development of creativity through early exposure to interdisciplinary science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning. BADM combines a research division and comprehensive early childhood education programming at the intersection of STEM and creativity development. Across all of our educational programming, we address teacher need for the knowledge and skills to implement Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in early ages. Our vision is that all children will have early learning experiences that inspire creative problem solving. Our mission in service of this vision is to transform research into early learning experiences that inspire creative problem solving.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: Try it Truck After-School and Community Programs

Amount Requested Dollar: \$10,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$219,626.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

BADM respectfully requests \$10,000 from the County of Marin to support after-school and community visits by the Try It Truck, our mobile engineering lab, to Marin County libraries. Funding from the County of Marin would allow BADM to provide scholarships to all our partner Marin County Libraries, underwriting the costs of the Try It Truck's visits to Marin libraries, and ensuring the program's accessibility to all Marin children and their families. The Try It Truck increases awareness of the importance of engineering education in early childhood by bringing high-quality design challenges, engineering practices, and resources directly to children ages 4-10, and their families. The Truck is fully equipped with both high-tech (CNC router, tablets, laser cutter) and analog (scissors, cardboard, glue, etc.) tools which will be used by students to solve engineering design challenges through educator-facilitated programming. The Try It Truck focuses on engineering, a key component of developing children's creative problem solving skills by providing early exposure to interdisciplinary learning through STEM. As a form of project-based learning, engineering is an effective way to help children develop their twenty-first century skills: critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. Throughout the 2017-2018 school year and during the summer period of June - August, 2018, BADM educators will travel to Marin libraries, including Marin City, Corte Madera, San Rafael, and Pickleweed Libraries, where they will present activities rooted in the engineering practices of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). These libraries all participated in the Try It Truck's pilot program, and have indicated interest in additional visits if scholarship funding was available. The Truck encourages an interest in emerging technologies while providing a direct-service extension of our onsite Fab Lab makerspace exhibit to all Marin communities.

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

Following the Try It Truck's highly successful pilots with schools and libraries in Marin County and across the Bay Area, we want to ensure that this innovative learning experience is accessible to as many Marin County children as possible. The Try It Truck's visits to libraries throughout Marin County will directly benefit 200 children and 140 adults through at least four visits to Marin communities. This project will also support the expansion of existing partnerships with Marin County libraries, including Pickleweed Library, during after-school programs and local

community events, ensuring that all participating children have hands-on experiences that build the thinking skills that are essential for success in both school and life, and spark longer-term engineering interest.

Try it Truck also supports the efforts of local initiatives such as Marin Promise, in addressing the achievement gap and ensuring that there is a strong cradle to career pathway for all children. BADM's participation in Marin Promise Partnership in an advisory capacity, also reflects our commitment to ensuring equitable educational opportunities to children throughout Marin County. Early childhood is a critical time from brain development; research shows a majority of children show a marked drop in original thinking by the time they reach age nine (Center for Childhood Creativity, 2015; Runco, 2011; Gardner, 1982; Torrance, 1967, 1968).

Through the delivery of BADM programs in a mobile format, we are breaking down barriers to museum attendance. It is an approach that will make engineering accessible, relevant, and inherently creative to children and parents. The Try It Truck will be an especially critical resource to those without access to STEM education, which is critical to closing the opportunity gap, and will provide early childhood educators, families, and caregivers with experiences that inspire their interest in, support, and understanding of, engineering content.

The total amount received for the past three fiscal years:

Year	Amount	Project
2016 - 2017		
2015 - 2016		
2014 - 2015	\$5,000.00	School Visits Program

No County funding was received for this project or others.

Project/program can be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

Project Funding Sources	Funding Agency	Funding Requested	Received	Notes
County CSF		\$10,000	\$0	<i>pending</i>
Federal Grant				
State Grant				
Individual Contributions		\$0		
Other Local Agencies				
In kind services				
Other			\$88,039	<i>earned revenue through program fees</i>
Total Sources		\$10,000	\$88,039	
Project Expenses		Budgeted	Spent to Date	Notes
Personnel Costs		\$183,240	\$0	
Services and Supplies		\$36,386		
Capital		\$0		
Other				
Total Expenses		\$219,626	\$0	