



## **POSITIONING TEENS AS ADVOCATES FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

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## MSI Mission

The Museum of Science and Industry's mission is to inspire the inventive genius in everyone by presenting captivating and compelling experiences that are real and educational.



### *Each year, we reach approximately:*

- 1.5 million visitors
- 340,000 students on field trips
- 12,000 children in after-school science clubs
- 525 educators through sustained professional development experiences

## MSI Vision:

Inspire and motivate our children to achieve their full potential in the fields of science, technology, medicine and engineering.



# Teen ACES: Teen Advocates for Community and Environmental Sustainability

With support from NOAA, MSI aims to:

- Develop a framework for using museum-based education resources to engage high-school age youth in the exploration of climate literacy and Earth system science.
- Position youth to become advocates for the development of resilient communities in the Midwest.
- Increase public engagement related to environmental issues.

# MSI's Community Initiatives

This work will utilize the programmatic structures and relationships that have been developed over the past several years to maximize our impact in the out of school time arena.

- Youth Development Programs
- Science Learning in Afterschool
- Summer Learning



# Science Minors & Science Achievers

## Science Minors (Entry Level)

- 3 cohorts of 30 high school age youth will participate in 10 week, half day courses to build a foundation related to Earth systems and climate science

## Science Achievers (Advanced Level)

- 30 Saturdays throughout each academic year engaged in full day programming
- Teens further their exploration of science, with an emphasis on Connecting Global Trends to Local Impacts, Investigating Localized Midwest/Great Lakes Climate and Weather Events, and Personal and Community Actions that Promote Resiliency



# Teens as Ambassadors



- Science Achievers learn methods to effectively communicate the science they are learning by leading learning experiences for public and community audiences
- They become the face of science in the Museum and in the community
- They gain 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills that will help to prepare them for the world as they pursue college and career pathways
- They will present their learning and recommendations to local municipal resiliency stakeholders

# Teens in the Museum

In the Museum, teen facilitated programs will include:

- Public SOS experiences
- Hands-on activities for guests
- Exhibit-based programs
- Theater programs





# Teens in the Community

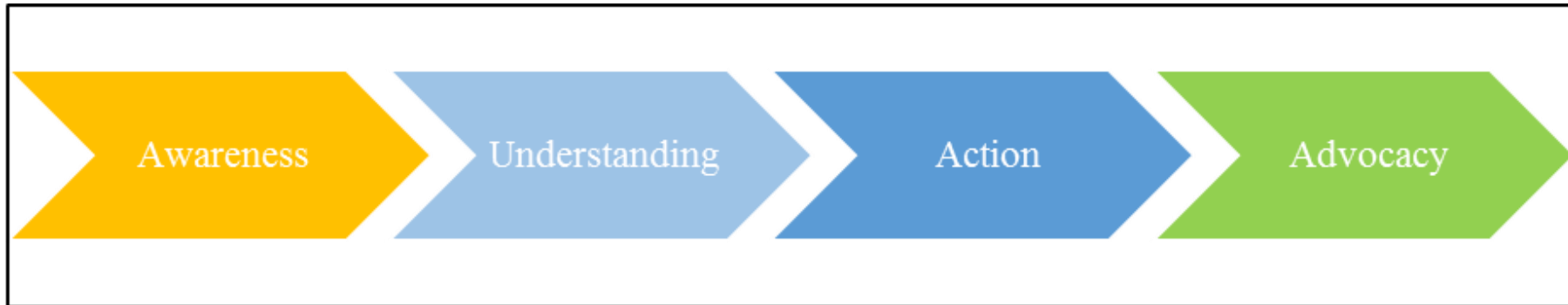


In the Community, teen facilitated programs will include:

- Programs for children and families at 32 Chicago Public Library branches
- TESLA (Teens Exploring Science with a Live Audience), a live interactive television program produced in partnership with the Chicago Access Network

# Youth Advocacy Pathway

- The project will position youth as learner and facilitator of learning
- We are designing program elements to move youth participants along a Youth Advocacy Pathway



# Content Partners

We are partnering with a broad range of content partners including:

- Resilient Chicago
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Midwest Regional Climate Center
- Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
- Loyola University Chicago's Institute for Environmental Sustainability
- South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium



# Key Resiliency Resources

Climate Adaptation Guidebook for Municipalities in the Chicago Region, (CMAP, 2013)

[www.cmap.illinois.gov/livability/sustainability/climate-adaptation-toolkit](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/livability/sustainability/climate-adaptation-toolkit)

Chicago Climate Action Plan (Chicago Climate Task Force, 2008)

[www.chicagoclimateaction.org](http://www.chicagoclimateaction.org)

Self-Assessment to Address Climate Change Readiness in Your Community (IISG, 2013)

[www.greatlakesresilience.org](http://www.greatlakesresilience.org)

# Local Dissemination

MSI will further develop and disseminate resources throughout the Chicago area through:

- Our network of over 100 after-school science clubs
- The Chicago Summer Learning Challenge



# Regional Dissemination

MSI will work with Midwest science centers to support the integration of resources into their programs. Partners include:

- Science Central (Fort Wayne, Indiana)
- Boonshoft Museum of Discovery (Dayton, Ohio)
- Hawthorne Hollow Nature Sanctuary (Kenosha, Wisconsin)

We will also explore other ways of sharing our resources and findings with the SOS community to see if we can help you to support teens as advocates in your communities.

# Thank You!



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