A Letter from the Chair of the Board

What a wonderful time for Philadelphia. Over the last few months the eyes of the world turned to our city as we celebrated the World Meeting of Families and Pope Francis’s historic visit, and now Philadelphia has been selected as America’s first World Heritage City, a designation that we share with a number of other cities that have hugely impacted world history, such as Jerusalem, Cairo, and Paris. This honor will help to raise Philadelphia’s profile, boosting tourism and showcasing the history, arts, and culture that we have to offer—including the world-class exhibits and programs here at The Franklin Institute.

To briefly recap 2015: what a great year. The Art of the Brick LEGO show was the most visited traveling exhibit since King Tut in 2007. We recently opened SportsZone, a complete re-creation of the old Sports Challenge, thanks to the generosity of a group of committed supporters. In the first full year that the Nicholas and Athena Karabots Pavilion was open, we are able to host Vatican Splendors because of the climate control system in the new building that protects the fragile artifacts. And with the expanded classroom space in the new building we welcomed a record number of Discovery Campers, and dozens of other organizations have enjoyed holding meetings and events in the new conference center. Your Bank was honored with a major exhibit award, and the Karabots Pavilion continues to garner accolades for design.

As we celebrate our successes in 2015, we are also looking to the future—how can the Institute remain relevant in a rapidly changing world? How can we not merely sustain but expand and evolve, and as we create a comprehensive plan to grow our endowment, I hope we can continue to count on your support, which makes this work possible.

Many of the objects in Vatican Splendors have never before been on display for public view.

Another wonderful time for the Institute is the new year. We look forward to the wonderful holiday season, and a wonderful start to the new year.

Don Morel
Chair of the Board of Trustees
The Science Behind Pixar was developed by the Museum of Science, Boston in collaboration with Pixar Animation Studios. ©2015 Disney/Pixar. All rights reserved. Used under authorization.

The Science Behind Pixar was the traveling exhibition, opening on March 12, 2016, The Franklin Institute will host the traveling exhibition, The Science Behind Pixar. Enjoy a unique look into the Pixar process, and explore the science and technology behind some of the most beloved animated films and their characters. This interactive exhibition showcases the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts used by the artists and computer scientists who help bring Pixar’s award-winning films to the big screen.

With more than 40 interactive exhibit elements, the exhibition’s eight sections each focus on a step in the filmmaking process to give you an unparalleled view of the production pipeline and concepts used at Pixar every day. Participate in fun, engaging hands-on activities, listen to firsthand accounts from members of the studios’ production teams, and even come face-to-face with re-creations of your favorite Pixar film characters, including Buzz Lightyear, Dory, Mike and Sulley, Edna Mode, and WALL-E!

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Sports Challenge was one of the Institute’s most popular exhibits for the past 15 years. During that time, millions of visitors have had fun learning about how sport connects with the science of the human body, the laws of motion, and technical innovation. The 3,600-square-foot Sports Challenge exhibit was reimagined into SportsZone to educate and inspire a new generation of visitors with cutting-edge science. On October 21, the Institute welcomed an excited crowd of members and donors for an exclusive first look at the brand new SportsZone. Guests were treated to a lively evening of cocktails and entertainment. This outstanding new exhibit was made possible by the generous support of Lead Underwriters James J. Maguire, Jr., the Maguire Foundation, and the Philadelphia Insurance Companies, and Associate Supporters William and Laura Buck, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Scheller, Jr., and the Dow Chemical Company.

Captions
1. James Maguire, Jr. and Lisa Maguire with Mary Ellen and Bob O’Leary
2. Bob and Toni Garrison with Bill and Laura Buck
3. Alex and Mitchell Gerstein
4. Lee Woodall and Terri Matthews
5. Jamie and Ray Wilson
6. Dave Buck and Domenic Celenza
7. Niger and Louise Eggleston with Carmen Terenci and Robert Eggleston and Bill Malloy
8. Matt Schwartz, Roberta and Ernest Scheller, Larry Dubinski
9. Jordan Matthews and young friend
10. Bob Garrison, VJ Devlin, Louise and Allan Reed, Tom Garrison
11. Margie Bacheler, Robert Bacheler, Jr. and Robert Bacheler, Sr., Danielle Denner
12. James Maguire, Jr., Jordan Mithoff, Lisa Maguire
13. Jordan Land and Larry Dubinski
14. Brandi Metzler-Anderson
15. Rick, Holden, Patsy Slack, and Debi Koehler
16. Mark, Mary, Cheryl and Kevin Roller, Vincent Barone
17. Don and Mary Levick with Andria Ayer
18. Julie March, Homayoon and Cheryl Pasdar
You Make a Difference!

“We talk with the children about the brain and the heart, and they get their facts directly from the exhibits at the Institute. It’s spectacular.”

— Linda Maldonado, ACLAMO’s director of early childhood education and family literacy

In preparation for their visit, ACLAMO’s teachers introduced students to the anatomy lessons in the classroom, and their visit allows them to delve even deeper here at the museum.

Field trips and group visits like ACLAMO’s Summer Bridge Program would not be possible without the generous annual support of our donors. For making STEM education available to underserved children, families, and communities in the greater Philadelphia region and beyond—THANK YOU!

For more information about gifting a membership, please contact Meghan Bachman at mbachman@fi.edu or 215.448.1377. www.fi.edu/support. For more information about gifting a membership, please contact Meghan Bachman at mbachman@fi.edu or 215.448.1377.

Youth Programs Help Students Achieve Their Dreams

Launched in 2010, the STEM Scholars program recruits high school freshmen who show a strong interest in STEM disciplines and engages them in afterschool and weekend activities to prepare them for STEM careers. Kayin Bantélo graduated from the STEM Scholars program in 2014 and is now an environmental engineering major at Syracuse University’s L.C. Smith College of Engineering.

Kayin wasn’t always a big fan of STEM Scholars. His father encouraged him, however, and after applying, Kayin interviewed with Institute staff. “After that,” he said, “the rest is history.” Four years working with instructors, scientists, and his peers in the STEM Scholars program made a big impact on Kayin. He describes, “It would not be where I am today…at Syracuse University, my dream school, without STEM Scholars. Their ACT tutoring portion of the program really played a major role in my college application process…Many students don’t get to go to their dream school. STEM Scholars is why I am attending mine.”

As part of the STEM Scholars program, Kayin had the opportunity to intern at Drexel University in their Environmental Engineering Department where he worked in a lab conducting research about water treatment, specifically seeing how algae played a role in the cleaning of bodies of water. He also aided graduate students in their research and went on field trips with his advisor, and attended University lectures. Kayin’s internship experience helped him decide to major in environmental engineering in college.

Kayin Bantélo has a message for students who are considering the STEM Scholars program, and any other Institute education program: “If you are ready to expand your mind and figure out what you want to do in life, go for it. STEM Scholars was an amazing program that affected more than just my academic life. The opportunities and experiences you will gain by joining the program are once-in-a-lifetime occurrences.”

There are so many ways you can continue to support the Institute, and help us to make an impact on even more students and families. For example, are you still shopping for the perfect gift this holiday season? We can help! Give the gift of a Franklin Institute membership to a friend or family member so that they can visit the museum all year long. Or, consider making a gift this holiday season in honor of a loved one by visiting www.fi.edu/support. For more information about gifting a membership, please contact Meghan Bachman at mbachman@fi.edu or 215.448.1377.

“THE JOY OF WATCHING THEM LEARN”
Dedicated Board Member Paul Heintz

Paul Heintz, Esq., “The Franklin Institute’s longest serving Trustee,” will retire from the Board in January 2016. Over his outstanding 45 years of service in a variety of roles, and then as a Trustee starting in 1982, Mr. Heintz has seen the Institute transform and grow to reach new audiences, and has been a critical force in securing that change, particularly in the area of aviation and the Institute’s educational policy and collections.

So how did the Institute recruit volunteers in 1969? Mr. Heintz recounts, “When I was 29 years old I was a young lawyer, and I took a break and walked over to the Institute because I’ve always loved science and engineering—my grandfather was an engineer and my father was both an electrical and aeronautical engineer. I saw the aviation exhibit, and went back to my office and wrote a letter to the President of the Institute because I was stunned at how much improvement it needed. Within a month, they had me chairing the Aviation Hall Exhibit Committee.”

Thanks to Mr. Heintz’s leadership, Aviation Hall was renovated, and he didn’t stop there. In 1982, Mr. Heintz joined the Board of Trustees, and, except for a few mandatory rotations off, has served ever since.

Mr. Heintz describes why he still enjoys visiting, and why he and his wife have decided to include the Institute in their estate plans. “My wife Jane and I have four children and seven grandchildren, and I love to bring them to the Institute. It’s the joy of watching them learn and have fun—seeing their eyes light up and their enthusiasm brings us so much pleasure. We are leaving a planned gift not only to support the organization, but to remind my children of my love for The Franklin Institute that I hope will inspire them to continue to visit and to bring their own children—bring them, not send them—family experiences at the museum are so important.”

In September, Mr. Heintz celebrated his 50-year anniversary as a lawyer at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP. He continues his work there and also continues to fly airplanes. The Institute is grateful for his long, dedicated service on the Board of Trustees, during which his advocacy of our mission helped millions of visitors to find inspiration in the discoveries and adventures of scientists and inventors from around the world.

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Climate Change Vehicle Wins
Best Engineering at Sculpture Derby

In the afternoon of May 18th, the Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby & Arts Festival rolled through north Philly, a celebration of community and creative spirit, the Derby followed a 3.6-mile figure-eight through Kensington and Fishtown before its attendees voted for their favorite moving sculptures in eleven categories. The Franklin Institute’s entry into this colorful motorcade, dubbed Riders on the Storm by its creators, won the Best Engineering award.

This moving sculpture was the product of the Institute’s Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP), a National Science Foundation-funded project intended to raise awareness about the impacts of escalating climate change. An old New Jersey boardwalk survery serves as the vehicle’s body, and was fitted with arching aluminum scaffolding, a bicycle chain along the roof and rear, and eighteen umbrellas. As its petals pedal the carriage forward, the umbrellas open and close based on a programmed sequence, determined by a series of rods. Staff have pedaled the sculpture at several events—it’s a whimsical and intriguing sight that serves as a conversation starter for discussions about how climate change is contributing to a hotter, wetter Philadelphia.

The Institute’s winning team included, CUSP Program Director Environmental Scientist Fatima Ellis, Sr. CUSP Program Manager Richard Johnson, and the Institute’s in-house design experts, Eric Welsh, Brian Kelly, and James Sannino. On derby day, the team pedaled the sculpture and accepted the award after successfully navigating the course—including the dreaded mud pit. Other award categories at the event included Best Art, Best Costume, and Best/Volotir Pun.

Save The Date

January 20
Current Science Lecture: Genetically Modified Organisms

February 16
Current Science Lecture: Vaccines

March 10
Awards Preview Party

March 21
The Science Behind Pixar Family Party

Thank You, Corporate Supporters!

The Franklin Institute recognizes the dedicated corporate supporters with whom it has formed strategic alliances. The support provided by the following organizations helps to make possible exciting exhibits, educational programs, and special events.

The Franklin Institute thanks the following companies for their generous annual support, showing commitment to sustaining and advancing STEM education and supporting its mission throughout the greater Philadelphia region and beyond in 2014 and 2015 to date. Those giving at the $5,000 giving level and above are:

Welcome New Trustees!

Chris McIsaac

Chris McIsaac is a managing director at Vanguard and is responsible for the company’s investment product development and oversight; government and public relations; marketing, and enterprise risk.

Mr. McIsaac began his career at Vanguard in 1997 and has served in many leadership roles during his tenure, including heading Vanguard’s Institutional Investor Group, which serves retirement plan and nonprofit clients.

Vanguard is one of the world’s largest investment management companies and is a strong supporter of The Franklin Institute, which includes a generous commitment to the Institute’s most recent capital campaign, Imagine Science.

Mr. McIsaac and his wife reside in Newtown Square with their four children.

Jane Palmieri

Jane Palmieri is the business president of Dow Building & Construction at the Dow Chemical Company. During her 19 years with Dow, she has held a variety of positions in marketing, new business development, and business operations.

Ms. Palmieri is a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Society of Women Engineers, and served as chairman of the board of trustees for the Alliance to Save Energy. Prior to joining the Institute’s Board of Trustees, Ms. Palmieri served on the Executive Corporate Board. Ms. Palmieri has been recognized for her contributions in Crain’s Detroit 40 Under 40 Award in 2005, and by Automotive News Magazine’s "100 Leading Women in Automotive." Dow is a long-time supporter of The Franklin Institute, specifically of the Awards Ceremony and Dinner and the youth leadership program partnerships for Achieving Careers in Technology and Science (PACTS). Dow has served as the Presenting Sponsor of the Philadelphia Science Festival since 2011, and is also an Associate Sponsor of the new SpaceZone exhibit. Ms. Palmieri and her husband reside in Michigan with their two sons.
Vatican Splendors Gala

1. John and Maureen Fries with family and friends
2. Rocco Martino, Clair Raubenstine, Jeanine Raubenstine, Monsignor Roberto Zagnoli, and Elise Canup
3. Bridget and Michael Subak with Joseph Grubb and spouse
4. Charles Imbesi, Patricia Imbesi, Cathie Imbesi
5. Don Morel, Julie March, Nicholas and Athera Karabots, Larry Dubinski
6. Mark Mills, Jacki and James Delaney
7. James Maguire, Sr., Frances Maguire, James Maguire, Jr.
8. Rocco and Barbara Martino, David Moore, Susan Mucciarone, Maryanne and Jerry Parsons
9. Gloria and John Drosdick with Father William Donovan
10. Paul Gallagher, Kelsey Lynch, Philippa Bradberry, Meghan Bachman, Caroline Fox
11. Brian and Maud Tierney with Sandra and David Marshall
12. John Haas, Jesse and Christina Ordinio