

The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2023 warning for Concord Town Meeting:

"Shall the Town vote the sum of \$1,235 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Concord residents?"

The Fairbanks Museum invites Concord residents to take full advantage of their unlimited free general admission to the Museum to explore the nature, beauty, and wonders of our world. Your municipal appropriation provides essential support for the care of the Museum's historic building and the maintenance and exhibition of the most extraordinary educational collections in northern New England. These are among our region's most prized assets. Each year the Museum offers new opportunities for exploration and discovery, so do come for a visit!

In 2022, we brought in more visitors and campers to the museum than ever before. Once again our outdoor classroom transformed into a butterfly house for the summer, and Franklin's Guides led the way to further discovery for our visitors. Campers learned about animals, drones, and DNA. We hosted our annual Brewfest celebrating local flavors, debuted new engaging shows and movies in our planetarium, and welcomed experts from the Caterpillar Lab for a weeklong residency. With community support, the Museum is fully engaged in community economic, educational, and cultural development initiatives and contributes significantly to the attraction of visitors to our region. Your appropriation this year will support unlimited access to our new Tang Science Annex opening in summer 2023.

The Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers of the Museum are tremendously grateful for the support, encouragement, and collaborative planning that keep our programs relevant and vital. We aim to ensure the Museum delivers services, programs, and a commitment to community development that benefit your town's residents and visitors, as well as contribute to a remarkable quality of life.

Sincerely yours,

Adam Kane, Executive Director