



BUTTERFLY PAVILION

Engaging Communities in Science & Achieving Broader Impacts at Butterfly Pavilion

We live in a time of unprecedented, accelerated change and face challenges that threaten the sustainability of our food systems, natural ecosystems, and public health. To find and implement solutions, we need a scientifically literate society that fosters collaboration among diverse audiences. Butterfly Pavilion offers a unique opportunity to engage guests in invertebrate-related research through informal education programs and exhibits.

Butterfly Pavilion has been part of the Colorado community since 1995 and is the first Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited, stand-alone, non-profit invertebrate zoo in the world. We serve over 400,000 guests annually.

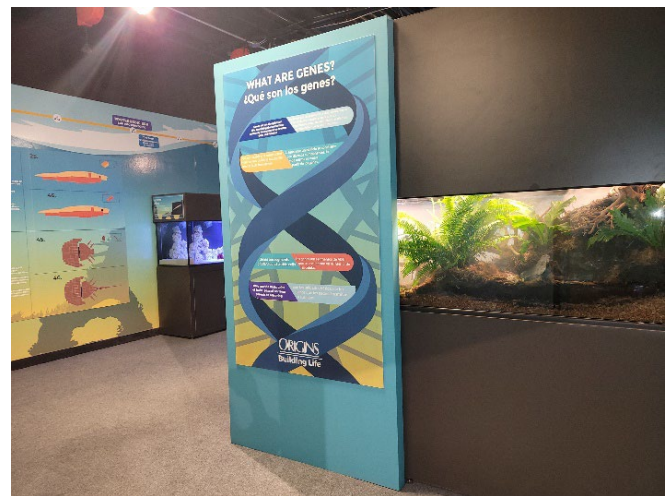
Visitor Demographics*

White (alone-not Hispanic or Latino)	57.2%
Hispanic or Latino	20.1%
Asian (alone)	4.1%
Black or African American (alone)	4.0%
Two or more races	2.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native (alone)	1.3%
Unknown	12%

**Estimates based on US Census Data for visitors with known county of residence.*

A third all of zoo visitors and students served are from low-income households.

EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Origins: Building Life - An exhibit featuring a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded research project completed by Daniel Meulemans Medeiros, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the University of Colorado (CU) Boulder.

As a sub-recipient of the NSF grant, Butterfly Pavilion enabled CU faculty to share their research directly with the public. Live animal displays and interpretive signage effectively communicate complex concepts such as genomes and the evolution of genetic diversity. Holograms bring ancient creatures found in the fossil record to life.



Corals In Crisis

Butterfly Pavilion, in partnership with AZA's Florida Reef Tract Rescue Project, houses rescued corals to maintain the genetic diversity necessary for wild coral restoration efforts. As one of 20 partner organizations, Butterfly Pavilion is the only partner that publicly exhibits rescued coral, allowing visitors an opportunity to view this conservation project in action.



Pollinator Education Trunks in Mongolia

Butterfly Pavilion is working with the Mongolian Academy of Science to develop an outreach curriculum, an interactive digital storybook, and hands-on materials for Mongolian teachers and students in grades 6 – 9. This educational project compliments our ongoing research project to understand and conserve endangered *Parnassius* butterflies in Mongolia. The goal is to engage families in stewardship activities to protect invertebrates and their habitats.

Engaging Latino Communities

In 2023, Butterfly Pavilion launched an initiative to create inclusive and authentic science experiences for Latino youth and families. Our interdisciplinary team leads efforts to integrate culturally relevant and accessible programming across the organization.



Monarch Magic

With several Latino community partners, Butterfly Pavilion celebrated monarchs, their multigenerational migration, and cultural connections. *Monarch Magic* included an exhibit, a community altar for Día de los Muertos, and a series of bilingual programs throughout November.

Collaborating with Butterfly Pavilion

Butterfly Pavilion advances scientific knowledge, fosters conservation efforts, and inspires youth to pursue STEM careers. We help researchers achieve broader impacts and socially relevant outcomes for NSF projects through:

- Exhibits & Interpretive Displays
- School & Youth Programming
- Adult Classes & Workshops
- Outreach Materials & Campaigns
- Community Science Projects
- Special Events
- International Research & Conservation Projects

For more information, please contact:

Susan Crick, Sr. Grants Manager
scrick@butterflies.org | 720-375-9980