New Fall Programming at OMSI
Inspiring students and supporting educators across Oregon during a global pandemic

OMSI is announcing a new suite of programming designed to support K-8 students, caregivers, and teachers during this fall. The programming will work to alleviate some of the impacts of all Portland Metro public schools moving to remote education for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

Remote, computer-based learning limits the spread of COVID-19; however it also increases inequities for underserved communities, single-parent households, and economically and socially disadvantaged families.

Drawing on our recent experiences providing emergency childcare to essential workers and STEAM summer camps, we will provide engaging programs and work to bolster at-risk students who are in the greatest need of our support while prioritizing the health and safety of the campers in our care.

OMSI Homeroom

OMSI will welcome 120 students per week to the museum for in-person, daily online learning support and supplemental STEAM enrichment. Offered in classes of no more than 10 per educator, OMSI will provide a peer-to-peer learning environment and implement rigorous safety protocols.

After supporting completion of daily school work, OMSI educators will inspire and engage students with fun science labs, experiments, and collaborative design challenges that ignite imaginations and build problem solving skills.

OMSI Homeroom will be offered for free or at reduced-rates for families in need, pending our ability to secure underwriting support. We will work with local schools, teachers, counselors, and the SUN School system to reach the students most in need of our support.

$377,000 needed for 80 students for 16 weeks.

Suggested Supporting Levels

$295 - 1 student for 1 week
$1,200 - 1 student for 1 month
$4,800 - 1 student for 16 weeks
$48,000 - 1 class of 10 for 16 weeks
OMSI Virtual Outreach

Across the region, teachers in virtual classrooms and caregivers homeschooling their children will benefit from OMSI’s trusted outreach programs that have been adapted into new virtual formats. Fun and engaging OMSI experiences aligned to curriculum and content standards will infuse inspiration and excitement into the day—no matter where a student lives.

Virtual Classrooms and Assemblies

Classes of up to 30 enjoy an hour-long virtual lab program taught by OMSI. Students make observations and ask questions, and use multimedia tools to explore a variety of science topics.

$12,500 needed for 100 classes across Oregon

Larger assemblies of up to 100 enjoy virtual science experiments and explosive demonstrations by OMSI educators. Each 45-minute program is followed by a live, Q&A.

$22,500 needed for 100 assemblies across Oregon.

OMSI Kids Online

Kids and caregivers from anywhere can log on and enjoy OMSI’s free virtual science education resources. Posted daily across OMSI’s social media platforms and on our website, kids will conduct at-home science experiments and explore weekly themes through OMSI curated content.

Career connections will feature diverse STEAM professionals, inspiring kids from all backgrounds to see themselves as future scientists.

$100,000 needed for 16 weeks of daily programming

With Your Support

Thanks to generous emergency relief funding from key donors and partners like you and by careful but extensive cost cuts, OMSI has been able to continue to deliver on our mission and serve the community throughout the pandemic.

Now you can help further by underwriting this critical Fall Programming, ensuring that OMSI’s inspiring educational experiences are accessible for those who need it most.

Funding Needed

OMSI Homeroom $377,000
Virtual Programs

Virtual Assembly $22,500
Virtual Classrooms $12,500
OMSI Kids Online $100,000
Total $512,000