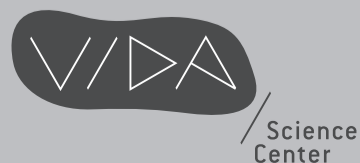


WELCOME IN VIDA

DISCOVER VIDA EXPERIENCE

November 2014
Information Brochure



Science centers or science centres are
science museums that emphasize a hands-on
approach, featuring interactive exhibits that
encourage visitors to experiment and explore.
The first science center was Urania founded in
Berlin in 1888.

The Academy of Science of Saint
Louis (founded in 1856) created
the Saint Louis Museum of Science
and Natural History in 1959 (Saint
Louis Science Center), but generally
science centers are a product of the
1960s and later.

The first "science center" in the
United States was the Science Center
of Pinellas County, founded in 1959.
The Pacific Science Center (one
of the first to call itself a "science
center" rather than a museum)
opened in a Seattle World's Fair
building in 1962.

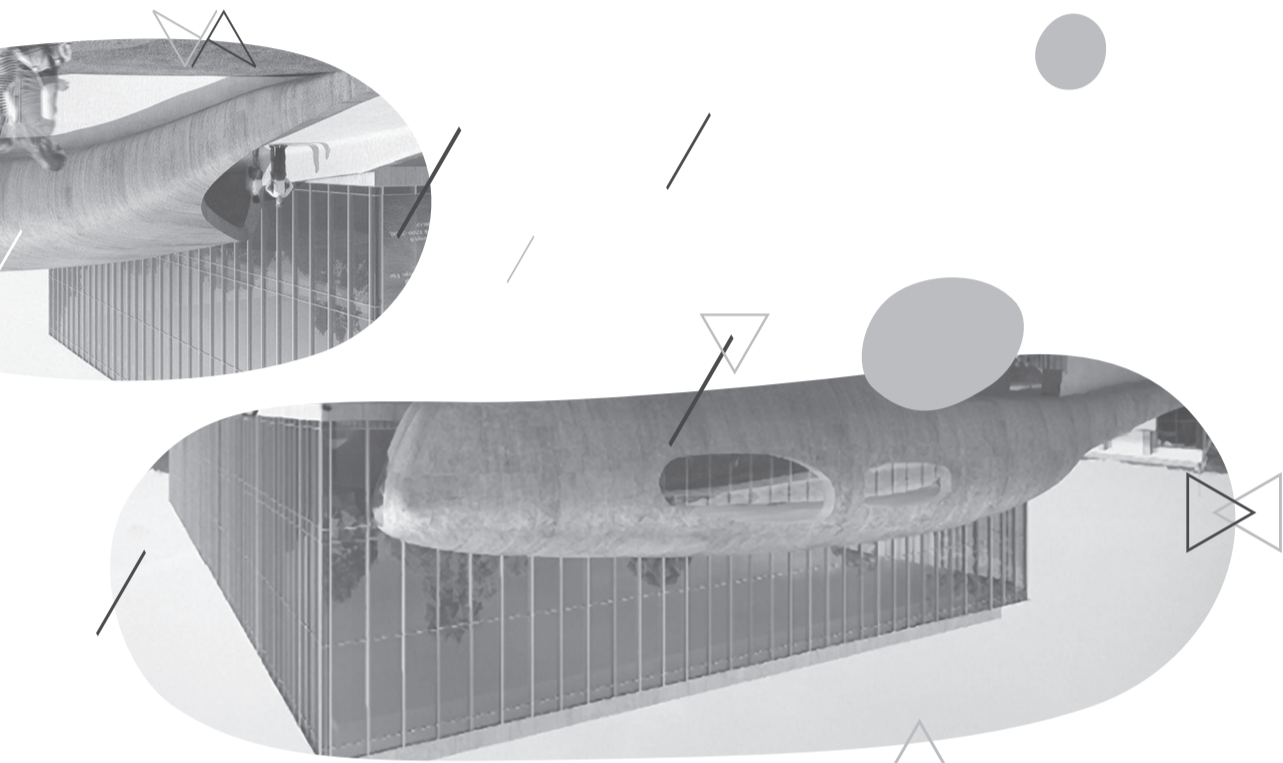
The Smithsonian Institution invited
visitors into a new Discovery Room
in its National Museum of Natural
History in Washington, DC, where they
could touch and handle formerly
off-limits specimens.

In 1969, Oppenheimer's Exploratorium
opened in San Francisco, California,
and the Ontario Science Centre
opened near Toronto, Canada.

By the early 1970s, COSI Columbus,
then known as the Center of Science
and Industry in Columbus, Ohio, had
run its first "camp-in." It did not take
long for these new-style museums
to band together for mutual support.

In 1971, 16 museum directors gathered
to discuss the possibility of starting
a new association — one more
specifically tailored to their needs
than the existing American Association
of Museums (now the American
Alliance of Museums).

The Association of Science-
Technology Centers (ASTC)
was formally established in 1973.
The corresponding European
organization is ECSITE.



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