



SOS Users Collaborative Network



Growing Presence of Science On a Sphere®

Science On a Sphere® (SOS) is an animated 68 inch-diameter globe designed to show dynamic images and data of the atmosphere, ocean, or surface of a planet or moon. Current global processes are visualized and displayed on Science On a Sphere® making this tool a flexible and visually stunning exhibit of real Earth systems science data.

Museums, zoos, aquariums, and science centers throughout the United States are creating exhibits featuring SOS (see the list of current installations on adjacent side). SOS exhibits reach over 11 million viewers per year. NOAA's Office of Education (OEd) has provided over \$3.7 million in funding to develop such exhibits and to create dynamic content for SOS and other spherical display systems. Visit http://www.oed.noaa.gov/funding_opps.html for future funding announcements.



A Group Effort



NOAA's partnership with the informal science education institutions that display SOS helps to advance some of NOAA's informal science education objectives, which are: (1) to improve the understanding of how spherical display systems can be used to enhance informal science education learning, and, (2) to build environmental literacy among the general public through increased use of NOAA data and NOAA-related data in informal education institutions.

To keep the groups involved in the SOS education program working together and focused on these goals, OEd has formed the **SOS Users Collaborative Network**. This network consists of institutions that have Science On a Sphere® installed (or in the process of being installed) as part of a public exhibit, or are currently working with these institutions to support the development and application of the technology.

The institutions involved in the network meet in person and over the phone to discuss the SOS system and software, creation and cataloging of content, related exhibitions, new methods for delivering content via SOS, and many other issues relevant to this effort. OEd is also involving the network in a major initiative to assess the education impact of SOS exhibits. By working together the network members are advancing their collective ability to teach science with SOS.

Members of SOS User's Collaborative Network



The following groups are members of the SOS User's Collaborative network featuring an exhibit of Science On a Sphere® as of March 2009.

- Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI
- Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, Dayton, OH
- Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, Strasbourg, France
- Climate Institute, Puebla, Mexico
- Fiske Planetarium and Science Center of Colorado University, Boulder, CO
- Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena, MI
- Gwacheon National Science Museum, Gwacheon, Republic of Korea
- Imiloa, Astronomy Center of Hawaii, Hilo, HI
- International Museum of Art And Science, McAllen, TX
- James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
- Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley, CA
- McWane Science Center, Birmingham, AL
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD
- NASA StennisSpace Visitor's Center, Stennis Space Center, MS*
- NASA Visitor Center, Wallops Island, VA
- National Museum Of Natural Science, Taichung, Taiwan
- National Museum of Surveying, Springfield, IL
- Nauticus, Norfolk, VA
- NOAA Earth System Research Lab, Boulder, CO
- NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, OK
- North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island, Manteo, NC
- Ocean Explorium at New Bedford Seaport, New Bedford, MA
- Orlando Science Center, Orlando, Florida
- Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC
- Smithsonian National Zoological Park, Washington, DC
- Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute (NMFS), Juneau, AK
- The Clark Planetarium, Salt Lake City, UT
- The Climate Factory, Holeby, Denmark
- The Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD
- The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL
- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, CO
- The Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN
- The Tech Museum of Innovation, San Jose, CA
- Whitaker Center for Science & Arts, Harrisburg, PA
- Wildlife Experience, Greenwood Village, CO

*Science On a Sphere® installations pending

The following groups are part of the network but do not feature an exhibit of Science On a Sphere® as of 2008.

- American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY *(as part of a travelling exhibit)*
<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/water/>
- Hampton University, Hampton, VA
- Institute for Learning Innovation, Edgewater, MD
- NOAA Pacific Services Center, Honolulu, HI
- NOAA Environmental Visualization Program, Silver Spring, MD
- NOAA Office of Education, Washington, DC
- Space Science and Engineering Center of University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- Hatfield Marine Science Visitors Center, Oregon State University, Newport, OR

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