



Biogen Idec Foundation Awards \$1 Million to Museum of Science to Support Stem Education in Massachusetts

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BOSTON--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--The [Biogen Idec Foundation](#) (NASDAQ: BIIB) has awarded the Museum of Science, Boston a \$1 million grant to support interactive science education and outreach programs for middle and high school students across the state. The grant is the largest single grant awarded by the Biogen Idec Foundation to any organization in Massachusetts.

The grant establishes an endowed fund, "The Biogen Idec Foundation Science Education Fund," which will provide a steady stream of support to run in perpetuity. The gift will be paid out over a five-year term beginning in 2012. The Fund will support programs that engage middle-school and high-school students in activities that foster interest and learning in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), and that also have the potential to work with those of [Biogen Idec's Community Lab](#).

Programs enhanced and supported will include those with hands-on experience in scientific inquiry and encourage students' interests in STEM careers, such as:

- The High School Lecture Series, which brings students together with science career speakers, creating learning opportunities around a programmatic theme. Approximately 2,000 students, teachers and chaperones participate annually.
- The Traveling Programs Initiative, which brings STEM activities to schools and community centers throughout New England. Traveling programs are linked to Massachusetts curriculum standards and offer high-quality enrichment experiences that are engaging and effective without the high costs of transportation. Last year, the initiative reached nearly 97,000 people through approximately 1,900 programs.

Consistent with the Biogen Idec Foundation's and Museum's long-standing commitment to access for all, the fund will support programs that engage students from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

"The Biogen Idec Foundation and Museum of Science share a commitment to support STEM education in our schools through innovative programming and leveraging our scientific expertise," said Tony Kingsley, Chairman, Biogen Idec Foundation. "Through establishing a permanent Fund with the Museum, we hope to inspire a lifelong love of science in current and future generations of New England students."

"This generous grant from the Biogen Idec Foundation enables us to enhance educational programs that inspire students to understand both the natural and human made worlds," said Ioannis (Yannis) Miaoulis, president and director, Museum of Science, Boston. "The Museum and the Biogen Idec Foundation will also provide students with hands-on experiences that strengthen their interest in STEM subjects and careers. This endowment is especially important, as it provides the Museum with a reliable income source in perpetuity that enables us to implement and achieve far-reaching goals."

The Biogen Idec Foundation grant brings the Museum of Science Campaign total to \$192 million toward its goal of reaching \$250 million by 2015. Additional Campaign funding priorities include development of three new major exhibits, facilities upgrades to improve Museum amenities and sustainability practices and expansion of the Museum's pre-K-12 engineering curricula programs.

About The Biogen Idec Foundation, Inc.

The Biogen Idec Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of peoples' lives and contribute to the vitality of the communities in which the company operates, with a special emphasis on innovative ways to promote science literacy and encourage young people to consider science careers. Additional information about the Biogen Idec Foundation can be found at www.biogenidec.com/citizenship_biogen_idec_foundation.html.

About Biogen Idec

Through cutting-edge science and medicine, Biogen Idec discovers, develops and delivers to patients worldwide innovative therapies for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases, hemophilia and autoimmune disorders. Founded in 1978, Biogen Idec is the world's oldest independent biotechnology company. Patients worldwide benefit from its leading multiple sclerosis therapies, and the company generates more than \$5 billion in annual revenues. For product labeling, press releases and additional information about the company, please visit www.biogenidec.com.

About the Museum of Science, Boston

One of the world's largest science centers and New England's most attended cultural institution, the Museum introduces over 1.5 million visitors a year to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) via dynamic programs and hundreds of interactive exhibits. Founded in 1830, the Museum was first to embrace all the sciences under one roof. Highlights include the Thomson Theater of Electricity, Charles Hayden Planetarium, Mugar Omni Theater, Gordon Current Science & Technology Center, 3-D Digital Cinema and Butterfly Garden. Reaching 25,000 teens a year worldwide via the Intel Computer Clubhouse Network, the Museum also leads a 10-year, \$41 million National Science Foundation-funded Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network™ of science museums. The Museum's "Science Is an Activity" exhibit plan has been awarded many NSF grants and influenced science centers worldwide. Its National Center for Technological Literacy®'s engineering curricula have reached 40,600 teachers and close to 3 million students nationwide. Visit www.mos.org.

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