

Portland

Zoo, OMSI offer fun and education

Zoo

"Something tells me it's all happening at the zoo..."

Oregon's zoo is located in Portland. It claims to be the "elephant capital of America," and has a "beautiful penguinarium," a "fabulous zoo railway," and sports a children's zoo and a special performance theater.

But more than its self-proclaimed assets, the zoo also offers regular zoo-type things: a good place to walk around in, all kinds of animals to talk to, watch and feed and lots of zoo-type food.

It costs 75 cents to get into the zoo. Children 6 through 15 are admitted for 35 cents and children 6 and under are admitted free.

The zoo is open every day of the year except Christmas, from 10 a.m. until dusk.

OMSI

On Sept. 29, 1896, John Cyprian Stevens foretold the future of OMSI—the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

"Oregon needs a museum for consultations. Your children need such a museum as one of the educational advantages to which they are entitled.

"Will you not put your shoulder to the wheel and establish the nucleus of a collection that will someday be the pride of Oregon?"

Oregonians did, and OMSI, with its main branch located in Portland, is the result of contributed efforts—money, materials and services—and has never been supported by tax money.

Self-defined as "an entertaining and educational living science museum," OMSI is open during the fall, winter and spring seven days a week. Admission for adults is \$1, for students, 50 cents, and for senior citizens (65 and over), 50 cents. OMSI members are admitted free.

OMSI's major exhibits are:
—Hall of Electricity. A series of viewer-operated exhibits explains the scientific principles of electricity. Frequently, lecture-demonstrations are held in the hall.

—Aerospace Hall. Persons can view a Gemini space vehicle, exhibits from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other displays on aerospace science.

—Lon Hancock Memorial Hall. Persons can see "the outstanding collection of Oregon Eocene fossils in the nation," plus a *Miomastodon* skull nearly six feet in length.

—Max Lehmann Memorial Agricultural Hall. Exhibits in the hall are designed to tell the story of modern scientific agriculture, including a full-size mechanical cow, operating beehive, and hatching chicks.

—The S.S. Sam Diack. Persons can handle all the equipment of this ship's bridge, as they take an imaginary ocean trip.

—Walk-in Heart. It is 14 feet high and 22 feet long, telling how the human heart works and peripheral displays further demonstrate the function of the circulatory system.

—Transparent Lady. It is a show, done at regular intervals, telling how the human body works. Each organ and system in her body lights up for persons to see it and hear its function.

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—Fluidica. A series of 22 exhibits on fluid mechanics, each one clearly demonstrates a basic principle of the science.

—Harry C. Kendall Planetarium. Persons can see "star shows" in the nation's newest planetarium. New programs are produced every three months. Planetarium shows happen every day, and an additional admission is charged.

OMSI has a smaller branch here in Eugene, located at 27 E. 5th.

The Eugene museum is the southwestern branch of OMSI and features two Burlington Northern railroad cars and the planetarium that was in Portland before the new exhibit was built.



Hungry zoo giraffe.

Photo by Phil Waldstein

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