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***DID YOU KNOW?***

***“FIRSTS” and amazing facts about the New York Hall of Science***

...*Easy View Microscope*® was *first* introduced and tested at the New York Hall of Science. It gives individuals an effortless way to view microbes and is now used in museums and science centers world-wide.

...*Technology Gallery*, with a bank of computers hooked into the World Wide Web, made the New York Hall of Science the *first* New York City museum offering visitors free, unlimited on-line connections to the Internet.

...*Realm of the Atom* exhibition features the world's *first* three-dimensional working model of a hydrogen atom.

...*SoundSensations--The Inside Story of Audio* exhibition introduced the nation's *first* call-in science exhibit. By dialing (718) MY-WORDS, callers electronically transform the sound of their voices by pressing the buttons on their touch-tone phones.

...*Science Career Ladder* has been frequently replicated as a *national model* for recruiting, training and employing high school and college-age students in preparation for teaching and science careers. Over 65% of the program's graduates have gone on to careers in teaching, science and technology or museum work.

...The *Great Hall* of the New York Hall of Science is the *largest* "dalle de verre" installation (French for wall of glass) in the world.

...*Teacher training/equipment rental* program reaches more than 200,000 students each year by providing teachers with training and updating in fundamental sciences. It is the *first* inexpensive and self-supporting program to deliver high-tech science equipment right into the classrooms.

The New York Hall of Science has attracted national and international attention as a *leading innovator in exhibit technology and education programming*. The New York Hall of Science is New York City's hands-on science and technology museum, featuring the City's largest collection of interactive exhibits.

In April 1996, the New York Hall of Science opened the doors to its new *\$13 million expansion*, doubling its museum space and introducing exciting new exhibitions to the public.

(more)

In June 1997, the New York Hall of Science unveiled its award-winning, 30,000-square-foot outdoor Science Playground. *As the largest Science Playground in the Western Hemisphere*, the Science Playground fosters a better relationship with science through personal discovery and participation.

In October 1999, *Marvelous Molecules* opened as the *first* exhibition exploring the shared chemistry of all living things. This hands-on permanent exhibition lets visitors of all ages discover the tiny matter that makes up our world – and even ourselves! How are you like an elephant? Where is the hottest spot on your body? Jump in front of the infrared camera to find out. See what DNA looks like, and more.

In May 2000, the New York Hall of Science collaborated with IBM and more than 400 member institutions of the Association of Science-Technology Centers to create TryScience. Log onto [www.tryscience.org](http://www.tryscience.org) to discover the *first* worldwide science and technology center on the Internet. With only the click of a mouse, children can explore fun exhibitions from around the globe – from Munich, Germany, to as close as the Hall!

In January 2001, the *Pfizer Foundation Biochemistry Discovery Lab* was opened to become the *first* hands-on lab in the world that is open to the public and devoted entirely to biochemistry, the chemistry of living things. Families can measure, mix and mash to answer questions – from how bees communicate to how cheese is made.

In April 2003, the Science Playground expanded. The Science Playground, previously only accessible for children over six years, became available for children of all ages. Improvements and the addition of the new Preschool Spider Web have made the Science Playground suitable for all children. The Science Playground introduces simple machines and physics through the use of fun and interactive exhibits that may leave you quite wet. Parents and children can explore the laws of physics while shooting down a slide or climbing up a giant spider web.

In October 2003, the Titan-Gemini and the Atlas-Mercury rockets came back from being restored in Ohio. The 110-foot-high *Titan II* and the 102-foot-high *Atlas* join a Mercury climb-in capsule, a water rocket launch, and a full-size Saturn engine in the renovated Rocket Park.

In November 2004, the Hall doubled its size with the addition of the North Wing, a 55,000-square-foot, \$92 million addition designed by Polshek Partners Architects. The North Wing includes an expanded preschool center, a teaching center, and new exhibits ranging from extraterrestrial life to the science of sports.

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