
Activity of the Osaka Science Museum

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Osaka Science Museum is the oldest science museum in Japan. Genres are dealing with this museum is in astronomy, physics, chemistry, history of science. Osaka Science Museum have two faces, science-center and science museum. Facilities and equipment of the Osaka Science Museum is a medium-sized, but the number of users per year more than 700000 citizens and, comparable to a large museum. And the number of users increased in recent years. The increasing user caused from the specific character of activities.

Our activities based on citizens themselves enjoy science. And aim citizens tell you how to enjoy. Therefore, we see the enjoyment of science itself have designed activities. As a result, much citizens use the Museum daily basis.

1. Introduction

Osaka Science Museum (Fig. 1) was opened in 1989. Its predecessor Osaka Electric Science Museum opened in 1937 the first Science Museum and Planetarium in Japan.

Osaka Science Museum is located in mega cities of Japan, has the large 318



Fig. 1 Exterior of Osaka Science Museum

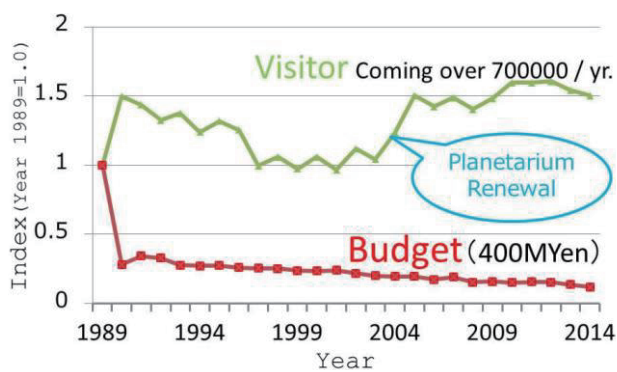


Fig. 2 Transition the number of visitor and budget from Osaka city Government of Osaka Science Museum. Planetarium Renewal is a topic



Fig. 3 and **Fig. 4** Hands-On exhibitions at Osaka Science Museum. Almost of item are simple and easy to use.



Fig. 5 Collections display, rare books, old telescopes, and solar system models



Fig. 6 Almost of planetarium are live show by scientist.

seats planetarium, and 3000 m² exhibition hall. A number of staff is 50 and educator/curator is only 11 included in.

For recent years, number of visitors of the museum is over 700,000. And trend of it increasing (Fig.2). The fact don't causes by a budget. At Fig.2 display budget from the Osaka City Government has been declining. Citizens attract by activities of the museum.

2. Policy of the Osaka Science Museum

Activity of the Osaka Science Museum is did under the policy that “Raising a culture that the citizens enjoy science”. It mean not only citizens enjoy at the Museum, but enjoy at home, workplace, community and everywhere.

Then almost of our activities are not black-box and no needs to special facility. It is easy to bring back home or so. And in our activity, we do with many citizens, volunteers, science fun club, other museum, schools, commercial facilities or so.

These “spread of science enjoy” will cause that, visitors to users, users to members. We believe that, visitors are coming the museum at once, users are coming yearly or every season, members are coming daily basis.



Fig. 7 and 8. large audience outreach with school teachers and commercial company, newspaper company. Special event at department store.



Fig. 9 Over 5000 citizens gathering our museum, and look solar eclipse.



Fig. 10 and 11. Club's activity. Make a small telescope. Solar eclipse travel. The flag is club's symbol.

I'll display specific character of activity.

3. Activity of the Osaka Science Museum

3.1. Exhibition Hall

Middle size hall 3000 m² at 4th floors for 350000 visitors/yr. We cannot display some travel exhibition, then all exhibitions are permanent. It's a specific character of our exhibition hall.

We have over 200 items, a half are Hands-on (Fig. 3 and 4) and other Collection Items (Fig. 5).



Fig. 12 Volunteer training at magnetism.

In many museum, travel exhibition uses to attract many visitors. On the other hand, may not be wanted their travel exhibition, attracting budget consuming and exhibits. Sometimes contents of the exhibition becomes a black box. Can't we do not deny the appeal of travel exhibition not to suffer. Or when want to held the travel exhibition, we will off the permanent exhibition has done or with the venue nearby.

3.2. Planetarium

Big size 26.5 m Dome 318 seats planetarium for 350000 visitors /yr. It renewal at 2004 mainly install fulldome facility. It easy to buy package programs, but almost of shows are original made.

And a half are Live show and a half are Live with fulldome show. Our live show by scientist (Fig. 6).

And then, our original shows making policy are, "introduce to Science" and "introduce to real sky. We spend 60% duration in show display "tonight sky".

Other 40% duration season theme are for example...

- Rosetta and Comet
- Milky way Science
- Voyager and Solar system
- Aurorae
- Big-Bang and Cosmic Calendar
- Active SETI
- HAYABUSA2 and Asteroid
- Southern Cross Sky

3.3. Popularization Event

We held large audience event outreach (Fig. 7 and 8) and small, less than 1000, audience in-house (except star party Fig. 9).

3.4. Publishing

We publish many original and cheap (1 to 5 dollars) books. Almost of text are write by museum staff and citizens. Books are easy to buy, easy to read, easy to question.

3.5. Club and Volunteer

There is Independent museum club. The club member are 1000. And almost of activity designed by member themselves(Fig. 10 and 11). The museum support the activity.

At the museum, many volunteer work and sometimes work at outreach (Fig. 12).

4. Conclusion

Many citizens gathering to Osaka Science Museum. It's not attract some high value contents, but attract by activity. Our activities are almost original and easy to doing by citizens.

Osaka Science Museum will growth with citizens.

Not Buy culture, we create culture with citizens.