Science Center of Iowa

Des Moines, Iowa

Images courtesy of the Science Center of Iowa

The Science Center of Iowa is a new 120,190 square-foot facility in downtown Des Moines. Devoted to skill development and lifelong learning, the Center offers dynamic exhibit experiences, an IMAX® Dome Theater, the Iowa Learning Center, a Science Adventure Theater for live performances and SCI's renowned preschool for early childhood learning.

Opened in 2005, SCI is designed as a "flexible museum," their name for a Delta approach to change. The design of the experience platforms is focused on changeable scenarios. By separating the scenario layer from its long-term fixed platform, SCI is in a position to make future changes easily and economically.

Client: Science Center of Iowa Capital Budget: \$62 million Architect: Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects White Oak's Role: Executive Producer, Strategic Master Plan and Room Book.





White Oak was the Program Manager/Executive Producer for all exhibits and theaters in the new SCI. This assignment grew out of our work on SCI's Community Needs Assessment, Strategic Master Plan and its Room Book, defining the architectural program.

