

# MINNESOTA MUSEUMS MONTH



## MINNESOTA MUSEUM FACTS

Museums are essential contributors to the vibrancy of communities throughout Minnesota. They are vital institutions that entertain, educate, and preserve.

### MANY MUSEUMS, STATEWIDE REACH

There are more than 600 museums in Minnesota, twice the national average. That is 1 for every 8,000 residents. In fact, every county in Minnesota has at least one museum. The Twin Cities alone have more than 50!

### MANY VISITORS

Minnesota museums attracted an estimated 14 million visitors in 2011 compared to 5.9 million visitors to Twins, Lynx, Timberwolves, and Wild events combined that same year.

### HERITAGE KEEPERS

Over 60% of all museums in the state are foremost history museums, and historic houses comprised another 10%. Nearly a quarter of all museums listed “Library/Archive” as an important secondary function.

### TOURISM

About 12% of all museum visitors were tourists, traveling from more than 50 miles to visit museums. Tourists visiting museums contributed \$53 million to the state’s economy.

### ECONOMIC FORCE

In 2011, Minnesota’s museums directly infused \$337 million in spending into Minnesota’s economy. The indirect impact resulting from museum wages and spending contributed to \$690 million to the state’s economy.

### MUSEUMS EMPLOY MINNESOTANS

Museums in our state directly employ an estimated 1,700 full- and part-time workers, paying \$80 million in wages. Yet museums do more with less; the average museum in Minnesota has just two paid staff.

### VOLUNTEERISM

Nearly a third of museums in Minnesota are operated by volunteers alone. In total, volunteers in Minnesota’s museums contribute an estimated 1.1 million hours of work to our state’s cultural life.