

# MINNESOTA MUSEUMS MONTH



## MINNESOTA MUSEUM FACTS

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

### **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.

### **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 history museums, and historic houses comprise another 10%. Nearly a quarter of all museums also function as a library or archive.

### **TOURISM**

About 12% of all museum visitors in 2011 were tourists, traveling from more than 50 miles to visit museums. Tourists visiting museums contributed \$53 million to the state's economy.

### **ECONOMIC FORCE**

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

### **MUSEUMS EMPLOY MINNESOTANS**

1,700 full- and part-time workers are employed by museums in our state. 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.