

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE RECEIVES HIGHEST
NATIONAL MUSEUM RECOGNITION
Awarded Re-Accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums**

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (March 22, 2023) – The [Museum of Discovery and Science \(MODS\)](#) has been reaccredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the highest national recognition afforded to the nation’s museums. Accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, to governments, funders, outside agencies, and to the museum-going public. MODS has been accredited by AAM for the past three decades.

“We are thrilled to be recognized with this mark of distinction by our peers in the museum field, which validates the high caliber of MODS’ operations and community impact,” said **Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO of MODS**. “This reaccreditation is emblematic of the excellent work and dedication of the Museum’s board, staff, members and volunteers to connect people to inspiring science.”

AAM accreditation brings national recognition to a museum for its commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards and continued institutional improvement. Developed and sustained by museum professionals for 50 years, the Alliance’s museum accreditation program is the field’s primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation and public accountability. It strengthens the museum profession by promoting practices that enable leaders to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and remain financially and ethically accountable in order to provide the best possible service to the public.

Of the nation’s estimated 33,000 museums only 1,103 are currently accredited. MODS is one of only 3% of the nation’s science museums accredited.

All museums must undergo a reaccreditation review at least every 10 years to maintain accredited status. Accreditation is a very rigorous but highly rewarding process that examines all aspects of a museum’s operations. To earn accreditation, a museum must first conduct a year of self-study, then undergo a site visit by a team of peer reviewers. AAM’s Accreditation Commission, an independent and autonomous body of museum professionals, considers the self-study and visiting committee report to determine whether a museum should receive accreditation.

“Accredited museums are a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence,” said **Laura L. Lott, Alliance President and CEO**.

“Accreditation is clearly a significant achievement, of which both the institutions and the communities they serve can be extremely proud.”

###

ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE:

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation, and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science, providing STEM education and cultural experiences for 450,000+ visitors annually in the 150,00 sq. ft facility. MODS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for three decades (only 3% of science museums are accredited for excellence and leadership in the field). In the past year, MODS has added to that distinction by being named *Broward’s Hub for Resilience Education* by the Board of the Community Foundation of Broward. The Museum was selected by the LEGO® Foundation as one of only 12 museums nationwide to join the *Playful Learning Museum Network* and was selected as one of 15 finalists for the prestigious *2022 IMLS National Medal for Museum Service*.

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the museum, please visit mods.org or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

Like us or follow us on social media:

Facebook: facebook.com/modsftl

Twitter: twitter.com/modsftl

Instagram: instagram.com/modsftl

ABOUT THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE OF MUSEUMS:

The American Alliance of Museums has been bringing museums together since 1906, helping to develop standards and best practices, gathering and sharing knowledge, and providing advocacy on issues of concern to the entire museum community. Representing more than 35,000 individual museum professionals and volunteers, institutions, and corporate partners serving the museum field, the Alliance stands for the broad scope of the museum community. For more information, visit aam-us.org.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Kip Hunter Marketing | 305.803.9177

Rachel Sudack /201.841.2500/ rachel@kiphuntermarketing.com

Nicole Lewis/ 305.803.9177/ nicole@kiphuntermarketing.com

Museum of Discovery and Science | 954.713.0901

Andi Fuentes // andrea.fuentes@mods.org