COMMUNITY DESIGN LAB

1 vision

Doing science is in the Adler's DNA. For 85 years, the museum has been inspiring people to understand and explore the Universe. With the opening of the Community Design Lab, Adler guests are provided a collaborative space to be curious, test new ideas, and think about science—and the Adler—in new ways.



14 IIT students

Students from the Illinois Institute of Technology's Interprofessional Projects Program (IPRO) class spent 2 semesters conducting research and developing initial prototype programs for the Community Design Lab.



42 days of construction

Adler exhibit developers, designers, technicians, and program experts collaborated to complete Community Design Lab construction in less than 2 months.





1933 World's Fair

Zeiss Projector

Optical Shop

85 years of doing science

Adler exhibit developers and Collections staff combed through the archives to find nearly 50 images that represent the museum's 85-year history of doing science with guests and the community. These images are now on display in the new space.



12,000 yards of duct tape

The Community Design Lab is a place for creative, collaborative problem solving, engineering, and hacking. The space is stocked with 12,000 yards of duct tape, 10,000 popsicle sticks, hundreds of cardboard sheets, balloons, shaving cream, rubber bands, and more!