

2026 Annual Accountability Report

State Museum Commission

Agency Code: H950

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South Carolina State Museum Commission

Accountability Report FY 2025-2026

The South Carolina State Museum (SCSM) serves as the state's flagship multidisciplinary institution dedicated to preserving and sharing the rich culture, art, history, natural wonders, and scientific innovations of the Palmetto State. The Museum aims to inspire curiosity, foster lifelong learning, and grow community through world-class exhibitions, trailblazing educational programs, and the stewardship of over 1.1 million objects and specimens. During the 2025–26 fiscal year, the SCSM focused on expanding statewide educational outreach, enhancing visitor experience and accessibility, and leveraging state resources to maximize public impact and economic value.

Highlights from this fiscal year include:

- Opening of *American Battleground: South Carolina's Revolution* in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the nation.
- Over 37,000 students reached through field trips, up from 36,000 in FY25.
- Welcoming 129,396 ticketed guests, while generating $736,990 in admissions revenue. This was a 5% increase from FY25.
- Acquisition of "Big Percy" – the Guinness World Record holder for Largest Sweetgrass Basket by Gullah Geechee artist Corey Alston.
- Re-opening the Lipscomb Art Gallery to the public after two years of extensive renovations, highlighted by the new exhibition, *From The Vault: Art from the Museum's Collection*.
- 7,977 images of objects added to the online collections database, making the state's collections available around the world.
- 35 acquisitions that included 169 objects across the Art, Cultural History, Natural History and Science and Technology disciplines.
- Hosting *Heroes and Villains: the Art of the Disney Costume* blockbuster which brought the highest revenue generation from a blockbuster exhibition since 2011.
- Securing over 1,900 pieces of press about the Museum in the news media for FY26.
- Generating record-setting revenue from the special events and museum rentals department, up 68% from last FY: $380,649 in FY26, $226,208 in FY25.
- Hosting 70 public programs including Salute to 250 Day during Carolina Day weekend, Harvesting Heritage, Flock Fest, plus many talks with curators, authors, and artists.
- Over 3,500 volunteer hours donated to the Museum. (With the average volunteer hour in South Carolina valued at $32.69 per hour, this time represents a contribution of $116,762.47 to the Museum.)
- 100% part time staff return rate following their break in service.
- The formal launch of the *Reimagine the Experience* renovation project in public-facing spaces of the Museum.

These achievements reflect a transformative year of growth, fiscal responsibility, and community engagement for the South Carolina State Museum. By expanding educational access, launching critical gallery renovations, securing major acquisitions, and driving record revenue, the SCSM continues to maximize the public value of state resources.



Science demonstration by SCSM Education staff during Teacher Appreciation Day.



SCSM Collections staff with the c. 1776 flag of the 2nd SC Regiment on its return to the Museum after conservation work at the Smithsonian.



Museum Commission Chair John F. McCabe, Governor Henry McMaster, and Superintendent of Education Ellen Weaver celebrate the opening of the new Revolutionary War exhibition.

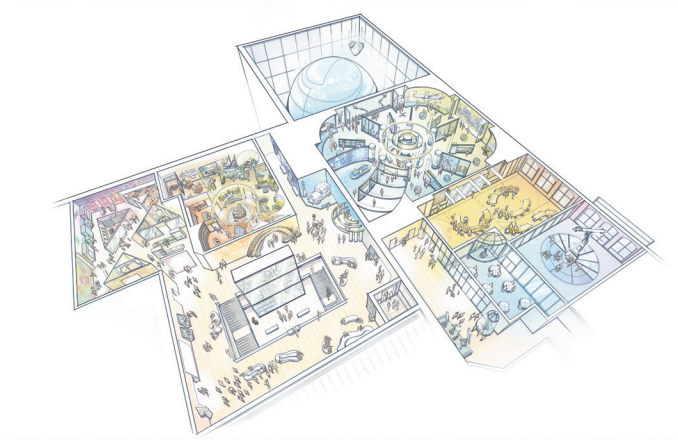
Reimagine the Experience

Through the Reimagine the Experience initiative, the SCSM is fully embracing its status as the state's flagship cultural institution, providing a renewed and modern foundation to preserve and celebrate the collections, stories, and discoveries that reflect the contributions of all South Carolinians to our state's past and future. This transformation is elevating the Museum's ability to inspire and impact audiences, enhancing its standing as a leading educational resource, and establishing it as a place for community connection and public conversation. SCSM will be a place of welcome, learning, innovation, and accessibility with new exhibitions, community events, and educational opportunities serving people across the state.

The work completed in FY26 focused on developing a Master Plan to reflect the Museum's key educational and community engagement objectives. Created with Roto, Inc., an external visitor experience and exhibition design firm, the Master Plan included:

- An Interpretive Plan to identify essential stories, visitor impacts, and educational goals;
- An Engagement Program to identify future exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, special events, and Astronomy Hub expansion, etc. for public audiences;
- A Visitor Experience Program to plan for the entirety of the visitor journey from arrival to exit, factoring in events, exhibitions, concessions, and shopping; and
- An Architectural Program to design and build the physical and technical infrastructure required to achieve our vision.

Following the completion of the master planning effort, the SCSM, working with the SC Department of Administration, selected Liollio Architecture of Charleston, S.C. as the project's architect. During the initial design phase, Liollio conducted site studies and produced architectural floorplans to validate the Master Plan vision, developed a preliminary budget estimate, and created a construction phasing plan. This information is now being studied and will inform decision-making as the Museum moves into the schematic design phase of work in FY26-27.



Artwork by Roto.



Artwork by Roto.

AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

The Department of Audience Engagement brings the SCSM mission to life, inspiring and educating Museum audiences through programs that empower visitors and lifelong learners. This year the SCSM welcomed nearly 38,000 students through its doors, and the Education Department created opportunities for students to learn with the Museum through field trips and outreach programs across the state. Staff attended several large community festivals, connecting with approximately 5,700 individuals while promoting the Museum's public programs, educational opportunities, facility rentals, accessibility offerings, astronomy programs, summer camps, and membership and volunteer opportunities. engaging with over 6,200 guests – about 20% of the total number of guests to the Observatory. The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Planetarium ran 1,365 shows for 43,193 guests, 40% of which were K-12 students on school field trips. The Planetarium was used for rentals, member events, teacher demonstrations, summer camps, and special public programs. To commemorate America's 250th, the Astronomy Team, in consultation with the Curatorial Staff, created an original Planetarium show titled Revolutionary Astronomers that blends history and astronomy.

Public Programs

In FY2026, SCSM hosted 70 public programs that connected with over 11,000 guests through a wide variety of experiences. Salute to 250 Day, a bold commemoration of the Revolutionary War's 250th anniversary, welcomed an astonishing 2,248 guests on Carolina Day weekend. Flock Fest, a celebration of South Carolina birds and bird enthusiasts, drew 684 guests. The popular Harvesting Heritage series engaged intergenerational audiences at the Museum and St. Helena Island's historic Penn Center for community discussions, themed food tastings, and workshops celebrating the time-honored traditions behind Black foodways in South Carolina. This series spoke to chefs, farmers, crabbers, game-hunters, and scholars about how food shapes South Carolina's people and culture, and welcomed partners including Certified SC Grown and South Carolina Humanities.

The Museum hosted its annual Artist Homecoming, maximizing engagement by combining the day with art exhibition openings in the newly renovated Lipscomb Gallery. Artist Homecoming includes performances, tours, and conversations with artists and art advocates across the state. Additionally, SCSM's annual transcribe-a-thon, Douglass Day, brought together 138 students from high schools and universities. Finally, through curator, author, and artist talks, along with panel discussions related to our exhibitions, the Museum invited guests to hear from experts on history, science, and culture.

Education + Outreach

SCSM continued to be a visible and active leader in student and teacher engagement across the state. By hosting 10 onsite professional development sessions serving 508 educators, and interacting with 4,812 teachers at offsite outreach events, staff strengthened relationships with in-service and pre-service teachers, collaborating to empower educators and enrich classroom learning. SCSM's Camp programming, sponsored by Aflac, offered immersive and interactive themes from space exploration and robotics to coding and the arts for our campers – over 300 camp registrations were received in FY26. The Museum brought its portable planetarium to 18 schools, held STEM programs at 4 additional schools, and presented 24 virtual and distance learning programs - all extending audience reach beyond the Museum's walls.

Accessibility

The Museum's accessibility programs reached nearly 4,000 individuals through its external programs, as well as its onsite Accessibility Mornings and Disability Celebration Day programs. SCSM expanded its accessibility offerings as a Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program participant, providing EnChroma color-correcting glasses for use by visitors with color-blindness. SCSM was also the first Museum in the world to offer on-demand Visual Interpretation and American Sign Language services through the Aira Explorer app for visitors who are blind, have low vision, or those who are deaf or have hearing loss. Staff training and partnerships with organizations such as the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, AbleSC, and USC's Assistive Technologies Program advanced the Museum's goals for adaptive programming and universal design. SCSM's years of accessibility efforts and deep connections make programs like Summer Camp more accessible for students with varying needs.

Volunteers

Seventy-eight dedicated volunteers, 23 of whom were new to the Volunteer Program, contributed an impressive 3,570 hours of service and interacted with 19,755 visitors. With the average volunteer hour in South Carolina valued at $32.69 per hour, SCSM volunteers' time represents a contribution of $116,762.47 to the Museum. Volunteers supported numerous programs such as Constellation Concerts and Santa Saturdays, and were regularly on hand to help guests in the Observatory. Volunteers also enhanced the guest experience in select exhibitions, such as Heroes & Villains and When I See Myself, I See…

Astronomy + STEM Education

In FY25-26, the Boeing Observatory engaged nearly 34,392 guests through daytime viewing, evening programs, member events, and K-12 virtual field trip experiences. Observatory volunteers provided 473.25 hours of service in the Observatory, engaging with over 6,200 guests – about 20% of the total number of guests to the Observatory. The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Planetarium ran 1,365 shows for 43,193 guests, 40% of which were K-12 students on school field trips. The Planetarium was used for rentals, member events, teacher demonstrations, summer camps, and special public programs. To commemorate America's 250th, the Astronomy Team, in consultation with the Curatorial Staff, created an original Planetarium show titled Revolutionary Astronomers that blends history and astronomy.

CURATORIAL AFFAIRS

The Curatorial Affairs department brought in 35 acquisitions that included 169 objects across 4 disciplines: Art, Cultural History, Natural History and Science and Technology. Some artistic highlights include original drawings by renowned comic book illustrator Sanford Greene; scrimshaw by the Marlow family, pottery vessels by Catawba Indian potters Keith Brown, Bill Harris, Elizabeth Harris and Georgia Harris; and 2 large-scale sculptures by John Acorn, who was the first chair of the Clemson University Art Department (delivered in FY27). SCSM also acquired sports memorabilia from Coach Spurrier's time as head coach for the University of South Carolina Gamecocks, and football material associated with Dwayne Harper. South Carolina foodways material was collected from Bobby's BBQ, Tia Clark's Crabbing, and Terrell Brown's Oyster Supply, among others. SCSM acquired natural history specimens including dolphin and turtle fossils, a juvenile opossum skull, and a taxidermy sloth and alligator for future use in the South Carolina habitat displays. The Museum's Collecting Plan continues to be revised on its regular review cycle, with consideration given to the needs associated with new stories and gaps in the collection, as the *Reimagine the Experience* project continues.

The Collections Outreach Team within the Curatorial Affairs Department provided assistance, information, and exhibitions to other institutions and museums across the state. In addition to responding to over 320 calls and requests for information from the public received annually, the Collections Outreach staff worked with several SC-based and regional institutions providing 18 traveling exhibitions shared across 13 counties. In FY26, a new Revolutionary War traveling exhibition and educational trunks were developed and made available at no charge to renters, made possible by funding from the SC250 Commission in collaboration with the South Carolina Historical Society. Collections Outreach began development for traveling shows for two of our existing galleries: *When I See Myself, I See…* and *S.C. Habitats*. This department worked closely with the South Carolina Federation of Museums (SCFM) through an official MOU. This partnership includes execution of an annual conference, which was held in Belton, S.C. in September 2025. In addition to the SCFM MOU, ongoing partnerships continued with the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame and the University of South Carolina's Center for Civil Rights History and Research.

The Curatorial Affairs department managed 17 gallery projects and changing exhibitions. Highlights were new exhibitions, including 3 related to Native American communities in the state. *When I See Myself, I See…* spotlights the artwork of Natalie Daise in partnership with SCETV and Voorhees College. The South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame 2026 inductees were celebrated with related memorabilia on display. SCSM's new Revolutionary War exhibition, *American Battleground: South Carolina's Revolution* celebrated our 250th anniversary as a nation and was the first of several major planned gallery transformations. *From the Vault: Art from the Museum's Collection* debuted in the newly renovated Lipscomb Art Gallery, which included a new lighting system, HVAC system, and roof replacement. The larger institutional gallery renovation project continued, including ongoing planning of the new Innovation Wing, which will highlight the technological advancements and creative solutions that have been made across the state throughout its history.

A new Natural History Curator was hired and continued work on publications and peer reviewed journals. This curator also continued an ongoing partnership with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) to record information provided by hobby divers, per the South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act. This new curator is also extremely involved with field work in the state, and on related sites out West where similar paleo fauna to South Carolina thrived. Specimens collected on field digs are planned for inclusion in future gallery expansions.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

The Collections Management Department supported numerous projects across the Museum this year. The new Collections Manager coordinated the install (and later, de-installation) of 274 works in the From the Vault art exhibition; a process which included several complex installations of work that had not been on view in decades. Simultaneously, the department assisted with the install of both *Traditions in Catawba Clay* and *Native Communities of South Carolina*. In the spring, staff cleaned and mounted a selection of taxidermy for *Wings of Wonder*, which included custom mounts for over 90 bird eggs. Staff deinstalled the Communications Galleries on the 3rd floor, removing over 200 objects that had been on display since the Museum's opening in 1988, to allow for the renovation for the *American Battleground* exhibition. Collections Management oversaw the mounting and installation of *American Battleground* (including an 18th century cannon weighing nearly one ton), and also its companion show exploring the 1976 Bicentennial in South Carolina. Finally, the department coordinated the object install for this year's exhibition in partnership with the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame.

Collections Management provided support for a variety of programs; moving objects and creating temporary displays for the Curator Talk series, the Harvesting Heritage series, and Book Talks. Collections experts assisted with the movement and display of 5-foot-tall sweetgrass basket "Big Percy" during its Guinness World Record press season. Image requests were fulfilled for programs, marketing publications and billboards, exhibition design, and external image queries.

Museum photographers added 7,977 new images to the database this year. Registration processed 35 new accession lots totaling 169 objects. This included cataloging 44 new objects into the database and updating records for another 2,300 objects. These objects and images are now online in the Museum's public collections database. Forty loans were processed this year in support of exhibitions.

Finally, the department completed a Federal IMLS grant focused on the Science and Technology collection and began another IMLS grant focused on two subsets of the Natural History collection. The Natural History grant was the Museum's first foray into 3D scanning, and at the halfway point of the grant, 23,000 new objects and nearly 3,000 scans have been entered into the database. This is the first database material for SCSM's Natural History collection (out of 1 million specimens) and highlights some of the most important specimens that will be utilized in the *Reimagine the Experience* exhibition renovations.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Over the past year, the Communications and Marketing Department strengthened the South Carolina State Museum's visibility, public engagement, and overall brand awareness while supporting a wide range of exhibitions, programs, events, and fundraising needs. The department successfully developed and executed projects in marketing, public relations, web and social media content, print collateral, and graphic design for major exhibitions, including *American Battleground: South Carolina's Revolution*, *Bird Photographer of the Year*, *South Carolina Wings of Wonder*, *Heroes & Villains*, *From the Vault*, and *When I See Myself, I See…*, as well as numerous public programs and special events.

The department focused largely on promoting the major blockbuster exhibition *Heroes & Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume*, and the One Enchanted Evening Gala. Both the exhibition and the Gala met and surpassed their revenue goals. The department generated significant media attention for the Museum's acquisition and display of Corey Alston's monumental sweetgrass basket, "Big Percy." Staff planned and executed the public reveal and press event and coordinated media outreach. Staff worked with representatives from Guinness World Records to pursue the "Largest Sweetgrass Basket" record for "Big Percy," with official recognition awarded in May 2026.

Another major focus was the successful launch of *American Battleground: South Carolina's Revolution* in summer 2026. The department developed the exhibition's overall marketing and communications strategy, inspired by the 2nd South Carolina Regiment flag (a key object from the show) and the motto "Vita Potior Libertas." The resulting campaign included advertising, billboards, street banners, bus wraps, exterior graphics, invitations, postcards, merchandise, promotional materials, and digital content. The department planned and executed a press preview and developed media pitches around Revolutionary War content.

Throughout the year, the department secured extensive coverage in local, statewide and national outlets, including TV affiliates in the Midlands, Upstate and Lowcountry, SCETV radio and print media. In total, the Museum received more than 1,900 mentions and articles across online, television, print, and radio platforms in FY26. Digital content production expanded substantially; engagement on social media posts increased by 22% in FY26, with Facebook followers exceeding 57,000 and 14,500 on Instagram. The Museum also cultivated relationships with statewide social media content creators, leveraging their audiences to promote Museum events and programs. A centralized content creator database was established to support ongoing outreach and collaboration.

Graphic design played a critical role in supporting the Museum's exhibitions and public-facing identity. In addition to the comprehensive *American Battleground* campaign, the department developed visual identities and exhibition materials for *South Carolina Wings of Wonder* and *Bird Photographer of the Year*, including logos, advertising, exterior graphics, signage, and promotional collateral. The graphic design team was also responsible for creating and coordinating the installation of graphics for three exhibitions all opening in the autumn season: *When I See Myself, I See*; *From the Vault*; and *Native Communities of South Carolina*. Design support extended across numerous programs, publications, membership initiatives, fundraising campaigns, and operational needs.

Fundraising and institutional initiatives were another important area of collaboration. The department partnered with the SCSM Foundation on Midlands Gives, holiday appeals, and other donation campaigns. Marketing and communications staff supported the *Reimagine the Experience* campaign by developing core messaging and promotional materials, while assisting Membership with communications and refreshed Visionary Circle branding.

ADMINISTRATION

The South Carolina State Museum's Administrative Department continued to provide the core operational support that enables the organization to function effectively. The department ensured that the organization had the people, resources, and systems it needed to achieve its mission this FY.

- Human Resources managed recruitment, employee support, and workplace culture.
- Finance maintained fiscal responsibility through budgeting, accounting, and reporting.
- Purchasing coordinated procurement to ensure transparency, value, and compliance.
- Information Technology delivered secure and reliable technology services that supported daily operations and future innovation.

Together, these departments strengthened organizational efficiency, promoted accountability, and ensured a solid foundation for all programs and services.

Human Resources highlights:

- Hiring an HR Manager with expertise in workflow process efficiency.
- #2 EEOC SC State Government ranking amongst 96 state agencies for having a workforce that reflects the community it serves.
- 29.1% increase in staffing, onboarding 18 full-time and 33 part-time employees.
- 25% increase in FTE retention rate.
- 39% increase in part-time employee retention rate.
- 12% average increase in part-time employee pay rate from $11.98 to $13.45 per hour.
- 4.9% average increase in full-time employee salary from $62,314 to $65,389.
- 100% part-time staff return rate following their break-in-service.
- 67% increase in staff appreciation events.
- Designed and opened Cyber Work/Research Space for employee onboarding & professional development.
- Implementation of an automated, paperless onboarding process and a "paperless" platform for storing and saving any new documentation for all new hires and active employees.

Upcoming HR initiatives include complete automation of key HR forms for increased efficiency, launching an updated Internship Cohort program designed to help departments build a strong pipeline of talented SC based future staff, increasing staff in proportion to Reimaging the Experience initiatives, and implementing initiatives for increased retention of high performing staff.

Finance and Purchasing

The Museum strengthened its Finance Department with the hiring of a Senior Accountant, which allowed the transition of accounts payable and accounts receivable processing functions from Shared Services to the Museum. With over $10M in recurring expenditures and over $3M in non-recurring expenditures in FY2025-26, this position will help to ensure the Museum remains a responsible steward of taxpayer funds.

Additionally, SCSM exceeded its Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) purchasing goal with over $213,554 in certified minority vendors spending 213.93% of its target. As the Museum moves forward with facility upgrades and exhibition expansion, it remains committed to surpassing its annual MBE goal. Upcoming initiatives include a review of the Museum's travel and procurement policies to incorporate best practices. The department will also examine all financial processes to incorporate a cost culture that strives to most effectively use available funds to meet requirements.

Information Technology

Over the past year, IT strengthened agency security, modernized operations, and expanded organizational readiness. A new IT Director was hired, enabling focused collaboration with the Department of Information Security. Key security upgrades (Tenable One vulnerability scanning, Proofpoint email filtering, and Cortex XDR threat detection) collectively increased network visibility by over 40%, reduced phishing exposure by roughly 60%, and cut threat investigation time from days to hours. A full penetration test further reduced the agency's attack surface and guided targeted system hardening.

IT also modernized internal governance by updating more than half of its outdated policies and establishing new guidance for emerging areas such as AI use. Looking ahead, IT will onboard two new roles to improve customer support and CRM management, replace the legacy CRM with a modern system to enhance efficiency and reporting, and launch a four-year hardware refresh cycle to reduce downtime and improve staff productivity.

OPERATIONS & VISITOR EXPERIENCE

In FY26, the Museum welcomed 129,396 ticketed guests, while generating $736,990 in admissions revenue. This was a 5% increase from the previous year. Additionally, $671,696 in secondary ticket sales were generated by the Planetarium, 4D Theater, and The Walt Disney Archives *Heroes & Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume* exhibition. Annual revenue from daily operations was $2,090,432, out of a total earned revenue of $2,614,678.

The *Heroes & Villains* exhibition saw 25,087 ticketed visitors, while generating $414,831 of revenue between July 1st 2025, and January 4th 2026. This was the first ticketed "blockbuster" exhibition hosted by the Museum since 2020, and the highest revenue hosted exhibition since *Bodyworlds: Vital* in 2011.

The Museum Store had its best revenue year since 2017, with $681,746 in sales, while Facility Rentals produced $380,649 for the best year on record hosting private events. The Building Services department added two new roles: a Janitorial Coordinator and Janitorial Lead, while reducing dependence on contract labor, and increasing internal services and cleanliness, supporting both daily operations and special events.

The Public Safety department expanded, with two full-time law enforcement officers now leading the department. New staffing and scheduling practices increased operational capacity and produced a more visible, professional, and responsive team. Formal training programs and partnerships with local emergency services were leveraged to improve preparedness and procedures, Museum-wide.

Two full-time Maintenance Technicians were hired in Operations to differentiate Museum maintenance and facility support work from exhibition fabrication. This alignment resulted in more effective repairs, work order fulfillment, and building and campus beautifications, while freeing fabricators to complete the detailed work of creating and installing new exhibitions.

SCSM FOUNDATION

The South Carolina State Museum Foundation continued to grow its impact as the philanthropic partner to the Museum during FY2025-2026. Through fundraising, membership, corporate partnerships, and engagement opportunities, the Foundation generated essential support for Museum operations, educational programs, exhibitions, and collections.

This year marked a vital milestone of organizational growth for the Foundation with the hiring of the new Executive Director, Mary Kathryne Wadford. This role strengthened the Foundation's leadership and relationship-building capacity and created fresh momentum for retaining and expanding philanthropic support. Along with increasing Foundation staff and responsibilities, the SCSM Foundation board moved to quarterly meetings to strengthen committee work and best practices, as well as increase board member engagement.

Throughout the year, the Foundation cultivated support through individual giving, sponsorships, grants, membership, special events, and corporate partnerships. Additionally, the Foundation strategically planned for — and are excited to introduce — the MAKE WAY FOR MORE campaign, which will provide opportunities to reintroduce the Museum's *Reimagine the Experience* statewide vision, reconnect with legacy supporters, and invite new donors and partners to invest in the Museum.

The Foundation focused on expanding opportunities for South Carolinians to engage with the Museum beyond traditional daytime visits. Special events brought new and returning audiences together while creating additional opportunities to support the Museum's mission. One of the event highlights of the year was the *One Enchanted Evening Gala*. The Gala brought together Museum staff, supporters, community leaders, and friends for a memorable evening themed around the Museum's blockbuster exhibition, *Heroes & Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume*.

The Foundation also continued to engage and steward its most committed supporters through quarterly Visionary Circle events. These exclusive experiences provided educational opportunities for guests to experience a variety of new exhibitions in unique and meaningful ways. Visionary Circle engagement remains an important part of the Foundation's strategy for building lasting relationships and opportunities with supporters.

Membership growth and retention was another significant area of progress during FY2025-2026, increasing 121 memberships from FY25 for a total of 2,100 memberships in FY26. By strengthening member engagement and creating additional opportunities for members to enjoy the Museum, the Foundation continues to grow a community of individuals and families who choose to make the Museum a part of their lives, while also providing ongoing, sustainable support.

As SCSM kicks off the new fiscal year, the Museum is deeply grateful to the donors, members, sponsors, grantmakers, volunteers, Board members, Commissioners, corporate partners, and community supporters whose generosity has made these accomplishments possible. The Foundation Board and staff are future-focused with energetic leadership, increased fundraising capacity, and stronger relationships throughout the Museum community and South Carolina. Everyone is invited to see what MORE is in store for the future at the South Carolina State Museum!



South Carolina storyteller and artist Natalie Daise with a student at the opening of the exhibition, *When I See Myself, I See . . .*



Guests at the sold-out One Enchanted Evening Gala explore the popular exhibition, *Heroes & Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume.*



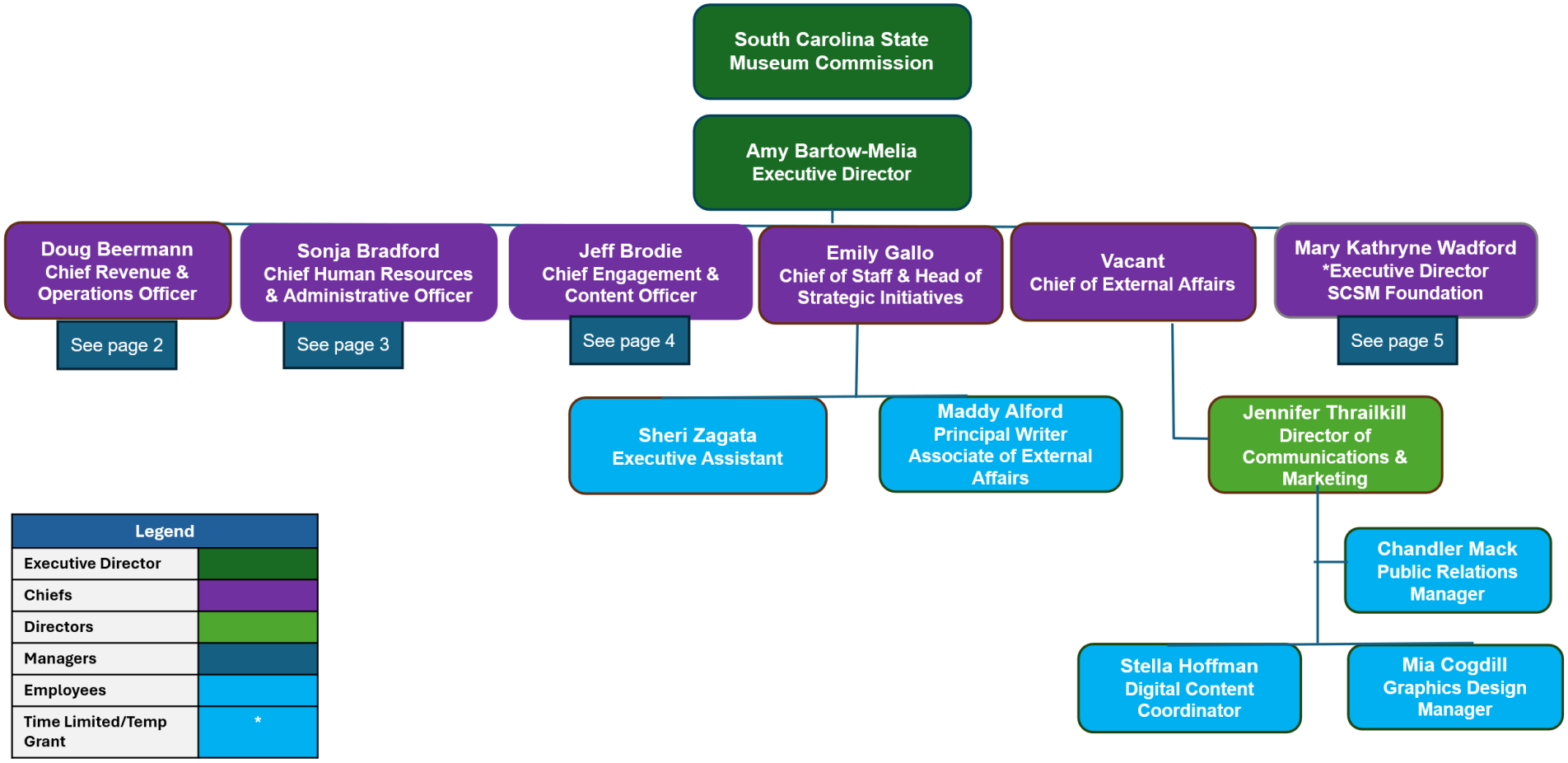
A family enjoys the exhibition, *South Carolina Wings of Wonder*, during the Museum's Flock Fest special event in March 2026.



Artist Corey Alston, with "Big Percy," his monumental sweetgrass basket recently acquired by the Museum, and a visiting student group during Douglass Day in February 2026.

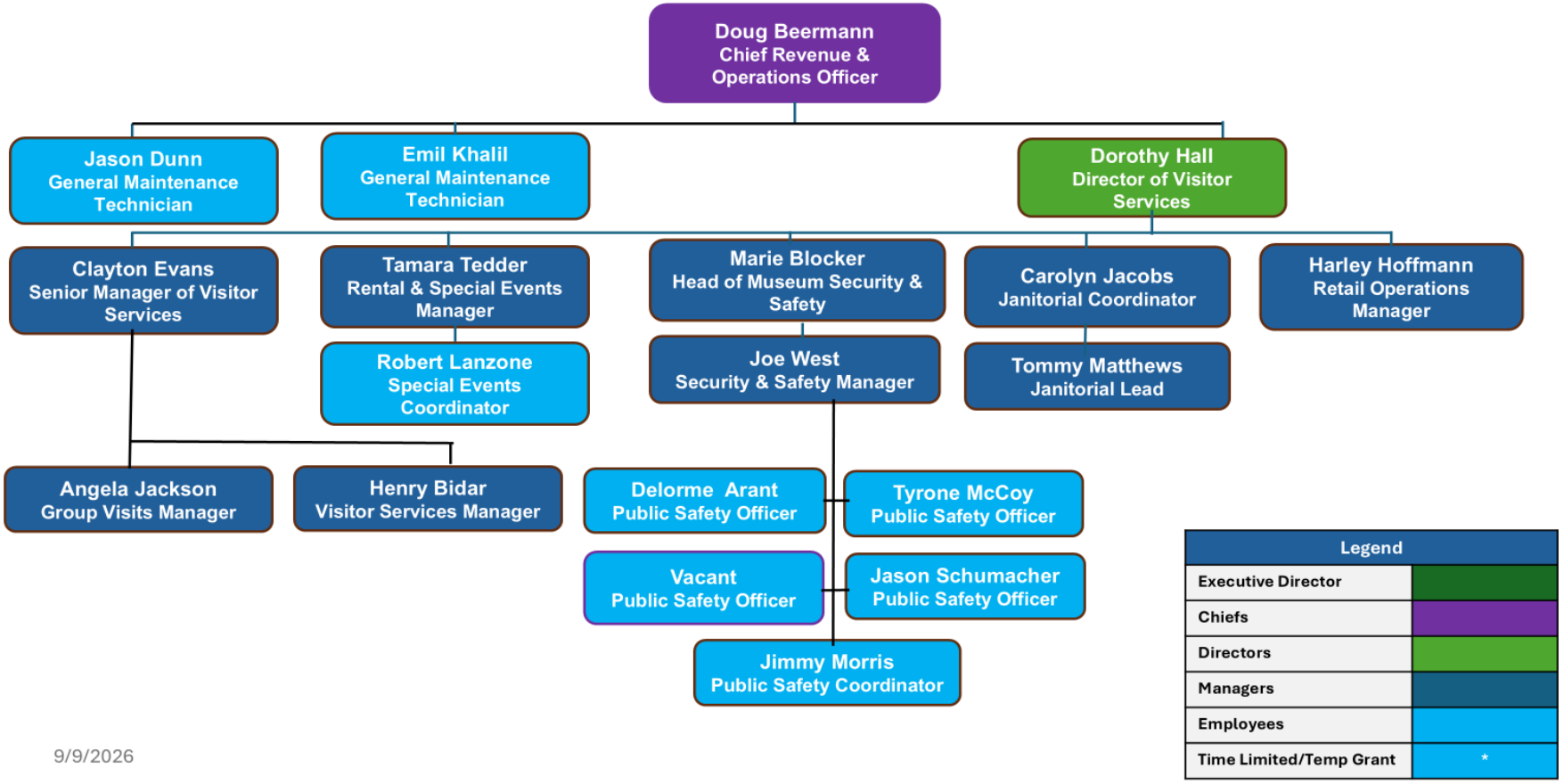
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South Carolina State Museum Organizational Chart



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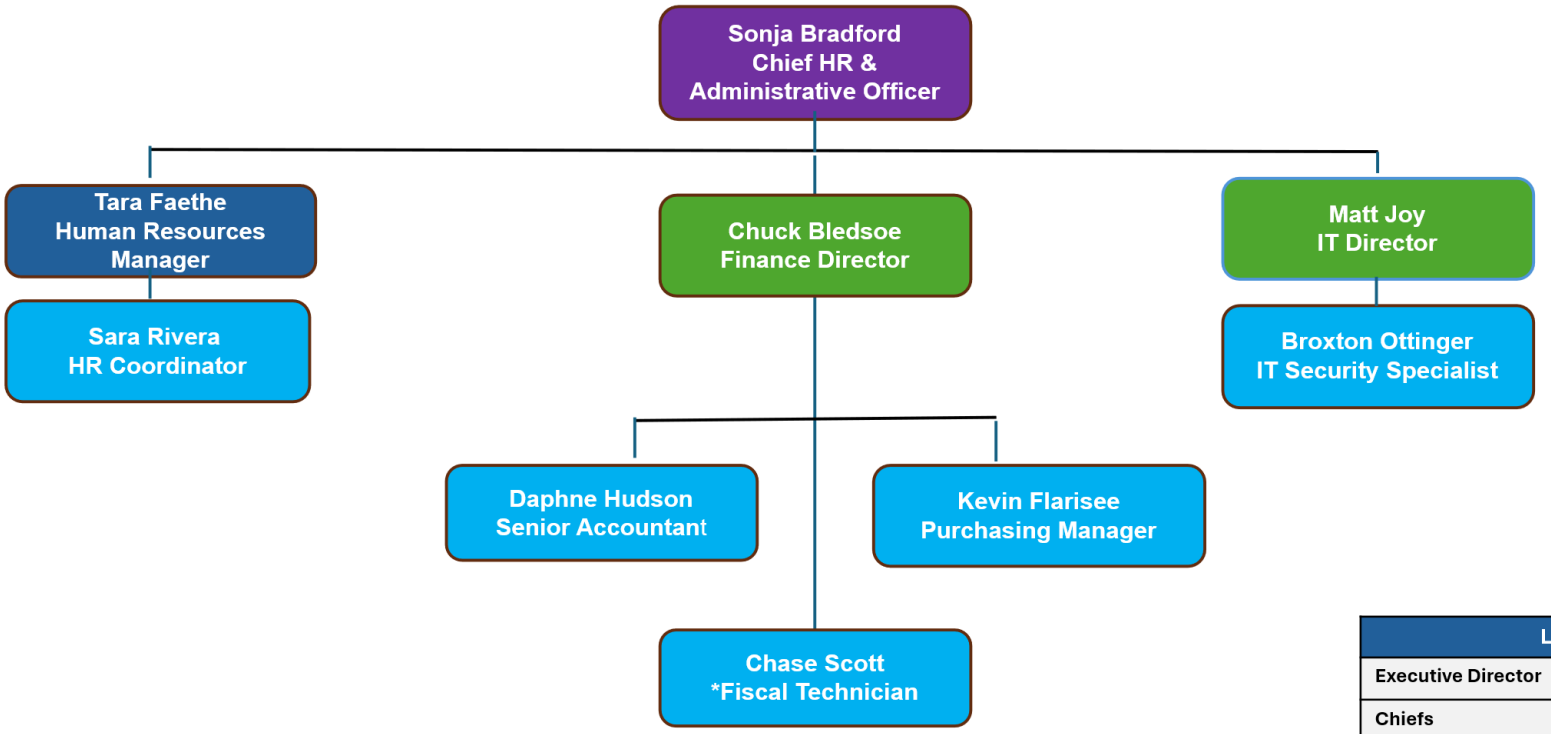
South Carolina State Museum Organizational Chart



9/9/2026

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South Carolina State Museum Organizational Chart

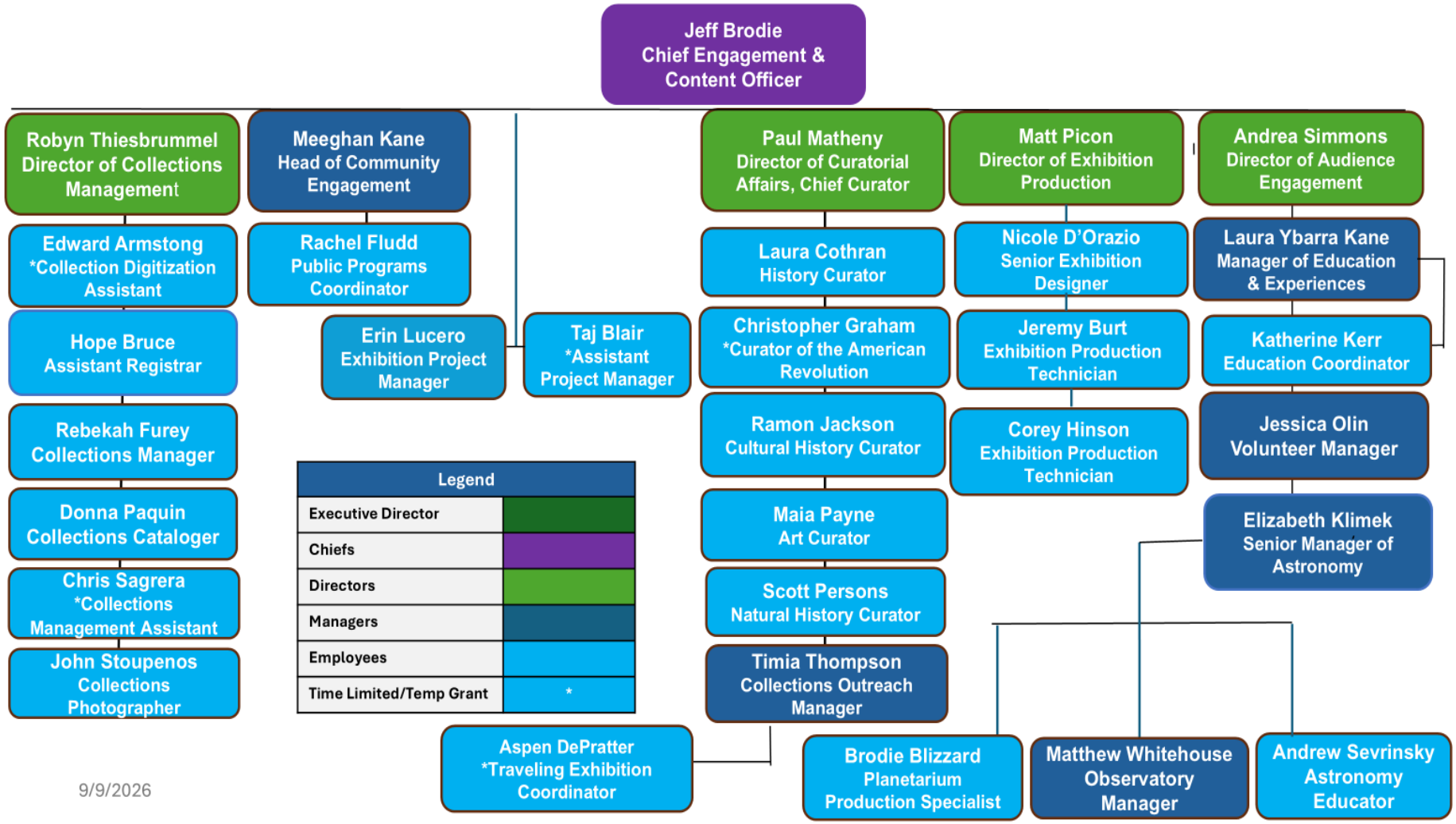


Legend	
Executive Director	
Chiefs	
Directors	
Managers	
Employees	
Time Limited/Temp Grant	*

9/8/2026

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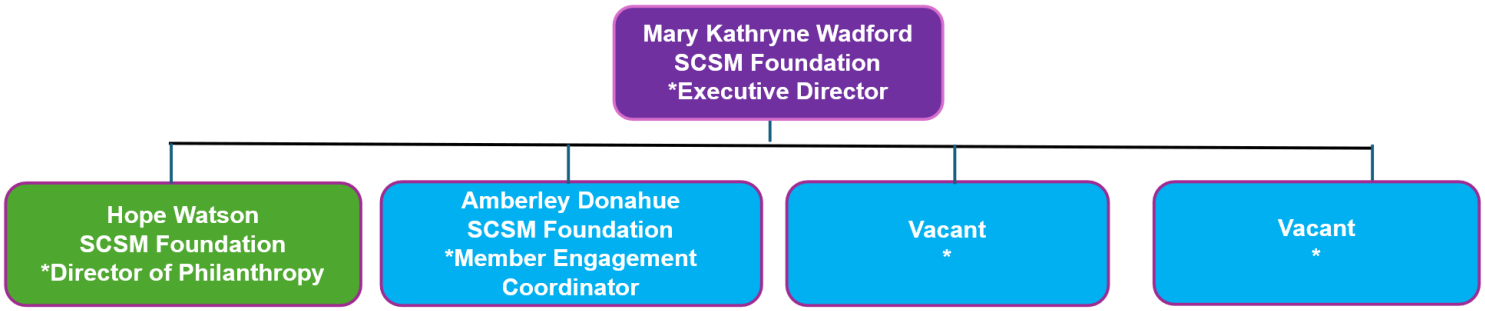
South Carolina State Museum Organizational Chart



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South Carolina State Museum Organizational Chart



Legend	
Executive Director	
Chiefs	
Directors	
Managers	
Employees	
Time Limited/Temp Grant	*

9/8/2026

2026

Reorganization and Compliance

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Primary Contact

First Name	Last Name	Role/Title	Email Address	Phone
Emily	Gallo	Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Initiatives	emily.gallo@scmuseum.org	803-898-4940

Secondary Contact

First Name	Last Name	Role/Title	Email Address	Phone
Amy	Bartow-Melia	Executive Director	amy.bartow-melia@scmuseum.org	803-898-4930

Agency Mission	**Adopted in:**	**2025**

To educate and inspire audiences of all ages by sharing the history, art, culture, and scientific wonder of South Carolina through collections, exhibitions, digital engagement, and outreach programs in our communities.

Agency Vision	**Adopted in:**	**2025**

We will reimagine the experience of the South Carolina State Museum and fully embrace our status as the state's flagship cultural institution. We will preserve and celebrate the collections, stories, and discoveries that reflect the contributions of all South Carolinians to our state's past, present, and future by launching new and dynamic exhibitions, events, and activities featured in our transformed building; by serving communities across the state; by reaching people online; and by forging strategic collaborations and partnerships.

Recommendations for reorganization requiring legislative change:

None

Agency intentions for other major reorganization to divisions, departments, or programs to allow the agency to operate more effectively and efficiently in the succeeding fiscal year:

None

Significant events related to the agency that occurred in FY2026

Description of Event	Start	End	Agency Measures Impacted	Other Impacts
HVAC monitoring system reached end of life	July	June	5.1.3	Our old HVAC monitor system reached end of life. Above average spending was required to keep it online this year by upgrading part of the system. $30,949 in HVAC supplies and contracts $1,164 in pest monitoring supplies 280 personnel hours a year to monitor

Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 2-1-220, which requires submission of certain reports to the Legislative Services Agency for publication online and the State Library? (See also S.C. Code Ann. § 60-2-20).	Yes
Reason agency is out of compliance: (if applicable)	
Is the agency in compliance with various requirements to transfer its records, including electronic ones, to the Department of Archives and History? See the Public Records Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-1-10 through 30-1-180) and the South Carolina Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 26-6-10 through 26-10-210).	Yes
Does the law allow the agency to promulgate regulations?	No

Law number(s) which gives the agency the authority to promulgate regulations:	
Has the agency promulgated any regulations?	No
Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-120 (J), which requires an agency to conduct a formal review of its regulations every five years?	Yes
(End of Reorganization and Compliance Section)	

FY2026

Strategic Plan Results

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Goal 1 Maximize Impact of Museum Operations

Goal 2 Be a Primary Educational Resource for SC Schools

Goal 3 Be the Caretaker of South Carolinas History

Goal 4 Deliver Quality Content

Goal 5 Protect the Safety, Integrity and Security of Museum Resources and Visiting Public

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.1	**Effectively Market State Museum**										**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
1.1.1	Maximize General Attendance	124,239	150,000	169,649	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total number of unique visits across all programs (GA, public programs, rentals guests, and campers))	Admissions Software	Galaxy (SQL database)	Maximum impact of Operation toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Calculation method has changed and the base number has been adjusted to reflect the actual from FY25
1.1.2	Minimize Marketing cost per visitor	$2.36	$2.35	$3.95	Dollar Amount	Equal to or less than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Marketing expense/ Attendance	SCEIS	SCEIS	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Target may need to be reconsidered in light of revenue results as it is only based on attendance
1.1.3	Maximize 4D and Planetrium Attendance	76,271	75,000	70,202	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of tickets sold	Admissions Software	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming; Educational content for the general public.	South Carolina Students and teachers, general public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Theaters suffered in competition with highly-successful Heroes and Villains exhibition.
1.1.4	Maximize Ticketed Admissions	111,707	110,000	114,291	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of tickets sold	Admissions Software	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming; Educational content for the general public.	South Carolina Students and teachers, general public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Successful Heroes & Villains exhibit drove ticketed attendance.
1.1.5	Maximize Rental Attendance	30,098	35,000	28,351	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of attendees at rental events	Admissions Software	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	The Museum hosted smaller-attended events. Rental revenues surpassed goal despite fewer attendees than targeted goal.
1.2	**Maximize Earned Revenues**										**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
1.2.1	Ticket and Attraction Revenue	$1,170,541	$810,000	$1,408,686	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Successful Heroes & Villains exhibit drove ticketed attendance, and record earned revenue.

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.2.2	Gift Shop Revenue	$617,338	$630,000	$671,696	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Aided by success and increased visitation for Heroes & Villains, as well as successful retail program
1.2.3	Facility Rental Revenue	$226,208	$200,000	$380,649	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	After ending exclusive catering contract, Rentals revenue greatly increased.
1.3	**Be Efficient with Allocated resources**										**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
1.3.1	Maximize Volunteer Hours	4,700	5,000	3,571	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of volunteer hours	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	South Carolina State Museum, Museum Visitors, Volunteer Corps	SC State Museum saves funds when volunteers perform important tasks for museum. Volunteers receive professional development opportunities.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Our Volunteer Program numbers the past two years have included unpaid intern hours. This year we did not have any unpaid intern hours. Additionally, a pair of volunteers who consistently provided a combined total of around 1,000 per year retired from the program at the end of last fiscal year (June 2025). These two factors contributed to the loss in overall hours this fiscal year.
1.3.2	Total investment per visitor	$69.38	$70	$92.74	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	(Total Operations Budget)/ PY attendance	SCEIS	SCEIS	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Operating expenses have risen greatly with increased staffing and renovation spending not tied to current attendance
1.4	**Through Museum Foundation Garner Citizen, Corporate and Private Financial Support**										**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
1.4.1	Maximize total number of Museum members	1979	2000	2100	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of memberships	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.4.2	Cultivate and Retain Corporate Community Partners	30	35	31	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of partnerships	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Changes in SCSM Foundation staffing and structure of community partner program.
1.4.3	Maximize Community Partner Revenue	42934.9	60000	35405.56	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Museum Commission	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Did not have executive director for SCSM Foundation for 10 months as well as other staff changes.
1.4.4	Maximize Government Grants (local and national)	$930,173.40	$250,000	$283,542	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of grants secured (IMLS, County, etc.)	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Museum Commission	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.4.5	Maximize Annual Corporate Sponsorships	$32,500	$75,000	$58,500	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Total dollar amount of sponsorships	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Museum Commission	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Did not have executive director for SCSM Foundation for 10 months as well as other staff changes.

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.4.6	Total non-capital funds raised by SCSM Foundation	$236,790.05	$500,000	$685,143.81	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Museum Commission	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.4.7	Total capital funds raised by SCSM Foundation	$436,459	$500,000	$407,793.72	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Museum Commission	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Did not have executive director for SCSM Foundation for 10 months as well as other staff changes.
2.1	**Deliver Standards based educational programming on site**										**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**		
2.1.1	Maximize School Group Visitation	36,981	40,000	37,824	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of individual public and private school groups visiting.	Admissions Software	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	School visitation increased by almost 1,000 students despite being less than target.
2.1.2	Number of educational programs in-house for K-12 school groups	166	100	162	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total scheduled and booked student educational programs ex. STEAM programs, tours, on-floor lessons	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	This number does not account for the 22 external STEM programs that staff did in schools.
2.2	**Offer Educational Outreach Programs to schools and other institutions in the state**										**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**		
2.2.1	Deliver Traveling Exhibitions across the state	18	16	23	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30).	Number of exhibitions provided	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Educational content and new partnerships	SC Museums and other educational and cultural institutions and their audiences	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.2.2	Virtual Programming (Live and Pre-Recorded)	35	30	28	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total virtual live and pre-recorded programs	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Fewer Virtual Sky Tours due to production and research time designated to new Revolutionary Astronomers show.
2.2.3	Teacher Professional Development Programs (in-house)	11	6	10	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total scheduled and booked teacher professional development program, including teacher appreciation day and preview nights.	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Reach: 508 teachers, pre-service teachers, and school admin through PDs and information sessions
2.2.4	Number of educational programs in-house for non-school groups (ex. girl scouts)	6	1	0	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total scheduled and booked non-student educational programs	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Greater SC community	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Due to staffing changes with our external partner, program was not completed. Additionally internal leadership changes required reallocated outreach efforts.
2.2.5	Number of non-K-12 funded outreach programs (ex. libraries and after school sites)	3	3	9	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total scheduled and booked non-k-12 funded outreach ex. libraries, after school sites, conference representation	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Greater SC community	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.3	**Partner with Statewide Educational Organizations**										**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**		

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
2.3.1	Total number of partnerships	202	200	192	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of partnerships	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	South Carolina State Museum, Museum Partners, Museum Visitors	SC State Museum leverages resources and reach by working with area and regional partners.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Some of our Natural History partnerships change based on research projects and collaborations. Additionally staffing changes result in changes in partnerships on occasion.
2.3.2	Individuals reached through Teacher Professional Development Programs	4,605	3,000	4,812	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total individuals reached through scheduled and booked teacher professional development programs outside of SCSM ex. in-service days and education conferences.	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	South Carolina Teachers	SC State Museum leverages resources and reach by working with area and regional partners.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.3.3	Individuals reached through public outreach festivals (booth and/or participation)	2,356	2,000	5,717	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total individuals impacted by SCSM participation in festivals statewide (ex. Lexington Kids Day, Jubilee etc.)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Greater SC community	SC State Museum leverages resources and reach by working with area and regional partners.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.4	**Provide Unique Program and Changing Exhibit Opportunities**										**State Objective: Education, Training, and Human Development**			
2.4.1	In-House Accessibility Programming - individuals reached	3745	3200	1454	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total number of individuals reached through in-house accessibility programming ex. Disability Celebration Day, Accessibility Mornings	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Population of SC with a disability	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Dedicated staff member focused on Accessibility efforts was unable to support workload. Other staff were already committed to other K12 efforts.
2.4.2	External Accessibility Programming - individuals reached	4046	1500	2510	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total number of individuals reached through external accessibility programming ex. Disability Advocacy Day	Galaxy (SQL database)	Galaxy (SQL database)	Population of SC with a disability	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.1	**Acquire, preserve and use Collections of Distinction**										**State Objective: Education, Training, and Human Development**			
3.1.1	Number of Accessions	27	20	35	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Total number of legal transfers of an item into the museum's collection	Collections Software	SCSM Shared Drive	Education artifacts for research, education, and display	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.1.2	Number of Objects Collected	117	150	169	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of new objects acquired by the museum within the reporting period.	Collections Software	SCSM Shared Drive	Education artifacts for research, education, and display	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.2	**Provide Curatorial Expertise**										**State Objective: Education, Training, and Human Development**			

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
3.2.1	Research Papers Submitted	2	2	2	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of papers submitted.	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	New research and educational content	scholars and researchers	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.2.2	Public Inquiries Answered	346	400	346	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of public inquires answered	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	Community Members	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	New recording process implemented this FY, resulting in some lost data.
4.1	**Provide Unique Program and Changing Exhibit Opportunities**										**State Objective: Government and Citizens**			
4.1.1	Number of exhibitions produced	7	5	17	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of new exhibits created	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	Educational Content	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	17 new exhibitions in house and including Traveling Exhibitions, and other object displays were opened in FY26. 10 additional exhibitions were in development. 5 Other exhibitions were closed and galleries were deinstalled.
4.1.2	Number of Program Participants NOT included in General Admission	8,160	6,000	11,090	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of participants	Admissions Software/Daily	Galaxy (SQL database)	General Public	Educational Content	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.1.3	Number of Public Programs Presented	57	50	70	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of programs presented	Point of Sale/Daily	Galaxy (SQL database)	General Public	Educational Content	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.1.4	Total number of onsite camp participants	430	400	311	Count	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of participants	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database) & SCSM Shared Drive	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Each classroom accommodated 20 students each this year and had only 8 weeks of camp instead of 9-10
5.1	**Protection of People and Systems**										**State Objective: Maintaining Safety, Integrity and Security**			
5.1.1	Provide necessary investment in Public Safety Personnel	$445,659.52	$420,000	$565,630.54	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Amount spent on Public Safety Personnel	SCEIS/Daily	SCEIS	Effective use of state resources to secure facility and artifacts	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Increased full-time positions, added second law-enforcement officer, increased part-time staff. Success was greater than originally planned.

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
5.1.2	Provide necessary investment in IT hardware and Software	$327,518	$425,000	$274,414	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Amount spend on IT equipment/supplies	SCEIS/Daily	SCEIS	Effective IT tools in place to accomplish agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Due to IT staff turnover, several projects were put on hold including server and user workstation refreshes. These circumstances were directly responsible for actual IT expenditures falling below our expected target goal. Now that a new IT director and security staff have been hired, momentum on these projects has resumed. The following spending plan has been established to use remaining targeted funds. An updated plan is currently in place to spend the $150,000 additional funds on Cybersecurity/Risk Reduction, core infrastructure modernization, and new VM Server to replace aging hardware by March 2027.
5.1.3	Provide necessary Investment in Environmental Controls and Monitoring; Pest management	$4,176	$10,000	$32,113	Dollar Amount	Maintain range	State fiscal year	Amount spent on HVAC monitoring supplies, pest control supplies, and personnel hours spent monitoring.	SCEIS/Daily	SCEIS	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	Our old HVAC monitor system went EOL so we spent money to keep it online this year by upgrading part of the system. $30,949 in HVAC supplies and contracts $1,164 in pest monitoring supplies 280 personnel hours a year to monitor

FY2027

Strategic Plan Development

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Goal 1 Represent South Carolina as the State's flagship cultural institution by serving as the gateway to the state's people, histories, and cultures.

Goal 2 Gather and share South Carolina's many stories by collaborating with communities and organizations across the state.

Goal 3 Exemplify operational excellence and build financial resilience

Goal 4 Serve as a premier educational resource for South Carolina

Goal 5 Welcome and serve learners of all ages and abilities by being available and accessible to every person in South Carolina and beyond.

Goal 6 Welcome and serve learners of all ages and abilities by being available and accessible to every person in South Carolina and beyond.

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.1	**Build a new Innovation Wing of the Museum where we can explore and celebrate the inventions, inventors, entrepreneurs, industry, and creativity of South Carolina.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
1.1.1	Open South Carolina Innovation Wing in renovated 4th floor exhibition space	0%	15%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.2	**Launch a new exhibition on the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and South Carolina's important role in forming the United States.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
1.2.1	Open American Battleground: South Carolina's Revolution major exhibition.	0%	100%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.3	**Renovate our Natural History Galleries to explore the scientific wonders of our prehistoric past to the present, featuring out state's diverse natural environments from the mountain streams of the Upstate to the coastal marshes of the Lowcountry.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
1.3.1	Open renovated Natural History gallery on renovated 2nd floor exhibition space.	0%	5%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.4	**Renovate and reopen the Lipscomb Art Gallery, curating rotating exhibitions featuring South Carolina artists and nationally significant traveling shows**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.4.1	Renovate and re-open the Lipscomb Art Gallery.	0%	100%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.5	**Expand and enhance our collections storage, conservation capabilities, and digital access to the State Collections**								**State Objective:**	**Maintaining Safety, Integrity and Security**			
1.5.1	Redesign and build collections storage and conservation to accommodate the State's collection.	0%	5%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.5.2	Annual investment in environmental controls and monitoring, pest management.	$32,113	$10,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Amount spent on HVAC monitoring supplies, pest control supplies, and personnel hours spent monitoring.	SCEIS/Internal Records	SCEIS/Internal Records	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.5.3	Total number of accessions.	35	30	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of legal transfers of an item into the museum's collection	Collections Software	SCSM Shared Drive	Education artifacts for research, education, and display	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
1.5.4	Total objects collected.	169	100	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of objects added to the collection which are managed by Curatorial Affairs and Collections Management.	Internal records	Internal records	Education artifacts for research, education, and display	Museum Commission, General Public, South Carolina State Legislature	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.1	**Form strategic partnerships for exhibitions and programs with organizations such as the University of SC Center for Civil Rights History and Research and the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame**								**State Objective:**	**Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
2.1.1	Total number of partnerships.	190	180-200	Count	Maintain range	State Fiscal Year	Number of partnerships	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission, General Public, K12 students	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.2	**Build and launch a community gathering space inside the Museum**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
2.2.1	Total number of public programs produced.	70	60	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of programs presented	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Educational content, Statewide reach, community building, Making SC connections to effectively use state resources.	Public program participants, Museum visitors	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.2.2	Total number of public program participants.	11,090	9,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of participants	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Educational content, Statewide reach, community building, Making SC connections to effectively use state resources.	Public program participants, Museum visitors	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.3	**Engage with professional networks, tourism, and business-focused organizations across the state.**								**State Objective:**	**Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
2.3.1	Total number of conference, professional network, and business-related presentations across the state.	0	40	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of outreach initiatives across the state through presentations, tabling opportunities, conference participation, and other statewide visits.	Internal tracking	Excel and calendar tracking documents maintained by department managers and directors.	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission; Educational content and new partnerships	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
2.4	**Expand our Traveling Exhibitions Programs to serve more communities across our state, starting with the development of a new SC Revolutionary War exhibition in partnership with the SC Historical Society.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
2.4.1	Total traveling exhibition deliveries	23	23	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of deliveries of SCSM traveling exhibitions to various venues across the state.	Point of Sale and Internal Records	Galaxy (SQL database) and internal records.	Educational content and new partnerships	SC Museums and other educational and cultural institutions and their audiences in SC and beyond.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.1	**Launch a comprehensive fundraising campaign to fund the Reimagine the Experience vision**								**State Objective:**	**Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
3.1.1	Capital funds raised by the SCSM Foundation through the Make Way For More capital campaign, which supports Reimagine the Experience renovations at SCSM.	$407,793.72	$500,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission, State Legislature, Visitors to SCSM	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
3.1.2	Total non-capital funds raised by the SCSM Foundation.	$685,143.81	$585,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission, SCSM Foundation	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.1.3	Total grant funding received to support Museum initiatives (Education, Marketing, Public Programs, Collections Management, etc.)	$283,542	$500,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Internal Records	Foundation Accounting	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission	Museum Commission, State Legislature, Visitors to SCSM	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.2	**Build and implement a new Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) System.**									**State Objective: Maintaining Safety, Integrity and Security**			
3.2.1	Procure and implement a new CRM system.	0%	50%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Internal management of solicitation and procurement process of new CRM system plus implementation with dedicated staff member managing system.	SCSM IT department	SCSM IT department	Efficient use of state resources toward agency mission; Ensure reliability managing internal records.	Museum Commission, SCSM Foundation	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.2.2	Total visitors to the Museum.	169,649	156,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of unique visits across all programs (GA, members, public programs, rentals guests, and campers)	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL Database)	Effective use of state resources toward agency mission; Educational content and new partnerships	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.3	**Expand rental space to increase earned revenues**									**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
3.3.1	Revenue generated by Museum event rentals.	$380,649	$300,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.4	**Explore new ways to earn revenue through mission-aligned business activities**									**State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			
3.4.1	Revenue generated by Museum admissions and attractions.	$1,408,686	$850,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
3.4.2	Revenue generated by Museum Store.	$671,696	$600,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
3.4.3	Revenue generated by ticketed Museum programs.	$23,774	$22,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total dollar amount of this revenue category	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL Database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission		2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.1	**Build and open a Smithsonian Spark!Lab, a hands-on makerspace that will inspire the next generation of inventors, innovators, engineers, and creators.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
4.1.1	Design and build a Spark!Lab Smithsonian hands-on makerspace as part of the Museum's Innovation Wing.	0%	15%	Percent	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.2	**Expand the museum's Education Wing to serve more students and educators, including more classrooms, streamlined storage, and workspaces.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
4.2.1	Design and build a larger education wing in the Museum to serve more students and educators.	0%	5%	Percent	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.3	**Enhance and deepen our partnerships with strategic education partners throughout the state and beyond.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
4.3.1	Total number of students who visited the museum.	37,824	37,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of individual public, private, and home school students who visited the Museum on a field trip at no cost.	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission; Provide educational resources aligned to State education standards from the Department of Education.	K12 students; University students; Educators	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.3.2	Individuals reached through teacher professional development programs.	4,812	4,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total individuals reached through scheduled and booked teacher professional development programs outside of SCSM ex. in-service days and education conferences.	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission; Provide educational resources aligned to State education standards from the Department of Education.	K12 students; University students; Educators	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
4.4	**Raise funds to endow and launch a paid internship program.**								**State Objective:**	**Public Infrastructure and Economic Development**			

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
4.4.1	Total funds allocated to paid internship program.	$0	$81,900	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	$81,900 for 5 interns at $15/hr and 20 hrs per week/$15,600 per year including fringe.	SCEIS/Internal Records	SCSM Administration/Human Resources Department SCEIS data	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	University students; Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
5.1	**Redesign the Museum's exterior, entrance, lobby, and wayfinding to make our building more welcoming and easier to navigate for all visitors.**								**State Objective:**	**Healthy and Safe Families**			
5.1.1	Design and construct improvements to the Museum's exterior, entrance, lobby, and wayfinding.	0%	10%	Percent complete	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	We calculate construction schedules based on design phases of architectural and exhibition design and construction packages.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors.	Architectural, exhibition design, and construction package documents from contractors and internal timelines.	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	State of South Carolina Legislature and Constituents	9816.550000X000; 9804.480000X000; 2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
5.1.2	Total investment in Public Safety personnel and building safety improvements.	$565,630.54	$600,000	Dollar Amount	Maintain range	State Fiscal Year	Amount spent on Public Safety Personnel and agency security system as well as relevant upgrades.	SCEIS	SCEIS	Effective use of state resources to secure facility and artifacts	Museum Commission; Museum visitors; SC Department of Administration	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000; 9803.470000X000; 9816.550000X000	
5.1.3	Total investment in IT hardware and software.	$274,414	$200,000	Dollar Amount	Maintain range	State Fiscal Year	Amount spent on maintaining, repairing, and updating IT hardware and software to protect agency data, including artifact records and research.	SCEIS	SCEIS	Effective IT tools in place to accomplish agency mission	Museum Commission; Museum visitors; SC Department of Administration	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000; 9813.710000X000; 9818.020000X000	
5.2	**Make improvements and renovations throughout the Museum to enhance accessibility and functionality.**								**State Objective:**	**Healthy and Safe Families**			
5.2.1	Total individuals served through accessibility programming in-house and external.	3,964	2,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of individuals reached through in-house accessibility programming ex. Disability Celebration Day, Accessibility Mornings	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database)	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	Population of SC with a disability and their caregivers	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
5.2.2	Maximize volunteer hours.	3,571	3,000	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	South Carolina State Museum, Museum Visitors, Volunteer Corps	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	South Carolina State Legislature and Constituents	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
5.2.3	Total number of educational programs produced in house, virtually, and across the state for K-12 school groups.	166	200	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total number of educational outreach programs (ex. Portable planetarium), virtual programs (live and pre-recorded), as well as in-house educational programs (ex. Tours, on-floor lessons)	Point of Sale	Galaxy (SQL database) and internal records.	South Carolina students receive standards-based education programming.	South Carolina Students and Teachers.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
5.3	**Apply Universal Design principles when developing our new exhibition galleries, interactive educational spaces, programming, and outreach efforts.**								**State Objective:**	**Education, Training, and Human Development**			
5.3.1	Total number of exhibitions opened.	0	5	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of new exhibits created	Internal Records	SCSM Shared Drive	Educational Content	Museum visitors; all South Carolinians receive preservation of their State history.	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000; 9816.550000X000	
5.4	**Invest in enhanced communications and marketing strategies and tactics.**								**State Objective:**	**Government and Citizens**			
5.4.1	Total marketing spend per visitor.	$ 3.95	$3.00-$5.00	Acceptable Range	Maintain range	State Fiscal Year	Marketing expenses / Visitation	SCEIS and Point of Sale	SCEIS and Galaxy (SQL database)	Amount spent per visitor on marketing efforts to increase visitation and revenue, lessening burden on state resources.	South Carolina State Legislature; Museum Commission	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	
5.4.2	Total public inquiries answered.	346	400	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Total responses to public requests for information.	Internal Records	Internal Records; Collections Management and Curatorial Affairs Departments	Effective use of state resources towards agency mission	General Public	2502.010000.000; 2000.050100.000	

2026 Budget Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

State Funded Program No.	State Funded Program Title	Description of State Funded Program	(Actual) General	(Actual) Other	(Actual) Federal	(Actual) Total	(Projected) General	(Projected) Other	(Projected) Federal	(Projected) Total
2000.050100.000	Administration	Administration: Executive Director, Human Resources, Finance, & Information Technology	$ 2,976,769.00	$ 240,277.00	$ -	$ 3,217,047.00	$ 3,562,177.00	$ 678,214.00	$ -	$ 4,240,391.00
2502.010000.000	Programs	Programs: Marketing, Education, Exhibits, Public Safety, Operations, and Collections.	$ 4,254,265.00	$ 1,686,331.00	$ 14,280.00	$ 5,954,876.00	$ 4,454,436.00	$ 1,290,044.00	$ -	$ 5,744,480.00
9500.050000.000	State Employer Contributions	Employer Contributions	$ 1,333,530.00	$ 278,333.00	$ 6,867.00	$ 1,618,730.00	$ 2,435,043.00	$ 193,342.00	$ -	$ 2,628,385.00
9804.480000X000	Exhibit Renovations	Permanent Gallery Renovations	$ 7,387,381.91	$ -	$ -	$ 7,387,381.91	$ 7,552,368.88	$ -	$ -	$ 7,552,368.88
9812.560000X000	Children's Museum of The Lowcountry	Children's Museum of The Lowcountry	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00
9816.550000X000	Reimagine the Experience	Reimagine the Experience	$ 20,678,134.88	$ -	$ -	$ 20,678,134.88	$ 24,255,465.00	$ -	$ -	$ 24,255,465.00
9803.470000X000	Security System Upgrade	Security System Upgrade	$ 550,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 550,000.00	$ 550,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 550,000.00
9816.550000X000	Security Alarm & Wayfinding Emergency PA System	Security Alarm & Wayfinding Emergency PA System	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000.00

State Funded Program No.	State Funded Program Title	Description of State Funded Program	(Actual) General	(Actual) Other	(Actual) Federal	(Actual) Total	(Projected) General	(Projected) Other	(Projected) Federal	(Projected) Total
9813.710000X000	Imagery Server Repository & Backup Expansion	Imagery Server Repository & Backup Expansion	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000.00
9818.020000X000	Information Technology	Information Technology Information Security Critical Remediation Services	$ 91,900.00	$ -	$ -	$ 91,900.00	$ 251,172.00	$ -	$ -	$ 251,172.00

2026

Legal Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2026
29.1	State	FY25-26 Proviso	(MUSM: Removal From Collections) The commission may remove accessioned objects from its museum collections by gift to another public or nonprofit institution, by trade with another public or nonprofit institution, by public sale, by transfer to the commissions education, exhibit, or study collections or to its operating property inventory; or as a last resort, by intentional destruction on the condition that the objects so removed meet with one or more of the following criteria: (1) they fall outside the scope of the South Carolina Museum Commissions collections as defined in the Collection Policy; (2) they are unsuitable for exhibition or research; (3) they are inferior duplicates of other objects in the collection; or (4) they are forgeries or were acquired on the basis of false information; funds from the sale of such objects will be placed in a special revolving account for the commission to use solely for the purpose of purchasing objects for the collections of the State Museum.	Requires a manner of delivery		No Change
29.2	State	FY25-26 Proviso	(MUSM: Museum Store) The Museum Commission shall establish and administer a museum store in the State Museum. This store may produce, acquire, and sell merchandise relating to historical, scientific, and cultural sources. All profits received from the sale of such merchandise must be retained by the Museum Commission in a restricted fund to be carried forward into the following fiscal year. These funds may be used for store operations, publications, acquisitions, educational programs, exhibit production, and general operating expenses provided that the expenditures for such expenses are approved by the General Assembly in the annual appropriations act.	Requires a service	Retail product in the museum store	No Change

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2026
29.3	State	FY25-26 Proviso	(MUSM: Retention of Revenue) The Museum Commission may retain revenue received from admissions, program fees, facility rentals, professional services, donations, food service, exhibits and exhibit components, and other miscellaneous operating income generated by or for the museum and may expend such revenue for general operating expenses provided that such expenditures are approved by the General Assembly in the annual appropriations act. Any unexpended revenue from these sources may be carried forward to be expended for the same purposes.	Funding agency deliverable(s)	Rental services, food service, shows exhibits and programs delivered to museum Guests	No Change
29.4	State	FY25-26 Proviso	(MUSM: School Tour Fee Prohibition) The commission may not charge admission fees to groups of children from South Carolina who have made reservations that are touring the museum as part of a school function.	Requires a manner of delivery		No Change
29.5	State	FY22-23 Proviso	(MUSM: Dining Area Rent) Of the space currently vacant in the Columbia Mills Building, space large enough for the museum to have dining space for school-aged children shall be provided to the State Museum at no cost.	Requires a manner of delivery		No Change
29.6	State	FY25-26 Proviso	(MUSM: Remittance to General Services) The State Museum is directed to remit not less than $3,505,361.94 to the Department of Administration as compensation for expenses associated with the premises it leases in the Columbia Mills Building. In the event the General Assembly or the Executive Budget Office implements a mid-year across-the-board budget reduction, the rent that the State Museum remits to the Department of Administration shall be reduced by the same percentage as the assessed budget reduction.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2026
60-13-10	State	Statute	South Carolina Museum Commission created; membership; chairman; vacancies; terms of office. There is hereby created the South Carolina Museum Commission composed of ten members appointed by the Governor for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualify. One member shall be appointed from each congressional district of the State and three members shall be appointed at large. One of the at-large members shall be appointed chairman of the commission by the Governor. Vacancies for any reason shall be filled in the manner of original appointment for the unexpired term. Notwithstanding the provisions above prescribing four-year terms for members of the commission, the members appointed from even-numbered congressional districts and one at-large member other than the chairman shall be initially appointed for terms of two years only.	Board, commission, or committee on which someone from our agency must/may serve		No Change
60-13-20	State	Statute	Meetings and officers of commission; compensation of members. The Commission shall meet at least quarterly and at such other times as the chairman shall designate. Members shall elect a vice-chairman and such other officers as they may deem necessary. They shall be paid such per diem, mileage and subsistence as provided by law for boards, committees and commissions	Board, commission, or committee on which someone from our agency must/may serve		No Change
60-13-30	State	Statute	The primary function of the Commission shall be the creation and operation of a State Museum reflecting the history, fine arts and natural history and the scientific and industrial resources of the State, mobilizing expert professional advice and guidance and utilizing all available resources in the performance of this function.	Requires a service	The operation of a multi-discipline museum	No Change

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2026
60-13-40	State	Statute	Powers of Commission. To carry out its assigned functions, the Commission is authorized to: (1) Establish a plan for, create and operate a State Museum; (2) Elect an executive officer for the Commission, to be known as the Director; (3) Make rules and regulations for its own government and the administration of its museum; (4) Appoint, on the recommendation of the Director, all other members of the staff; (5) Adopt a seal for use in official Commission business; (6) Control the expenditure in accordance with law of such public funds as may be appropriated to the commission; (7) Accept gifts, bequests and endowments for purposes consistent with the objectives of the Commission; (8) Make annual reports to the General Assembly of the receipts, disbursements, work and needs of the Commission; and (9) Adopt policies designed to fulfill the duties and attain the objectives of the Commission as established by law.	Report our agency must/may provide		No Change
60-13-50	State	Statute	The Director of the Commission shall be the Director of the State Museum, when such facility comes into existence and his qualifications shall reflect an ability to serve in that capacity. Compensation for the Director shall be determined by the General Assembly.	Board, commission, or committee on which someone from our agency must/may serve		No Change

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Services Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Description of Service	Description of Direct Customer	Customer Name	Others Impacted by Service	Division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Description of division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Primary negative impact if service not provided.	Changes made to services during FY2026	Summary of changes to services
To educate and inspire audiences of all ages by sharing the history, art, culture, and scientific wonder of South Carolina through collections, exhibitions, digital engagement, and outreach programs in our communities.	School Districts throughout the State of South Carolina	Public, Private and Home School students and educators throughout the State of SC	General Public; Researchers and Scholars	Education, Collections, Museum Operations	All facets of Museum Operations including - Educational programming and content, Collections, Curators, Marketing, Operations, Public safety, exhibit fabrication, janitorial, facility rentals, gift shop, school visit facilitation, artifact storage and conservation, public programs and signature events, volunteer management, 4D theater operation, Planetarium operation, Observatory programming and hosting, Web site, Graphic Design, Public Relations	Schools and other educational groups (e.g., scouts, seniors, special needs students) will not have access to education resources, many free, provided by the museum.	No Change	
To educate and inspire audiences of all ages by sharing the history, art, culture, and scientific wonder of South Carolina through collections, exhibitions, digital engagement, and outreach programs in our communities.	General Public	Families	Every South Carolinian and member of the general public, regardless of age, disability, religion, culture, sex, or socioeconomic status.	Education, Collections, Museum Operations	All facets of Museum Operations including - Educational programming and content, Collections, Curators, Marketing, Operations, Public safety, exhibit fabrication, janitorial, facility rentals, gift shop, school visit facilitation, artifact storage and conservation, public programs and signature events, volunteer management, 4D theater operation, Planetarium operation, Observatory programming and hosting, Web site, Graphic Design, Public Relations	The general public, especially families, will not have access to educational resources, content about their state and opportunities to learn together.	No Change	

Description of Service	Description of Direct Customer	Customer Name	Others Impacted by Service	Division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Description of division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Primary negative impact if service not provided.	Changes made to services during FY2026	Summary of changes to services
To educate and inspire audiences of all ages by sharing the history, art, culture, and scientific wonder of South Carolina through collections, exhibitions, digital engagement, and outreach programs in our communities.	Professional Organizations	SC Federation of Museums	Professional Organizations - SC Science Teachers Education Leadership Association; SC Science Council; STEM Centers SC; SC Council for the Social Studies; Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics; Smithsonian Affiliations Program; Midlands Astronomy Club; Astronomical Society of the Pacific; International Astronomical Union; SC Council on Competitiveness Aerospace Taskforce; Carolina Area Planetarium Educators; Southeastern Planetarium Association; International Planetarium Society; Environmental Education Association of South Carolina; AMMC (American Museum Membership Conference); PRSA (Public Relations Society of America); South Carolina Motor coach Association; North Carolina Motor coach; Georgia Motor coach; AAM (American Alliance of Museums); Carolina Bridal Association	Education, Collections, Museum Operations	All facets of Museum Operations including - Educational programming and content, Collections, Curators, Marketing, Operations, Public safety, exhibit fabrication, janitorial, facility rentals, gift shop, school visit facilitation, artifact storage and conservation, public programs and signature events, volunteer management, 4D theater operation, Planetarium operation, Observatory programming and hosting, Web site, Graphic Design, Public Relations	Professional organizations will note have access to SCSM educational resources for their constituencies. SC Federal of Museum partners will not have access to traveling exhibitions and related content.	No Change	

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Partnerships Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Federal Government	165th Infantry Brigade, Fort Jackson	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	AAM (American Alliance of Museums)	Reaccreditation and support services; Institutional membership; Staff professional development	Amend
Non-Government Organization	Able SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Private Business Organization	ABS Kids	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
Local Government	Aiken County Historical Museum	Partnership in planning of annual SCFM conference	Add
Independent Nonprofit	Akoma Cares	Accessibility program collaboration and support and Homeschool resource support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Private Business Organization	All Access Counseling	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
Professional Association	American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)	Institutional Member, Staff Professional Development	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	American Astronomical Society	Conference Hosting	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Anne Frank Center at USC	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	Astronomical Society of the Pacific	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Audubon South Carolina	Community engagement and public programming support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Independent Nonprofit	Avian Conservation Center and Center for Birds of Prey	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Private Business Organization	Axcess Home Care	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
Non-Government Organization	Babcock Center	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Beginnings SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Benedict College	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Bright Start	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Camp Burnt Gin	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Professional Association	Carolina Area Planetarium Educators	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Professional Association	Carolina Bridal Association	Sourcing Bridal Clients for Facility Rentals	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Carolina Skygazers	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Carolina's Nature Photography	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Non-Governmental Organization	Central Carolina Community Foundation	Fund source and program collaboration	No Change
State Government	Certified SC	Public programming and educational collaboration and support; sponsorship	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Children's Trust of SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Local Government	City of Columbia	Hospitality Tax funding for marketing	No Change
Local Government	City of Columbia Parks & Recreation	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Claflin University	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Clemson Area Amateur Astronomers	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	ColaJazz Foundation	Educational Content and educational programming collaboration; SCSM Executive Director on ColaJazz Advisory Board.	No Change
Higher Education Institute	College of Charleston	Collaborate re: paleontological investigations in SC; provide access to natural history collections	No Change
Local Government	Columbia Animal Services	Educational Content and educational programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Governmental Organization	Columbia Attractions	Joint Ticketing and Promotion	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Columbia Fireflies	Public programming collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Columbia Green	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Non-Governmental Organization	Columbia Museums	Joint Ticketing and Promotion	No Change
Local Government	Columbia Visitors Bureau	Marketing and Advertising ands dedicated space inside museum	No Change
State Government	Confederate Relic Room	Joint Ticketing and Programming	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Congaree Vista Guild	Marketing and Advertising Collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Private Business Organization	Converge Collective	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
State Government	Department of Education	School field trips and content support	No Change
State Government	Department of Health and Human Services HIPP program	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	Department on Aging	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Developmental Disabilities Council	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Disability Rights SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	EASE (Equal Accessibility & Support Everywhere, Inc.)	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Independent Nonprofit	EdVenture Children's Museum	Education and accessibility collaboration	Add
Professional Association	Environmental Education Association of South Carolina	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Erskine College	Collaborate re: paleontological investigations in SC; provide access to natural history collections for students	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Family Connections of SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil	Collaborate re: palaeoecological/paleontological similarities between Brazil and SC	No Change
Federal Government	Fort Jackson	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
State Government	Francis Marion and Thomas Sumter National Forest	Community engagement and public programming support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Higher Education Institute	Francis Marion University Dept of Physics	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Furman University	Executive Director Participation in the Riley Institute DLI program; collaboration on native plant garden at the Museum.	Add
Non-Government Organization	Giant Portland Cement	MOA re: collecting paleontological resources from the property	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Gills Creeks Watershed Association	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Non-Governmental Organization	Girl Scouts of SC: Mountains to the Midlands	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Glenrock Paleon Museum	Collaborate re: geological and paleontological investigations in WY	Add
Private Business Organization	Goins Dancing	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	Harvest Hope	Hosted food drive and donated 171 pounds of food to their food pantry	No Change
Local Government	Historic Columbia	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration; SCSM Staff Member serves on Jubilee Festival Steering Committee	No Change
Private Business Organization	Human Resources Certification Institute	Human Resources Professional Development	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	iNaturalist	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Institute for Learning Innovation	Partnership with guest value survey	No Change
Federal Government	Institute for Museums and Library Services	Educational programming; Museums for All; Funding for SCSM Digitization Projects	Amend
Professional Association	International Astronomical Union	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Professional Association	International Council on Museums (ICOM)	Staff Professional Development	No Change
Professional Association	International Planetarium Society	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Federal Government	Johnson Space Center - NASA	Educational Content and educational programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Keep the Midlands Beautiful	Supplied materials for museum grounds clean up	No Change
Non-Government Organization	KinCarolina	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Lexington 250	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Independent Nonprofit	Lexington County Museum	Community engagement and public programming support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	Limitless Purpose	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Lowcountry Stargazers	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Made By Us	National organization dedicated to promoting history and civic engagement with young audiences.	No Change
Higher Education Institute	McKissick Museum - University of South Carolina	Provide mutual support for museum natural history collections; provide access to collections for students	No Change
Professional Association	Midlands Astronomy Club	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Midlands Coin Club	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Independent Nonprofit	Midlands Nature and Bird Alliance	Community engagement and public programming support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	Miracles Leagues of Myrtle Beach	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Higher Education Institute	Moving Images Research Collection, University Libraries, University of South Carolina	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Professional Association	Museum Store Association	Resource and support network for museum store operators	No Change
State Government	Museums of York County	Collaborate re: paleontological and modern zoological investigations in South Carolina	No Change
Federal Government	NASA	Astronomy Content and programming	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Professional Association	National Council for Public History (NCPH)	Institutional Member, Staff Professional Development	No Change
Federal Government	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science	MOA re: collecting/housing marine mammal skeletal parts	No Change
Professional Association	National Society for Human Resources Mgmt	Human Resources collaboration, support, and professional development	No Change
Professional Association	NC Museum Council	Staff Professional Development	No Change
Local Government	North Charleston Cultural Arts	Traveling Exhibition Development	No Change
Non-Government Organization	One Columbia	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Private Business Organization	OneWell Health Care	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
K-12 Education Institute	PACE Academy	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Palmetto Animal Assisted Life Services	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	Palmetto Archives, Libraries & Museum Council on Preservation (PALMCOP)	Staff Professional Development	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Palmetto Swing Dance Association	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Palmetto Trail Conservancy	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
State Government	Patriot's Point Naval & Maritime Museum	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Federal Government	President's Volunteer Service Award	Volunteer Content and Appreciation Award	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Independent Nonprofit	Professional Photographers of South Carolina	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Richland 250	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Local Government	Richland and Lexington County Disabilities and Special Needs Board	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Local Government	Richland County	Hospitality Tax funding for marketing	No Change
Local Government	Richland Library	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Richland Soil and Water Conservation District	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	River Alliance	Educational Content and educational programming collaboration, economic development	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	Riverbanks Zoo	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	Saluda Shoals Park	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Federal Government	Savannah River Site (SRS)	SCSM staff member serves on Heritage Preservation Advisory Team	No Change
State Government	SC African American Heritage Commission	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	SC Assistive Technology Program	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Commission for the Blind	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	SC Council for the Social Studies	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
State Government	SC Department of Administration - HR	Human Resources collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Department of Agriculture	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Department of Archives and History	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
State Government	SC Department of Children's Advocacy	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Department of Employment and Workforce	Collaboration for future planning of SC Innovation Wing and other workforce preparation opportunities.	Add
State Government	SC Digital Library	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Professional Association	SC Federation of Museums (SCFM)	MOU Partnership; Institutional Member; Museum Support and Professional Development	No Change
Non-Government Organization	SC First Steps	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
State Government	SC Forestry Commission	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	SC Hands and Voices	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	SC Heritage Trust Advisory Board	Partnership; SCSM Staff participates on advisory board	No Change
State Government	SC Human Affairs	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
Non-Governmental Organization	SC Humanities Council	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
State Government	SC Military Museum	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Governmental Organization	SC Museum Foundation	Private Fundraising for the museum	No Change
Professional Association	SC Oral Health Netowrk	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
State Government	SC Parks & Recreation	Cross marketing and dedicated exhibit space inside museum	No Change
Non-Government Organization	SC Pediatric Alliance	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	SC Science Teachers Education Leadership Association	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	Add
State Government	SC State Arts Commission	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	SC Thrive	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	SC Wildlife Federation	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
State Government	SCETV	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	School for the Deaf and Blind	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Professional Association	Smithsonian Affiliations Program	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Federal Government	Smithsonian Institution	Affiliation member and use of memberships for museum members	No Change
Federal Government	Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES)	Exhibition loans, educational content and educational programming collaboration	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Federal Government	Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum	Object Loans	No Change
Federal Government	Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	Amend
Federal Government	Smithsonian National Museum of American History	Co-ownership of the SC 2nd Regiment Flag.	Amend
Private Business Organization	SoulHaus Gallery	Public program participants and accessibility program support.	No Change
Non-Government Organization	South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame	Collaborate to showcase the annual SC Athletic Hall of Fame inductees and develop future exhibition about sports in SC	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	South Carolina Council for History Education (SCCHE)	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration; Director of Audience Engagement sits on board	Add
Independent Nonprofit	South Carolina Environmental Law Project	Community engagement and public programming support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
State Government	South Carolina Geological Survey	Collaborate re: geological and paleontological investigations in SC	No Change
K-12 Education Institute	South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities	Public program participants and accessibility program support.	No Change
State Government	South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology - (SCIAA) Maritime Research Division	Administer and maintain compliance with the SC Underwater Antiquities Act	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	South Carolina Native Plant Society	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Non-Government Organization	South Carolina Philharmonic	Educational programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	South Carolina Watermedia Society	Traveling Exhibition Development	Add
Higher Education Institute	South Caroliniana Library, University Libraries, University of South Carolina	Public program participants and accessibility program support.	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Professional Association	Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC)	Institutional Member, Staff Professional Development; SCSM Staff Member served as Co-Chair Program Committee	No Change
Professional Association	Southeastern Planetarium Association	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Professional Association	Southeastern Registrar Association	Staff Professional Development; SCSM Staff Members Serves as State Representative	No Change
Professional Association	STEM Centers SC	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Non-Government Organization	Stormwater Studios	Public program participants and accessibility program support.	No Change
State Government	Talking Book Services	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Non-Government Organization	The Arc of SC	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	The Behavior Co	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	The Carolina Bird Club	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Private Business Organization	The Comet - Central Midlands Transit	Programming & Cross-promotion/marketing	Add
Non-Government Organization	The Jasper Project	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	The Lovis Foundation	Accessibility program collaboration and support	Add
Independent Nonprofit	The Midlands Master Naturalist Association	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Independent Nonprofit	The Nature Conservancy	Community engagement and public programming support	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Non-Government Organization	The Nickelodeon Theater (Columbia Film Society)	Public programming and educational collaboration and support	No Change
Private Business Organization	The VISTA Guild	Professional affiliation, Cross-promotion/marketing	No Change
Federal Government	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Maintain permits re: collecting/housing migratory bird and golden eagle remains	No Change
Federal Government	United States Geological Survey	Collaborate re: geological and paleontological investigations in SC and other regions in the SE USA	No Change
Higher Education Institute	University of South Carolina	Internship Staffing	No Change
Federal Government	US Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management	MOA re: housing paleontological resources from property in eastern Wyoming	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Autism & Family Research Lab	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Higher Education Institute	USC Autism and Neurodevelopment Center	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Brain Research Across Development Lab	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Capstone Service Team	Volunteer Service project to clean up museum grounds	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Center for Civil Rights History & Research	Educational content and programming collaboration	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC College of Music - USC Symphony Orchestra	Educational programming collaboration	No Change
Independent Nonprofit	USC Department of Biological Sciences	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Higher Education Institute	USC Dept of Physics and Astronomy	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	Add

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
Higher Education Institute	USC Early Social Development Lab	Accessibility program collaboration and support	No Change
Higher Education	USC Humanities Collective	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Higher Education Institute	USC Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections	Educational Content and educational Programming collaboration	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Koger Center	Educational programming collaboration - object display	No Change
Higher Education Institute	USC Native American Studies Center - Lancaster	Exhibition co-development, educational programming, Object loans	No Change
Higher Education	USC Press	Community engagement and public programming support	Add
Higher Education Institute	Voorhees University	Public program participants and accessibility program support.	No Change

2026

Reports Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

H950 - STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION

Report Name	Law Number (if applicable)	Summary of information requested in the report	Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year	Reporting Frequency	Type of entity/entities	Method to access the report	Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online)	Changes to this report during the past fiscal year	Explanation why a report wasn't submitted
Affirmative Action Plan	SC Code Sec. 1-13-110	Plan on Diversity of workforce	August-26	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Sonja Bradford, Chief of Human Resources and Administration	Amend	
Agency Accountability Report	§1-1-810	The report "must contain the agency's or department's mission, objectives to accomplish the mission, and performance measures that show the degree to which objectives are being met." Agencies must "identify key program area descriptions and expenditures and link these to key financial and performance results measures."	September-26	Annually	Governor or Lt. Governor AND Legislative entity or entities	EBO AAR database and SCSM Website	Emily Gallo, Chief of Staff	No Change	
Agency Head Review	N/A	Performance appraisal of Agency Head	September-26	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Sonja Bradford, Chief of Human Resources and Administration	No Change	
Audit	N/A	Audit of financial transactions and procedures	July of 2025	Other	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Available on another website	Chuck Bledsoe, Finance Director	No Change	Audits are not annual; they are as required
Budget Request	Title 11, Chapter 11. S.C Code of Laws	Financial needs for next fiscal year	September of 2025	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Amy Bartow-Melia, Executive Director	No Change	
Employment Wage	N/A	Data on wages paid	June of 2025	Quarterly	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Sonja Bradford, Chief of Human Resources and Administration	No Change	
Info Tech Inventory and Plan	10-1-140	Listing of all hardware and software	August-26	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Matt Joy, IT Director	No Change	

Report Name	Law Number (if applicable)	Summary of information requested in the report	Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year	Reporting Frequency	Type of entity/entities	Method to access the report	Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online)	Changes to this report during the past fiscal year	Explanation why a report wasn't submitted
Info Tech Security Plan	Proviso 117.117	IT needs and issues for upcoming year	August-26	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Matt Joy, IT Director	No Change	
Minority Utilization Plan	N/A	Data on minority business use	July of 2025	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Sonja Bradford, Chief of Human Resources and Administration	No Change	
Salary Supplements	Proviso 93.10	Any supplements paid to museum staff from non-state sources	August of 2025	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Sonja Bradford, Chief of Human Resources and Administration	No Change	
Sales Tax Returns	2019 Act No. 21 Section 1	Data on sales taxes collected	August of 2026	Monthly	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Chuck Bledsoe, Finance Director	No Change	
Senate Oversight Committee Review	N/A	Information requested about agency H950 by the Senate Oversight Committee	October-26	Other	Legislative entity or entities AND South Carolina state agency or agencies	Electronic copy available upon request	Emily Gallo, Chief of Staff	Add	
State Fleet Mileage	Code 1976 § 1-11-280	Data on Vehicle mileage used	August-26	Monthly	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Doug Beermann, Chief Operating Officer	No Change	
Year End GAAP reports		Specific Year-End Financial Data	June of 2026	Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Hard copy available upon request	Chuck Bledsoe, Finance Director	No Change	

AGENCY NAME:	State Museum Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	H950	SECTION:	29

2026
Accountability Report

SUBMISSION FORM

I have reviewed and approved the data submitted by the agency in the following templates:

- Data Template
  - Reorganization and Compliance
  - FY2026 Strategic Plan Results
  - FY2027 Strategic Plan Development
  - Legal
  - Services
  - Partnerships
  - Report or Review
  - Budget
- Discussion Template
- Organizational Template

I have reviewed and approved the financial report summarizing the agency's budget and actual expenditures, as entered by the agency into the South Carolina Enterprise Information System.

The information submitted is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

AGENCY DIRECTOR *(SIGN AND DATE)*:	**SIGNATURE ON FILE**	**Signature Received:** 09/14/2026
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	Amy Bartow-Melia, Executive Director	

BOARD/CMSN CHAIR *(SIGN AND DATE)*:	**SIGNATURE ON FILE**	**Signature Received:** 09/14/2026
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	John F. McCabe, Museum Commission Chairman	