National Videogame Museum Fact Sheet

Overview

The National Videogame Museum (NVM) is the only museum in America dedicated to the history of the videogame industry. The museum provides a physical location that interactively displays the history and impact on popular culture that videogames have had on the public. The museum features more than 100,000 videogame consoles, games, artifacts and more than 25 years of historical documents and data archives. NVM is an established 501(c)(3) non-profit and was founded by John Hardie, Sean Kelly and Joe Santulli.

The founders have collected videogame artifacts and other materials since the 1980s and have spent the past 20 years tracking-down the pioneers of the videogame industry to document their innovations and contributions. Also during that time, they have been building historical videogame exhibits at all of the major industry events and have come to be known as the foremost historians of videogame history. Together, they formed the Videogame History Museum in 2009 and set out to find a permanent home. In September 2014, The City of Frisco voted unanimously to build out the unfinished area in the Frisco Discovery Center and allow it to be the new home of the National Videogame Museum.

The family-friendly museum serves as a trip down memory lane for people of all ages who grew up playing videogames well as those who are interested in a deeper understand of the origins of the industry.

Mascot

Blip!, the official mascot of the National Videogame Museum, is created from a variety of videogame components including joysticks, arcade buttons, cables and plugs.

Mission

To preserve the history of the videogame industry by archiving not only the physical artifacts, but also the information and stories behind its creation.

Advisory Board

The museum’s advisory board has more than a dozen members, including: Randy Pitchford, CEO of Gearbox Software, David Crane, co-founder of Activision and Garry Kitchen, the founder of Absolute Entertainment.
Installations

The museum spans 10,000-square-feet, includes a gift shop and features more than 20 displays including:

- **Pixel Dreams**: A 1980s-inspired arcade full of timeless classics such as Asteroids, Centipede, Donkey Kong, Space Invaders and more.
- **Giant Pong**: Play the classic game Pong on the world’s largest home Pong console on a giant 15-foot TV replica from the 1970s.
- **Head-to-Head Hall**: A hall full of gaming stations where you can go head-to-head with friends, family or competitors in tournaments. Guests may find a set of game systems and games they’ve never seen before or find a tribute to their favorite game franchise played on 10 different systems. The hall takes advantage of NVM’s 12,000+ library of games and will be an ever-changing area of fun.
- **Gearbox behind the scenes**: See the actual office of Randy Pitchford, founder of Gearbox Software and creator of games Borderlands, Brothers in Arms and Duke Nukem Forever.
- **The Timeline of Consoles**: Learn the stories and see artifacts from more than 50 past and present videogame consoles on a physical timeline.
- **Rarest artifacts**: A collection of rare artifacts will be displayed including the only Sega Neptune prototype, the unreleased Barbie edition for the Nintendo Game Boy Pocket system, the Atari Mindlink controller (one of only two in the world), the ultra-rare RDI Halcyon laserdisc-based game console and the Nintendo World Championships cartridge from 1990.

Educational programming

NVM is an interactive museum that brings to life science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) values by tapping into America’s enthusiasm for playing and creating videogames. The founders envision an educational mission for the National Videogame Museum. Future programming at the museum will include hands-on workshops utilizing the museum’s collaboration with the Southern Methodist University’s (SMU) Guild Hall videogame programming degree curriculum that teach individuals the building blocks of game development and other STEAM activities. The museum is will also be available for field trips, birthday parties, corporate functions, camps, seminars and more.

Opening date

Winter 2015 – Early 2016 (Check back on the website for updates.)

Sponsor

The City of Frisco
Location
8004 North Dallas Parkway, Ste. 300, Frisco, TX 75034

Contact
Public telephone: (972) 668-8400

Admission
$12 general admission (ages 13-65); $10 for children (ages 4-12) and teachers, military and seniors (with valid ID), and children 3 and under are free. Parking is free at the Frisco Discovery Center.

Hours
Closed Mondays; Tuesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sunday: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Social media
Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | #nvmusa

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