

## **Eric J. Jolly**

President,  
Science Museum of Minnesota  
St. Paul, Minnesota



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Dr. Eric J. Jolly is president of the Science Museum of Minnesota, which is among the nation's largest and most-esteemed science museums. He leads a museum that develops and presents exhibits, films and educational programs to 1.3 million people in the upper Midwest and to millions more around the world through its traveling programs. Since being named president in 2004, Dr. Jolly has overseen steady growth in the museum's annual attendance, including the most highly attended year in the museum's history, and the Twin Cities' most popular exhibit to date—*Body Worlds*, with more than 750,000 visitors. Dr. Jolly also led the museum through the milestone celebration of its centennial year in 2007.

Dr. Jolly is widely recognized for his contributions to mathematics and science education, frequently working with such groups as the American Association for the Advancement of Science, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, National Council for Teachers of Mathematics, and the National Science Teachers Association. Dr. Jolly's work with youth, families, and communities includes diverse organizations such as Youth Alive!, The Innovation Center, American Youth Policy Forum, the American Museum of Natural History, the Open Society Institutes' Youth Media Programs and the AAAS Healthy Families 2010 project.

Dr. Jolly was a founding partner of the national "Collaboration for Equity" project, and co-director of "Access by Design"—a technology project of the National Science Foundation. In 1994 he founded the National Institute of Affirmative Action. He serves on numerous national advisory boards, including the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Committee on Opportunities in Science for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (as past chair), and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. He is also on the Association of Science-Technology Centers Board of Directors. Locally, he serves on the Board of Directors of The Minneapolis Foundation, the Saint Paul RiverCentre Convention and Visitor's Authority, and is an advisor to the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute on Nonprofit Leadership.

Dr. Jolly has published many scholarly articles and lectured throughout the world. Most recently, he published "Engagement, Capacity and Continuity: A Trilogy For Student Success," which analyzes why successful individual reform efforts have not led to broader increases in students achieving at high levels nor entering careers in science and math.

Prior to joining the Science Museum of Minnesota, Dr. Jolly served as senior scientist and vice president for Education Development Center in Newton, Mass. Dr. Jolly has served as senior fellow for the UCLA School of Public Policy, and Osher Fellow for the Exploratorium of San Francisco, and a Kellogg National Leadership Fellow. He is a member of numerous honor societies, including Sigma Xi, Phi Eta Sigma,

Mortarboard, and Golden Key. He is also a life member of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science.

Dr. Jolly has a PhD in psychology from the University of Oklahoma. His undergraduate studies were physics and psychology.