

# Liberty Science Center

Liberty State Park, New Jersey

**Role:** Design Architect and Museum Planner for New Science Center

**Program:** 60,000 SF of “hands-on” science exhibits, 400-seat Omnimax Theater (the largest in the United States), 300-seat Science Theater/Auditorium, a 3D Laser Show, theaters, lobby, cafe, gift shop, function spaces, roof decks, classrooms, exhibit support areas.

**Building Area:** 173,000 sf

**Status:** Opened in January 1993

**Description:** VernerJohnson first provided extensive research that helped the Science Center select a prominent site that is highly visible from lower Manhattan, the New Jersey Turnpike, and excursion boats traveling to and from Manhattan to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The building is designed along a major axis originating at the Statue of Liberty and culminating at the new Science Center. The Center's location at the terminus of this axis dictated that the building have sufficient energy and mass to perform its important anchor role. In addition, the visibility of the building from the New Jersey Turnpike Extension demanded a design that would not only symbolize an exciting, state-of-the-art Science Center, but also be able to attract the thousands of potential visitors will drive by each day.



