Events at the Natural History Museum of Utah

The Natural History Museum of Utah illuminates the natural world and the place of humans within it. From the inspired architectural design of our home, the Rio Tinto Center, to our galleries, we are pleased to offer a unique environment for social programs and private events in a setting that promises to inspire awe.

FULL MUSEUM
Rent the entire Museum and receive exclusive evening access to the Canyon and Canyon Terrace, including all five levels of galleries. Your guests can experience the dinosaurs of Past Worlds, unveil Utah’s rich archaeology in First Peoples, walk through dramatic geology in Land, enjoy stunning views from Great Salt Lake and Sky, discover diversity in Life, and explore the stories of Utah’s American Indian peoples in Native Voices.

Capacity:
1,500 Circulating | 400 Standing
232 to 340 Seated*

Rental:
$11,000  6:30 - 11 p.m.

*Seated Capacity above 232 may require additional fees for equipment or services

CANYON and CANYON TERRACE
As the signature space of the Museum, the Canyon offers dramatic architecture inspired by the slot canyons of southern Utah. Light plays off faceted walls that soar over a concrete floor inlaid with stones reminiscent of a streambed. To the west, the Canyon opens to sweeping views of the Salt Lake Valley through a three-story glass wall. An adjacent outdoor terrace extends your guests’ experience, weather permitting.

Capacity:
400 Standing Reception
232 to 340 Seated*

Rental:
$5,000  6:30 - 11 p.m.

GALLERY EXPERIENCE
Special Exhibit / Level 3
Offer your guests exclusive access to our Special Exhibitions Gallery featuring premier traveling exhibitions from museums across the country. Your guests will also enjoy our stunning permanent display of gems and minerals.

Explore 150 Million Years of Awesome / Levels 2-3
Your guests will stroll through four galleries and millions of years in Utah. They’ll marvel at Utah’s newly-discovered dinosaurs, transform the Great Salt Lake into prehistoric Lake Bonneville, discover some of the oldest objects made by Utah’s first inhabitants, and work together in an interactive game to shape a sustainable future.

Uniquely Utah / Levels 3-5
Your guests will explore five galleries showcasing Utah’s remarkable natural and cultural history. They’ll discover the lifeways of Utah’s ancient peoples, our state’s stunning landscapes and astounding biological diversity, the vibrant cultures of native people living here today, and the forces that shape our climate and weather.

Rental: $2,000 per Experience  6:30 - 11 p.m.

All Rentals Include
- Evening events may start as early as 6:30 p.m., set-up as early as 5:00 p.m., excluding Wednesdays.
- The Gallery Experience packages are offered as a two-hour add-on to any Canyon or Level 5 rental starting as early as 5 p.m.
- Guest parking (large events may require parking arrangements)
- Dedicated event and IT staff
- High-speed wireless Internet access
- Setup/teardown of NHMU equipment
- Riser, podium, and microphone
- Conference tables (6’) and chairs
- Cocktail tables (30’)
- Banquet rounds (60”) and chairs (seat eight guests per table)

Rentals do not include admission to the galleries during the event with the exception of the Full Museum or Gallery Experience.
Level 5 Event Spaces

The Museum's Level 5 Galleries and Swaner Forum offer spaces for smaller events, lectures, and business meetings.

EVENING EVENTS Level 5

Swaner Forum
An intimate reception, a pulsing nightclub, or a laid-back lounge—the versatile Swaner Forum can accommodate most any evening event you can envision. With the lights of the city spread beneath you, you can dine in elegance or dance the night away. The Swaner Forum comes equipped with built-in house sound, two screens, and LCD projectors.

Capacity:
150 Standing | 80 Seated

Sky and Sky Terrace
Sky offers a panoramic view of the Salt Lake Valley as well as an indoor-outdoor interpretive space that invites your guests to interact with weather, atmosphere, and the stars.

Capacity:
120 Standing | 80 Seated

Native Voices
Designed in consultation with Utah's American Indian communities, Native Voices interprets the deep history and contemporary cultures of Utah's native peoples.

Rental: $3,000 All Level 5 6:30 - 11 p.m.

DAYTIME EVENTS Level 5

Swaner Forum
With breathtaking views and professional audio-visual equipment, the Swaner Forum is your perfect venue for board meetings, lectures, classroom sessions, seated breakfasts or luncheons, and receptions. The Swaner Forum is the only rental space available during regular Museum hours.

Capacity:
150 Standing | 72 Seated
150 Lecture | 36 Executive

Morning Rental:
$550 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Afternoon Rental:
$550 1 - 5 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Rental:
$550 5 - 9 p.m.

Full Day Rental:
$1,000 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Explore the Possibilities

If you would like to explore the possibilities of holding your private event at the Museum, contact us: 801-585-9538 events@nhmu.utah.edu