



# THE SECRET WORLD INSIDE YOU

**CURATED BY:** Rob DeSalle, Curator, Division of Invertebrate Zoology  
Susan Perkins, Curator, Division of Invertebrate Zoology

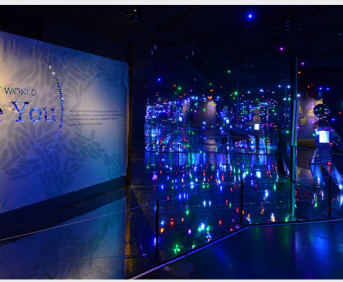
**Discover the human microbiome—the vast community of bacteria, viruses, and other microbes that call our bodies home.**

Although many of us think of microorganisms as “germs” that cause disease, only a tiny percentage of them actually make people sick. This interactive exhibition takes visitors on a journey through the human body to explore the microbiome. Find out what these microbes are, where they are found, how they interact within us and how incredible new discoveries are redefining notions of human health.

*“State of the art exhibits... making complex topics easy to grasp. It is an eye-popping spectacle...”*

— NEW YORK TIMES





An **immersive light and mirror display** represents the trillions of microbes that have found a home in each and every one of us—more microbes than there are stars in the Milky Way.



**Large-scale digital interactives** explore where microbes live, how they affect our bodies, and what happens when the microbiome is unbalanced.



**A live presenter engages audiences** to explore microbe diversity and how our actions affect these populations. (Video options available)



**Videos with leading scientists** in this rapidly developing field tell the story of our evolving understanding of health and disease.



**Gigantic models, infographics, vibrant images and hands-on interactive exhibits** bring the invisible world to life.



## Exhibition Themes:

### An Unseen World

Discover the essential roles microbes (bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms) play in the ecology of the world around us—and inside us.

### You Are an Ecosystem

There are more microbial cells in your body than human cells. Meet microbes that have coevolved with us to keep our systems working properly. Subsections of the exhibit explore the microbes of the **Skin, Reproductive System, and Digestive System.**

### Our Microbiomes

Each person's microbiome is unique, changing over time as he or she interacts with the world. Discover how we get our

microbes, learn about the importance of diversity and balance and see how our actions and environment affect them.

### A Scientific Frontier

Scientists are investigating potential links between a disrupted microbiome and conditions such as obesity, autoimmune disorders and even cancer. Discover how new ideas may change the practice of medicine.

### Your Microbiome, Your Future

A live presentation engages visitors to discover how scientists collect and study microbes, and how our actions affect microbe diversity and ultimately our health.

*“A laser-focused glimpse of the inner workings of humans.”*

— LIVESCIENCE

#### FIND OUT MORE:

[amnh.org/traveling](http://amnh.org/traveling)  
[travelingprograms@amnh.org](mailto:travelingprograms@amnh.org)  
 212.496.3362

#### EXHIBITION CREDITS:

*The Secret World Inside You* is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, (amnh.org).  
 Photo credits: © AMNH/D. Finnin and R. Mickens

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

-  **VENUE GALLERY SIZE:**  
7,000 – 8,000 ft<sup>2</sup>
-  **VENUE CEILING HEIGHT:**  
11 ft recommended
-  **CONSERVATION + SECURITY:**  
Low
-  **STANDARD RENTAL LENGTH:**  
14 – 16 weeks