



Frederic Bertley, Ph.D. President & CEO

Dr. Bertley is a renowned scientist, scholar, immunologist and educator. His passion for science and innovation brings the joy of discovery to people of all ages where they live, learn and lounge. Since 2017 he has brought his excitement to Columbus, Ohio as the President and CEO of COSI.

His drive to innovate has led to highly engaging experiences including the COSI Science Festival, The Color of Science™ and EiPIC programs, as well as the celebrated STEM kit program. Under his leadership, COSI has been lauded as the nation's #1 science museum for four consecutive years by the USA Today Readers' Choice Awards and been awarded the prestigious 2023 IMLS National Medal.

Dr. Bertley earned a bachelor's in physiology, mathematics and the history of science as well as a doctorate in immunology, both from McGill University. He continued his research as a fellow at Harvard Medical School, working on the development of DNA vaccines for HIV/AIDS. His global health work includes preventative medicine and basic vaccines in Haiti, Sudan and the Canadian Arctic, alongside education and science programs in Egypt, Paraguay, Senegal and the Caribbean. Before joining COSI, Dr. Bertley served as senior vice president for science and education at The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

As part of his continued interest in communicating science to a broad audience, Dr. Bertley co-created and is the host of the prime time television show QED with Dr. B, in partnership with PBS-WOSU Public Media. He is also responsible for creating the animated online series, Dr. B in 3. Both of these science literacy creatives have won a combined six EMMY™ awards over their first and second seasons.

Dr. Bertley sits on numerous boards including Park National Bank, White Castle, Columbus Regional Airport Authority, the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, Experience Columbus, the Association of Science and Technology Centers, the American Alliance of Museums, Inquiry Schools and several other organizations.

He has presented at distinguished institutions nationally and internationally including The United Nations, The White House, the National Academy of Sciences, NASA and in Europe, Africa and the Caribbean. Dr. Bertley has received numerous honors including: the Spirit of Columbus Award, the George Washington Carver Award, Columbus CEO of the Year and blooloop 50 Museum Influencer (UK). He was also awarded honorary degrees from McGill University, Otterbein University, Columbus State and the Presidential Medal of Service from The Ohio State University, all of which were presented when he gave commencement speeches at the schools.

