## 1. Add to your skills with practical ideas & useful how-to tips.

Your creative juices will be flowing when you learn new skills and techniques at conference. Attending conference will make you a more productive employee because you will be able to bring actionable solutions and alternatives ideas to help your site stay relevant. Conference sessions will inspire and motivate you!

## 2. Engage key colleagues and meet experts in the field!

It is not every day that you can be surrounded by 900+ museum professionals. Expand your network and learn from the experts during sessions and off-site events. Acquire new tools and information in the Exhibit Hall and bring what you learn back to your museum. Follow up with your new connections when you get back and invite them to visit your site.

# 3. Get out of your comfort zone and museum.

Whether you are extroverted, introverted, or a bit of both, the conference is a great opportunity for you to push beyond your everyday museum walls. Experiencing new museums and their way of doing things broadens your horizons. Gain confidence to implement change at your site by attending conference and recognizing there is supportive network here for you.

## 4. Share your voice, it matters to the field!

Share your knowledge and opinion as a conference attendee or presenter. Conference reminds you that you are not alone in the field and your voice can make a difference. Be sure to share the energy and content with your colleagues back at your museum, this way your attendance benefits everyone.

#### 5. You deserve personal growth

Remember you are in this field for a reason. You may just be starting out or have a few years (or lifetime) under your belt, but regardless you are an individual who is committed to doing the best job possible in your current role. Growing your understanding, quenching your curiosity, and aggregating your professional tools is important. Take the time to invest in your future and take the leap to attend conference.