



Come play,
Learn,
Grow!

KACM Newsletter

Winter 2015

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON...

From our Executive Director

Thank you for the warm welcome as I recently started my new position at the museum. I've enjoyed meeting many of you and look forward to meeting you all!

We are finishing the year on a high note as we just opened our brand-new Pizzeria exhibit and hosted our annual Breakfast with Santa event on December 5. These events are successful because of the generous support of our donors and volunteers.

As you read through all that is happening at the museum, I hope you will see how we are here to support connections within the family, the community, and the world around us.

We invite you to stop by and experience our youthful energy. The museum is the perfect place to let your inner-child out!

Traci Winscot
Executive Director



Mission Statement

The Kearney Area Children's Museum provides fun, interactive, educational experiences for children which stimulates creative play and expression, while supporting connections within the family, the community and the world around us. Come Play, Learn, and Grow with us!

Thank you to our volunteers!

It is no surprise that healthy families and good educational resources for our children improve the quality of life for everyone in the community. We believe that the work of the Kearney Area Children's Museum plays an important role in building those families and providing those resources.

If you believe in the work of the Kearney Area Children's Museum, please consider making a contribution to the museum. A gift—whether of time, money, or supplies to the Kearney Area Children's Museum—provides inspiring programs, themed events, new exhibits, and discounted community access days.

Volunteer opportunities

Apply online to work/volunteer at the Kearney Area Children's Museum or print Employee Application or Volunteer Application and mail it in! All applicants must be willing to submit to a background check.

- Meet new people
- Challenge yourself to something you are passionate about
- Help out the community
- Flexible hours to fit your schedule
- Have fun!

Volunteer Spotlight

We'd love to shine a light on this quarter's outstanding volunteers: our Pizzeria contributors!

- Bryan Stava (pizza oven)
- Shawn Dowse (base cabinets)
- Ryan Kohts & Jesse Pandorf (tile board mounts)
- Eric Holt (graphic design)
- UNK Art Department



9th Annual Treasure Chest Dinner & Auction

Our 9th Annual Treasure Chest was a huge success! With your help we raised \$15,000 that will help us continue to accomplish our mission! The program included a brief presentation of the museum's history. A picture book highlighting the early history can be found in our reading nook at the museum. We truly appreciate your support!



New Exhibits



Flo-Graphix

Flo-Graphix is an interactive use of florescent-colored puzzle like pieces which children can affix to a carpeted panel board and create their own graphic and artistic designs. There are no wrong solutions, no pre-conceived diagrams to copy, detailed instructions to follow. Each child is encouraged to create! This exhibit has been made possible through funds provided by the Pandorf family.



Lend-A-Hand Pizzeria

Kearney Area Children's Museum opened its newest exhibit on November 20 with a grand opening event. The "Lend-A-Hand Pizzeria" comes with a faux wood burning stove, pizza peels, aprons, and a pizza-making station which consists of crust, toppings and kid friendly tools. The pizzeria was funded with donations by families who purchased handprint tiles (donated by Babl Kitchen and Bath) during the Lend-A-Hand fundraiser, which is recognized through the naming of the exhibit. A grant was also provided through the UNK Associate General Contractors organization and the State of Nebraska Education Committee.



Kids Fit Gym

We opened "KidsFit Gym" on June 19, 2015, consisting of a new indoor climbing structure and existing rock climbing wall. This replaced the museum's former sports zone. The new exhibit is an update to our sports play area. The KidsFit Obstacle Course is a collection of innovative, inclusive and exciting play equipment that will enable parents and children to select activities that are appropriate to the interests and age of the child. Many of the exhibit's activities encourage cooperative play and advance motor skills and all of them encourage engagement that helps build physical confidence and mental concentration skills in children of all ages. The structure was funded with grants from the Peter Kiewit Foundation, City of Kearney – Keno Lottery Trust Fund, the Michelle Hilkemann memorial fund and private donations. A special thank you goes to Dobytown Kiwanis, the Kearney Area Home Builders Association, and Glen and Linda Powell for their assistance with installing the new structure.

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Museum Leadership

Traci Winscot
 Jennifer Beck
 Rebecca Zimelman

Museum Staff

Makenzie, Laura, Ashley, Belbeth,
 Briana, Tyler, Hailey, Sipres

KACM Fun Facts!

- Over 36,208 children and adults have visited KACM since our new building opening in May 2010. Visitors have come from all over Nebraska and as far as Texas, Connecticut, Oregon, California and many places in between!
- More than 985 families & care givers are members, residing all over Central Nebraska, including Callaway, Grand Island, Holdrege, Wilcox & more!
- The Children's Museum is a vital part of our community because it provides families an opportunity to bond without limitations, promotes active learning, encourages children to explore and learn at their own pace, and creates a sense of community in a safe, hands-on learning environment and its FUN!
- As a cultural and educational anchor in Kearney, we support a creative and enhanced community. We have been featured in nationally published Nick Jr. Magazine.
- Over 1,556 children and adults have attended Fun Family Free Nights, sponsored by local businesses and organizations.

Museum Donors & Supporters

Donors \$100 and up

AAA

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 Union Pacific Foundation
 Ward Laboratories
 West Pharmaceuticals
 West Company

***List as of Dec 1, 2015**



Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!



Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!



Jennifer
Director of
Community Engagement

Traci
Executive
Director

Rebecca
Operations
Manager

New Membership Rates

~Affective January 1, 2016~

Family-\$90 for one year | \$10 a month*

2 adults and all children living in the same household under the age of 18

Grandparents-\$90 for one year | \$10 a month*

2 grandparents and all grandchildren under the age of 18

Patron-\$125 for one year | \$14 a month*

Patron members receive all the benefits of a family or grandparents membership **plus** 1/2 price admission to more than 200 children's museums in the US

Daycare-\$102 for one year | \$11 a month*

1 adult and up to 5 children under the direct care of the daycare center

Day Care Center Plus-\$192 for one year | \$20 a month*

3 adults and up to 15 children under the direct care of the daycare center

Sharing and Caring Scholarship -\$12 for one year Income Guidelines apply

2 adults and all children living in the same household under the age of 18

Add Plus Two -\$16 more for one year | \$1.50 a month additional

Bring 2 additional guests with you at any time. Plus Two must be added on at time of membership purchase

*Processing fee included

Looking Ahead

Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve – CLOSED

Christmas Day – CLOSED

New Year's Day – OPEN from 10am-5pm

O Christmas Tree – Make It & Take It

Wednesday, December 16, 3:45 -4:45

Ages 4-8

Morning Mingle – Members Only Event

Wednesday, January 6, 9am-10am

Winter Wonderland – Make It & Take It

Wednesday, January 27, 3:45-4:45

Ages 4-8

Kids Winter Gala

Friday, January 15, 6pm-8pm

Morning Mingle – Members Only Event

Wednesday, February 3, 9am-10am

Chocolate Camp

Thursday, February 11, 8am-3pm

Ages 4-10

Cupid Camp

Friday, February 12, 8am-3pm

Ages 4-10

Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash

Thursday, March 3, 6pm-8pm

