



Spring News

Quarter 1, 2018

Spring is here, spring is here!
The warmth of the summer
sun will soon be near.
Now there might be a few
April showers, but they will
help grow beautiful May
flowers!

Welcome Spring!

Museum Hours

Monday – Closed for Cleaning
Tuesday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Wednesday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Thursday – 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday – 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

NEW 2018 Admission Pricing

Members – FREE
Children under 12 months – FREE
Children (12 months – 13 yrs) – \$8.00
Adults (14 to 59) – \$7.00
Senior Citizens – (60+) \$6.00

Membership Rates

Family*-\$90 for one year | \$10 a month
Grandparents*-\$90 for one year | \$10 a month
Patron*-\$125 for one year | \$14 a month
Daycare*-\$102 for one year | \$11 a month
Day Care Center Plus-\$192 for one year | \$20 a month
Sharing and Caring Scholarship -\$12 for one year
(Income Guidelines apply)
*Add Plus Two -\$12 more for one year | \$1 a month





A note from the Director's Desk



Spring is in the air!

Hearing the birds chirp and having that sun shine down on us is such a wonderful feeling! It's been a blessing as the winter seemed to be unusually rough this year. I know with all of the sicknesses going around, we have stayed diligent on keeping our toys and exhibits sanitized and clean at the museum. With the carpets and hard floors deep-cleaned, we are ready for a busy field-trip season!

This spring is also extra busy as we are in the process of renovating two exhibits, Peek-A-Boo Park/Mother's Room and Lego Zone. These two spaces are extremely popular at the museum and we can't wait for you to see the wonderful additions that we are making to the spaces. We ALSO may be showcasing an extra surprise this late-spring. Stay tuned to hear the exciting news!



We are here to help families be inspired through play, exploration, and discovery and couldn't be more blessed to be recognized for that. This year we received the Best of Kearney grand prize in Kid Friendly/Family Place and runner-up in Birthday Place. Thank you for your votes!

Traci Winscot
Executive Director

*No beauty shines brighter
than that of a good heart.*

EGG-stravaganza FUN!



Volunteer Spotlight

Jim & Wanda Cantrell

Why do you choose to volunteer at the museum?

We choose to volunteer for a number of reasons. The Museum staff makes it easy to volunteer as much or as little time as we want. The Museum 'projects' have a beginning and an end. This allows us to have a flexible schedule. As an example, we volunteer to work with the native landscape on our own schedule. We also participated in building the outdoor education and play area last year. A day of fun for us and many years of fun for the kids. We volunteer because it's important to support organizations in our community. The Children's Museum makes Kearney a better place to live.



What do children learn at the museum?

Some of the things children learn are how trains work and how the post office functions. All this builds citizens of tomorrow as well as just being fun activities. It is a joy to watch to kids be awed by nature from the wind tunnel; playing on the firetruck and ambulance; and, buying and selling food in the store. The Children's Museum gives them an opportunity to be hands-on as they learn to interact with the world.

Why is the museum vital to our community?

As we are neighbors to the Children's Museum, we have a personal view of life at the Museum. We see cars from every county, we see buses from many schools, we see grandparents, parents and children very excited about visiting the Museum. The Museum provides an environment where kids can be kids and parents and grandparents can be teachers. The best of all worlds.

Member Spotlight

What do children learn at the museum?

In every exhibit at the museum, there is something to learn! My family loves problem-solving with the many different types of building materials and role-playing from firefighters to dentists to astronauts! Social learning is huge for us at the museum, with so many kids of different ages interacting and learning how to play together! Children also learn to respect the exhibits and the other people who are there playing as they join.



How does the museum help your family?

The museum is a great place to connect with other families! The kids see their friends and make new ones and so do the parents! We come weekly and love attending the monthly Member Mingle events. The special holiday events the museum hosts are also fun ways to create family memories together. We are so appreciative of everything the museum offers!

**Kyle & Julie Myers
Noah & Jacob**

Why is the museum vital to our community?

The Children's Museum is vital to our community because it fills a need that no other place does. When we walk through those doors, the kids are so relaxed knowing we are in a place that is designed especially for them. Everything inside is for them to touch and explore! We really appreciate coming to the museum during those colder months when otherwise we'd be cooped up inside the house. Also the museum's presence through community outreach events is very diverse, from local children's events to UNK's Blue and Gold Day to traveling to Grand Island for the State Fair, they add some extra hands-on fun wherever they go!

Exhibit Updates in the Works



We are excited to be renovating our Mother's Room & Peek-A-Boo Park exhibits! These exhibits are being sponsored by CHI Health and furthering our partnership with CHI Health Good Samaritan to bring a welcoming, bright, and fresh space for nursing mothers and their toddlers. Renovations include a window and doorway

being added to the Mother's Room to allow easy access into both spaces, and comfortable seating and a changing table will enhance the space. In Peek-A-Boo Park, we added fresh paint and will incorporate new soft play items, sensory toys, and other educational activities for early child development.

During renovation we are using the Classroom exhibit just next door to the space. Thank you for your patience as we create a new space for your little ones!



2018

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Museum Leadership

Traci Winscot
 Jennifer Beck
 Radhika Thapaliya

Museum Part-Time Staff

Brin, Chloe, Joni, Megan, Caitlin,
 Destiny, Samantha, Leslie, Morgan, Paul

FÜN FACTS

- ♦ Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.
- ♦ Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- ♦ Ladybugs squirt smelly liquid from their knees when they are scared.
- ♦ A waterfall in Hawaii sometimes flows up instead of down.
- ♦ A gorilla burps when it's happy.
- ♦ There are more plastic flamingos in the U.S. than real ones.



Construction - Phase 2: We have started our renovation on our new Design Zone that will give children the opportunity to try their hand at drafting and architecture!



Little Sprouts Outdoor Classroom - Phase 2: With our renovations for Phase 1 complete, we are looking forward to starting the next phase which will include raised garden beds. Stay tuned!

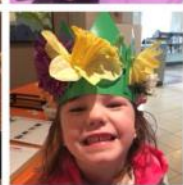
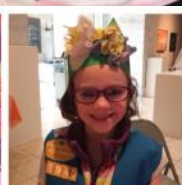


Traveling Exhibit— it's still not "official" but we may have a surprise for you for 8 weeks this summer!

What have we been up to the past 3 months?



"A good friend is like a four-leaf clover;
hard to find and lucky to have."

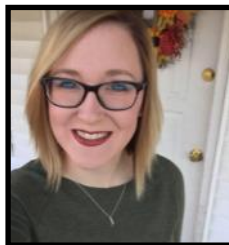


Meet our Part Time Staff



Samantha P. is a freshman at UNK studying Pre-Nursing.

"I love seeing how excited the kids get when they visit the museum. They always have so much fun with their family when they are here."



Caitlin M. is a para at Northeast Elementary and finishing her degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Special Education and ELL (English Language Learners)

"I love seeing parents learn with their kids and making new connections with them."



Megan D. will be a freshman at UNL in the fall majoring in Secondary Education with endorsements in Social Sciences and ELL.

"I love watching kids use what we have to create their own adventures."



Morgan W. is a junior at UNK and is majoring in Nursing.

"I love everything about the museum!"



Brin B. is a senior at UNK majoring in Early Childhood Inclusive with a specification in birth-5.

"I love seeing how kids are excited about learning and playing with us."



Joni D. is a preschool teacher at the YMCA in Kearney.

"I work part time at the Children's Museum and love working at the museum because I love watching kids play, learn, and create in a safe and fun environment!"



Chloe S. is a sophomore at UNK and is double-majoring in Early Childhood Education and Communication Disorders.

"One thing I love about the museum is watching children and families be together."



Destiny G. is a freshman at UNK majoring in Social Work.

"I love that the museum has so many different exhibits and that it's all interactive!"



Paul B. is our museum handyman, train exhibit conductor, and the president of Dobytown Kiwanis.

"I enjoy helping with Dobytown Junction and seeing the kids enjoy the trains is always fun."



Leslie S. is a freshman at UNK and majoring in radiography.

"My favorite part of the children's museum is working with the wonderful staff!"

April Showers Bring May Flowers

I love the transitional seasons! Yes, the weather can't seem to make up it's mind but there's something magical about the promise of something new. Buds on the tree, flowers sprouting up from the soil and that flip-flop weather is around the corner. It's certain that we also go through seasons ourselves, whether individually or as a family. How do we navigate the rain that come our way? When things are going well do we pour sunshine into the life of others? This is where PLAY comes in handy! Play can help children (and us) release emotions and work through feelings whether they are positive or negative. No matter how big the clouds or how bright the sun, always make room for giving your transitions a positive spin.

Child Interaction Tip:

Difficult Emotions - talk with your child and help them come up with several things they can do when feeling a difficult emotion. It could be building with blocks, drawing, or jumping on a trampoline. Give them a chance to utilize these items so they know it's alright to have big feelings and have confidence they can work through them positively.

Fun Emotions - we don't often think about celebrating positive days, but they are just as powerful and important as the hard ones. Celebrate by doing a freeze dance, make a gift for a neighbor (who may be having a difficult day) or simply give each other a high-five!



Jennifer Beck

Director of Community Engagement

Brainstorm Box

Visit a local nursery and let your child "adopt" a plant! They can plant it in a pot or outside in your flower beds. Caring for the plant to will help teach responsibility and build within them the heart to care for living things.

Budget Friendly Option:

Place a dry bean in a Ziploc bag with a wet cotton ball. Zip the bag closed and tape the bag to a window that gets sunlight. Over time the bean will start to sprout! Get a small pot, soil, and plant your little sprout! Same concept, easier on the wallet.





Free Family Fun Night

Thursday, April 19 from 4:00-8:00pm



Sponsored by



CHI Health Good Samaritan will be hosting a free Teddy Bear Clinic during our Free Family Fun Night from 5-7pm.

Bring your favorite stuffed friend to the Teddy Bear Clinic! Health experts will provide free check-ups for teddy bears and kids in a relaxed environment specially designed to ease kids' fear of medical exams.



Celebrating **SAFE KIDS DAY!**

Safe Kids Platte Valley is celebrating kids and helping families learn how to prevent injuries and take steps to keep their families safe.

Various activities will be available in the following areas:



**Seat Belt
Safety**



**Chemical
Safety**



**Fire
Safety**



**Water
Safety**

Sponsored by



Nice to Meet You!

Happy Spring Everyone! I wanted to take a moment to reach out to everyone as an important part of the museum's community and introduce myself. My name is Radhika Thapaliya and I am the newly appointed Operations Manager at Kearney Area Children's Museum. I am very humbled and excited to be working here at the museum and serve the Kearney community. Please stop by at the museum and say hello in the coming days. I would love to meet you and hear feedback from our members and community.



Radhika Thapaliya
Operations Manager

Did You Know?

At KACM we believe in enjoying childhood to the fullest. We have dedicated our gift shop to helping you find fun toys and games that will help your child learn through interactive play. You will find items available in our gift shop which provides learning enjoyment for ages ranging 0-12 years old.

Browse our gift shop and build memories!

Remember: Members get 10% discount on gift shop items.

Tanagrams

Spatial Relationships
Problem Solving



Snap and Sort

Sequencing
Colors Recognition



Puffy Sticker Play-Set

Recognize color patterns
Fashion Design



Water WOW!

Painting (without the mess!)
Reinforces Fine Motor Skills



Lacing Cards

Hand & Eye Coordination
Shape Recognition

Upcoming Events



MAKE IT & TAKE IT CLASS

Thursday, April 12

Littles Class - Ages 3-5, \$5 per child, 3:45-4:30
Paper Pinwheels, & Springtime Tissue Paper Tree



Juniors Class - Ages 6-11, \$10 per child, 4:30-5:15
Egg Carton Tulip Wreaths & Sun Prints of things found in nature



Reserve Your Spot!



KIDS NIGHT OUT

AT THE MUSEUM

(aka Date Night for Parents!)

Friday, April 13, 2018 • 6:00pm-8:30pm
Ages 3-12 • \$10 Members, \$15 Non Members
(All 3 year olds must be potty trained.)

Free Play in Exhibits
 Kids Activities & More

Dinner includes: Pizza, Fruit,
 Cookie, Lemonade or Water

Dinner sponsored by

REGISTER TODAY!

2018 Partnership!

We are excited to partner with Raising Canes- Kearney!



On November 1st, the Kearney Area Children's Museum was presented with a \$8,249.03 check from Raising Cane's! This was 100% of the sales during their Family and Friends event that was hosted before they opened their doors to the public.

Thank you Raising Cane's for the VERY kind donation to help us inspire play, exploration, and discovery for our guests. They truly are serious about giving and being a strong partner in the community.



April 2018

Programs & Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Museum is Closed No School Camp 8:00-3:00 pm, Ages 4-10 \$20 Members \$30 Non-Members	3 National World Party Day! Celebrate by completing a fun scavenger hunt in the museum	4 Morning Mingle 9 - 10am (Members Only) 	5	6 Friday Activity Hand Flowers in Art Area Volunteer Appreciation Day! Volunteers are invited to stop by for some treats! 10am-4pm	7
8	9 Museum is Closed	10 National Farm Animals Day! Visit our Farm for a fun activity 	11 Wacky Fact Wednesday!	12 Make It & Take It "Littles" 3:45-4:30 \$5 per child, Ages 3-5 Make It & Take It "Juniors" 4:30-5:15 \$10 per child, Ages 6-11	13 Friday Activity Follow the Line! in Science Area Kids Night Out 6:00 - 8:30 pm Ages 4-12 \$10 Members \$15 Non Members 	14
15	16 Museum is Closed	17 National Cheeseball Day! Pick up a fun recipe at the front desk to take home and try 	18 Wacky Fact Wednesday!	19 Free Family Fun Night 4:00-8:00 CHI Health Good Samaritan Teddy Bear Clinic SAFE KIDS DAY ACTIVITIES 	20 Friday Activity Paper Plate Caterpillar in Art Area 	21
22	23 Museum is Closed	24 National Pigs in a Blanket Day! Make dinner fun tonight! YUM.	25 No School Camp 8:00-3:00 pm, Ages 4-10 \$20 Members \$30 Non-Members Wacky Fact Wednesday!	26	27 Friday Activity Create a Rainbow in Art Area 	28
29 Can you find the raindrop hidden in the calendar?	30 Museum is Closed	 Mon: Closed Tues: 10-5 Wed: 10-5 Thurs: 10-8 Fri: 10-5 Sat: 10-5 Sun: 1-5		Show your membership card when ordering, and 20% of your purchase will be donated to the Kearney Area Children's Museum! Valid at: Raising Cane's 2nd Ave. & W. 38th St., Kearney Valid From: January-December 31, 2018		

kearneychildrensmuseum.org

308-698-2228

General Camp Information

Members: \$20 per camp
Non Members: \$30 per camp

**June 22 Field Trip Camp Price
\$25 Members, \$35 Non Members

Ages: 4 - 10

All Camps run from 8am-3pm on Fridays

Things to Know

- Camps are designed to incorporate free play, teamwork, themed activities, and develop skills in art, math, science, reading, and positive social interactions with others.
- Children will need to bring a sack lunch.
- We provide an AM and PM snack. If your child has a food allergy feel free to provide snacks for them.
- No flip-flops allowed. Sandals need heel strap and be secure on the foot. Shoes need to be well fitted.
- Camp registrations are non-refundable.



Mighty Acorns

May 25

This camp is for kids who have a green thumb! We will get our hands in the dirt with basic gardening, and learn more about the plants and critters found on our planet.

Chefs Are We

June 1

We are whipping up simple treats that kids will enjoy while learning basic cooking skills and kitchen safety.

Dynamic Dinosaurs

June 8

RAWR! Step back in time as we hang out with T-Rex and his prehistoric pals! Uncover facts about dinosaurs, volcanoes and become a Jr. Archeologist.

Big Thinkers

June 15
Put your thinking cap on and enjoy a full day of inventing and creating with Science Technology, Engineering and Math!

**Out of this World

June 22

3...2...1...Camp time! We are exploring all things space with stomp rockets, telescopes, and more!

**A field trip is included in this camp to the UNK Planetarium for a 30 minute show and to Harmon Park for lunch and free play. Transportation by *Adventure Bus and Charter*.



Mystery Kids

June 29

We need your help to solve our museum mystery! Help us find hidden messages, and uncover important clues to help us complete our mission.

Kids Under Construction

July 6

Grab your hammer and hard hat, it's time to build! We will practice hammer skills, paint birdhouses, build a giant fort with cardboard boxes and more!

Galaxy Wars

July 20

Explore distant galaxies and use the power within to complete challenges with your team! In this camp we will take a look at the bright side and learn the ways of the great! Costumes encouraged!

Movers & Shakers

July 27

Get your heart pumping with interactive activities, Minute to Win It challenges, a fun dance off, and outdoor games.

Totally Trains

August 3

Choo Choo! Come ride the rails as we explore the world of locomotives. We will learn about train whistles, signals, and train safety!

Camp Yellow Bus

August 10

Don't miss the bus! Join us for the last camp of the summer packed full of back-to-school fun. Hall pass not required!

Explore Theater

Camps *All are half day



July 9

9am-12pm

Pirate for a Day **Ages 4-6, \$20 M/NM**

"Yo-Ho-Ho a Pirate's Life for Me!" Take to the seas with a roving band of pirates as kids walk the plank, swab the decks, and search for hidden treasure in this interactive workshop for boys and girls. Treasure Chest Treat Box filled with goodies included.

July 10

9am-12pm

Seuss for a Day **Ages 4-6, \$20 M/NM**

"Today you are you!" That is truer than true! There is no on alive more you-er than you! Dr. Seuss, a fantastical, magical, extravaganza awaits you as we jump into the world of Seuss! the workshop lovingly brings together favorite characters through stories, games, crafts, and song!

July 11

9am-12pm

Troll for a Day **Ages 4-6, \$20 M/NM**

Join Poppy and her friends as they set off on an adventure to save the Troll Village from the Bergens. Their adventure is full of mishaps and challenges as they learn to tolerate each other and work together. Kids will explore their "TRUE COLORS" through games, crafts, and songs!

July 12

9am-12pm

Jungle for a Day **Ages 4-6, \$20 M/NM**

Go on a safari filled with exotic animals! Kids will explore what it's like to be lions, tigers and bears (oh my!) in this interactive workshop. They will play games, sing songs, and learn all about life in the jungle!

July 13

9am-12pm

Princess for a Day **Ages 4-6, \$20 M/NM**

Learn what it takes to be royalty in this magical class that allows every girl the opportunity to step into the shoes of her favorite princess. There will even be special appearances from Belle, Snow White, Cinderella, Anna and Elsa themselves. Princess Tote Bag included.