

KACM CHRONICLE

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 19



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Traci Winscot, Executive Director

What a crazy yet fast year 2020 has been.

I thought I'd focus on some gratitude this time around, as I feel like there can never be too much to be thankful for.

- KACM flipped their summer schedule around and provided necessary childcare for 179 different kiddos ages 4-10 by hosting themed summer camps four days a week. (Hello Aqua Adventures, Picasso & Friends, Jr. Rockstars, and Island Fiesta camps- sign me up!)
- The Museum has been a positive spot for families during this extremely weird and unpredictable time. The testimonials shared have been very touching, like this one: "This [Camp] was a great opportunity for my child to interact safely with her peers. She had a great time and learned something new every camp. The staff were so friendly and she was so excited to go every day. The check in/checkout process was so flawless. Thanks KACM for providing this opportunity for our children!"
- This quiet time gave staff the opportunity freshen up exhibits with the tools and resources that we already had in our back closet. Have you seen the amazing murals in our Art Zone and Airport (new zone!) yet?
- There has been many memories made in our Little Sprouts Outdoor Classroom as kids dig for dinosaurs in the sand, hop along the path, and pick fresh produce from the garden beds.
- We are ever grateful for the generosity of our members for purchasing museum rentals and renewing their memberships during this time.



I hope you are able to reflect on some gratitudes that you've experienced this year!

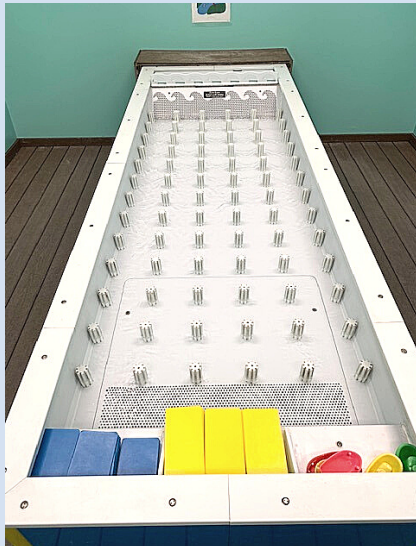
FUTURE EXHIBIT GOALS

Our museum strives to create quality, hands-on, educational experiences for children through our many exhibit spaces. It takes a lot of planning, funding, time and hard work to see a vision come to be a reality. With 40,000+ people enjoying our museum each year we know our exhibits are being loved by many which, as you can imagine, creates a lot of wear on items in our exhibits.

We are always working on ways to keep the Museum fresh and exciting while maintaining educational components for young learners. Our next two goals include renovating our Water and Agriculture Exhibits. Final funding is still needed so once that happens, we can get rolling! If you know of someone willing to donate to these projects, let Traci Winscot, Executive Director, know.

CURRENT WATER TABLE

*Purchased in 2005
It's been well loved!*

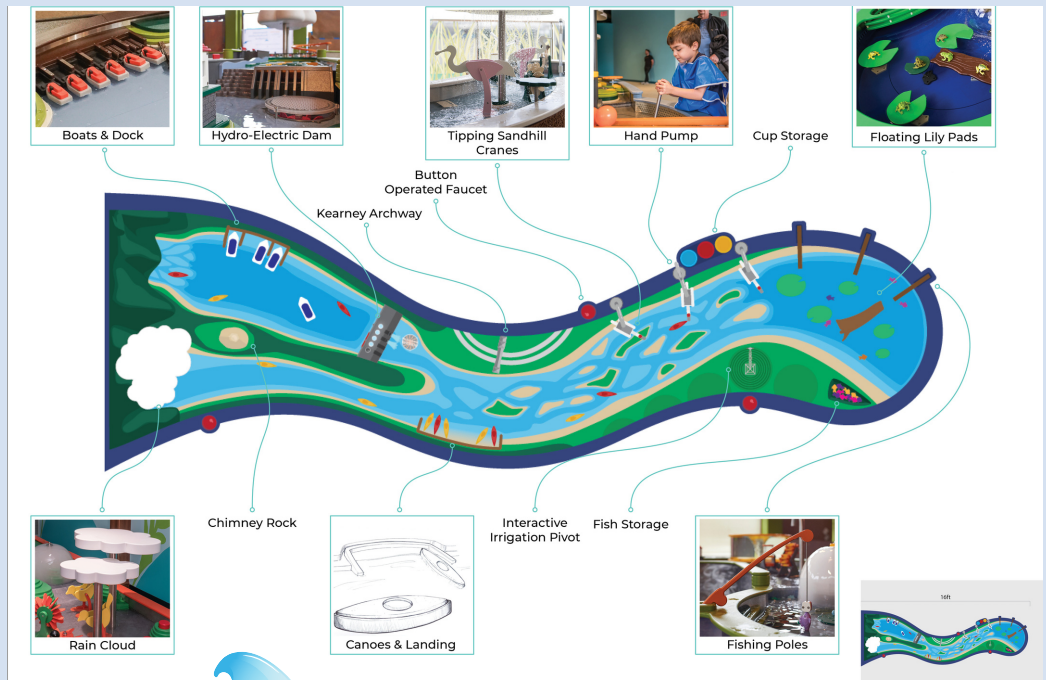


*"I'm 15 years old!
I've had fun
teaching you
about the power
and movement of
water but I think
it's time for me to
retire soon."*



FUTURE CONCEPT "PLATTE RIVER WATER TABLE"

This exhibit will display the Rocky Mountains as Nebraska's water source. The table will include raining clouds, hydroelectric dams, irrigation pivots, Sandhill Cranes, and the Platte River. Users will be able to view the entire table and visualize the flow of water ways. Guests will be able to manipulate the water flow and see its impact on the rest of the environment.



"Wow!" The Museum has been working hard to make this new educational feature a reality. It's sure to make a splash once it arrives. I can't wait!"

AGRICULTURE EXHIBIT

With this exhibit renovation our goal is to expand education in agriculture that has a direct impact on our community.



Corn



Soybeans



Potatoes



Dairy

Other components include harvesting, apple picking, gardening/farmers market, and a chicken coop.



"MOOOve on over! The Museum is looking to overhaul the Agriculture Exhibit and I can't be MOOOre excited!"



MINDSET SWITCH-A-ROO

by Jennifer Beck

Director of Community Engagement

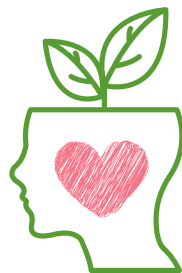
Change - the act or instance of making or becoming different.

Mindset - the established set of attitudes held by someone.

I am certain that events from this year have caused each of us to change many things in our lives. From the every day errands to much bigger things that have needed adjusting. It can all take its toll on us and change our mindset.

Children use play to navigate emotions and life situations. As adults we tend to move away from our unrestricted creativity and it can be helpful to bring it back! If you are feeling the weight of life right now we invite you to try some of the following:

- Buy a coloring book and crayons or markers
- Have a karaoke session in your car
- Create something with play-dough
- Take time to exercise and stretch
- Practice deep breathing
- Give a loved one a 10 second hug
- Recognize something you are grateful for each day
- Get outside for some Vitamin D and fresh air



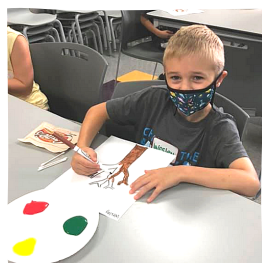
FALL / WINTER CAMPS - OCT, NOV, DEC

Thursday, October 14 - Register Here

Friday, October 16 - Register Here

Friday, November 13 - Register Here

Friday, December 11 - Register Here



*All KACM Camps are for Ages 4-10
Camps held from 8:00am-3:00pm.*

*Cost is \$25 Members,
\$35 Non Members
Camp Extension held from 3:00-
5:00pm available for purchase.
\$10 Members, \$15 Non Members*



CLICK ON THE ITEMS BELOW TO SEND YOU DIRECTLY TO THE LINK!

SPOOKTACULAR MAKE & TAKE CRAFT BAGS - NOW THROUGH OCT 23

FREE FAMILY FUN NIGHT - PAINT A MONSTER - OCT 15 5:00-7:00PM

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND GET AN ADDITIONAL MONTH FREE!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Amy Kuchera

Amy, Frank, Darby, Audrey, Henry



Why do you choose to volunteer at the museum?

As a parent, KACM became a regular spot for us to go play. It was a safe environment with exhibits that entertained all three of my kids, including my oldest as she grew up and wanted something different to play with, the STEM area became a favorite of hers. The museum was a great break away from our house during the winter months especially. When you find a place like KACM and you see how beneficial it is to your family and other families, you want to see it succeed and be here for years to come. That's what made it an easy choice for me to volunteer at the museum.

What is your advice for someone considering volunteering at KACM?

Do it! KACM has a very active board and because of that, it is a very rewarding board to be on. To learn the ins and outs of how an exhibit comes together, to see the sponsorships from area businesses and to see the kids at all the events having a blast is what makes being on the KACM board 100% worth it. I am going into my 4th year on the KACM board and I have had the privilege to work with the most dedicated group of individuals each year on the board and the full time staff at the museum can't be beat.

Why is the museum vital to our community?

Anytime we can give our youth an opportunity to learn and play, we are benefitting the future of our community. The children's museum offers so many different types of play (imagination, exercise, STEM, hands on) to help children develop outside of the typical classroom. Not only is it a benefit for kids but it's one of many great offerings Kearney has to continue to draw young families to the area to live and work. In my eyes, KACM is one of the best offerings a community our size has to give to families looking to move here.



LOOKING FORWARD TO THE HOLIDAYS

by Jessica Johnson, Operations Manager

Stop by October 27-31 for SPOOKTACULAR DEALS!



We also have recently added a few holiday items that would make great stocking stuffers!

If you haven't signed up for a museum annual membership yet or need to renew it, this is the right time. Please visit us at our website kearneychildrensmuseum.org for more information on membership and other special events.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MUSEUM STAFF

2020 Board of Directors

Amy Kuchera, President
 Emily Jameson, Past President
 Tiffany Shuda, Vice President
 Brooke Ward, Treasurer
 Ayla Gregg, Secretary
 Jennifer Rowling, Member At Large
 Kylee Fish
 Ashley Ott
 Janell Brown
 Ellie Schroeder
 Melissa Wells
 Denise Davis
 Timaree Smith
 Jennifer Harris
 Christy Margritz
 Mindy Ullman
 Joni Jensen
 Carly Weber

Museum Leadership

Traci Winscot
 Executive Director

Jennifer Beck
 Director of Community Engagement

Jessica Johnson
 Operations Manager

Part Time Staff

Ashtynn
 Nic
 Ashley
 Katerina
 Taylor
 Alisha
 Claremarie
 Maleah
 Logan
 Paul



WE LOVE OUR MEMBERS!

We value all our members and as we all navigate through these uncertain times we would like to extend everyone's memberships 3 months.

“

Just a quick note to THANK YOU for the great experience at the Museum this morning. Wow! You all have done a tremendous job making your guests feel safe in this pandemic.

I appreciated the limited reservations, how check-in was handled, cleaning stations and everything was so clean to begin with!

Eli liked the new police/fire station exhibit and the passenger terminal – great upgrades.

Kearney is just blessed to have such a wonderful children's museum.

Thank you to the whole staff for their extra efforts during this time. It is greatly appreciated by our family and the community.



JULIE BROOKER
Grandparent Member

YAY!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Chad & Elaine Mefferd

Aelish & Elorah, Age 3



Why is the museum vital to our community?

The Kearney Area Children's Museum is one of the very best things about living in Kearney. It provides a safe space for children to learn, grow, explore, and play. We need places our children can just be kids.

They are in desperate need of free play and time away from screens. The museum provides all the above and so much more. Our most favorite days are when we get to go to "da 'Zeum".

What do children learn at the museum?

Our girls have experienced so many things they would otherwise know nothing about. We've explored space and worked on the farm. We've put out fires and ticketed each other at the police station. We've learned how water moves. We've learned about how to share and play well with others. We've baked pizzas and built trains. We've read books and visited the Jurassic period with ferocious dinosaurs. We have colored pictures for nursing homes and created works of art to take home. We have shopped till we dropped and been to the doctor countless times. Where else can you do all those things when you're a kid?

How does the museum help your family?

I love it as a mom as much as they do as kids. I feel good knowing we have spent time together in a positive way that was good for their bodies and their brains. We try to go at least once per week. It's been absolutely one of my favorite places to raise my children.



PLAY AT KACM ALL DAY LONG!

OCTOBER 6-31

- **Masks/face coverings are mandatory for ALL patrons school-age and up.**
- Back to "come play at the museum whenever you want!"
 - **Tuesday through Saturday** - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
 - **Sunday** - 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 - **Third Thursday** - Free Family Fun Night sponsored by Trius Federal Credit Union 5:00 - 7:00 pm (free general admission for all patrons)
 - **Thursday, Oct. 29** - museum closes at 3:00 pm to prep for BOO!seum
- A 2-question screening process will be taken at the front desk, including temperature checks (100 degrees and over will be denied entry).
- Hard-to-clean exhibit items have been removed. Staff will be making periodic rounds for cleaning the exhibits.
- Capacity limits within the local DHM will be followed.

**NO REGISTRATION
REQUIRED!**



HOW CAN I SUPPORT KACM DURING THIS TIME?

KACM has lots of fun activities happening! We truly appreciate your support during this uncertain time for all. We are grateful to have our doors open and our museum filled with family engagement!

You can also head to our [Donor](#) page and help in that way for a tax-deductible donation. We appreciate your generosity during this uncertain time!



LOOK AT ALL THE FUN WE'VE HAD!

We've been keeping busy and having tons of fun these past few months!



4TH ANNUAL LEGO HOME BUILDING COMPETITION

Way to go EVERYONE on your creativity and determination in building your LEGO houses! All of the participants are winners in our hearts! :)

Age 4-7 Winner: London D.



Age 8-12 Winner: Lily U.



Business Winner: Wilkins Architecture Design Planning LLC



Event sponsored by **kaba**
KEARNEY AREA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

CMH Interiors

THANK YOU TO THE 29 PARTICIPANTS
IN THIS YEAR'S VIRTUAL LEGO HOME
BUILDING COMPETITION!



CHEER UP! WITH KHS CHEER



S.T.E.M.
FREE FAMILY
FUN NIGHT
WITH
GIRL SCOUTS

girl scouts
spirit of nebraska

CHECK OUT SOME OF THESE VERY TOUCHING TESTIMONIALS WE RECEIVED THIS YEAR ABOUT OUR SUMMER CAMPS



"The KACM offered an amazing atmosphere for our children this summer! **They took all necessary precautions to make it a safe, clean, wonderful experience.** Thanks for all that you do and offer to our community!"

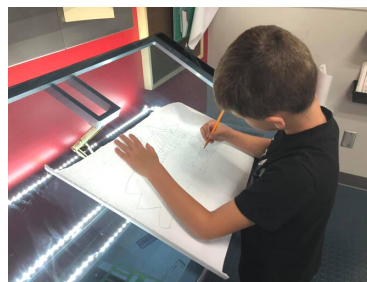
"My daughter enjoyed all of the camps and loved being able to make new friends! The activities they do are not only fun but educational!"



"I'm so impressed with how quickly the Children's Museum was able to adapt to such crazy times! You've continued to maintain a very safe, fun, and educational environment with reduced funds coming in and a whole new set of restrictions piled on. **Kearney is lucky to have such a great place in their town!**"



"We really appreciated that you went to the hard work during COVID to even offer camps. That took a tremendous amount of additional effort and was so needed for the kids to get out and play! Thank you!!"



"Good morning. I just want to say thank you to you and all the staff for all the great camps you had this summer! **It was a life saver** for us to keep the girls busy and they had a blast. Reiss and Ryker will miss the camps but are excited for 1st Grade to start. We hope to see you at some fall camps as well. Have a great week!"



ANNUAL EVENTS

Join us for these fun events!



ADMISSION COST

Member Child (Age 2 and Up) \$4
Non Member Adult \$5
Children 1 yr and under \$0

Non Member Child (Age 2 and Up) \$5
Children 1 yr and under \$0

All individuals school-aged and up will be required to wear a mask at the event if your costume does not cover your nose and mouth. Thank you!



SPOOKTACULAR TAKE & MAKE CRAFT BAGS



Includes all the supplies needed for 2 Fall Crafts!

\$5 EACH

DIY Coffee Filter Bats
DIY Mini Pumpkin Decorating

KITS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP JUST INSIDE KACM'S FRONT ENTRYWAY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS DAY (MON-FRI 10:00-4:00) OF A PURCHASE. PURCHASES MADE AFTER 5 PM WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM NOON-4PM THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS DAY.

KEARNEYCHILDRENSMUSEUM.ORG
308-698-2228



FREE FAMILY FUN NIGHT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 FROM 5:00-7:00PM
FREE ADMISSION | FUN FALL ACTIVITIES



SPONSORED BY

ALL GUESTS SCHOOL-AGE AND OLDER ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS
KEARNEYCHILDRENSMUSEUM.ORG | 308-698-2228



Couples Trivia & Kids Night Out

COUPLES TRIVIA NIGHT

What: Adult-only food, fun, & trivia!
When: Friday, Nov. 6 from 6:15 to 8:45 pm
Where: Antelope Center Bldg. (Clint Smith Graphics)
3210 Antelope Ave., Suite E
Cost: \$40/couple includes PepperJax bowls & BYOB

KIDS NIGHT OUT

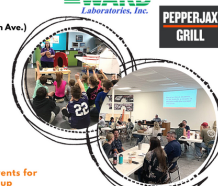
What: Kid-only food, sports fun, and free-play
When: Friday, Nov. 6 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Where: Kearney Area Children's Museum (5827 4th Ave.)
Cost: \$15 member child/\$20 non-member child

PACKAGE DEAL!

\$60 that includes a Couples Trivia ticket & 2 children admission to Kids Night Out
To process online in your final shopping cart screen use the code MEM if you're a member, NONMEM if you're a non-member

Masks are required for both events for everyone school-age and up

Sponsored by



Drop your kids off at the children's museum for a night of activities while you head to the Antelope Center Building for conversations, food, and trivia fun!
Don't wait to sign-up on our website since this event sells out and pre-registration is REQUIRED!
WWW.KEARNEYCHILDRENSMUSEUM.ORG 308-698-2228

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Staying at the Holiday Inn?
Bring your room key and show at the front desk to get \$3 off your admission.

Are you a KACM Member?
Book a room at the Kearney Holiday Inn and receive 10% off their best available rate when you mention the Kearney Area Children's Museum!



Show your KACM membership card at time of purchase and 15% of the proceeds will benefit the museum!



Show your KACM membership card at the Big Apple M-F for \$4.99 for wristbands to Ballocity and Minigolf. No limit number of kids! You save 50% every time you show your card!

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Morning Mingle - *Members Only*

First Wednesday of each month from 9:00-10:00am

Free Family Fun Nights

Third Thursday of each month from 5:00-7:00pm

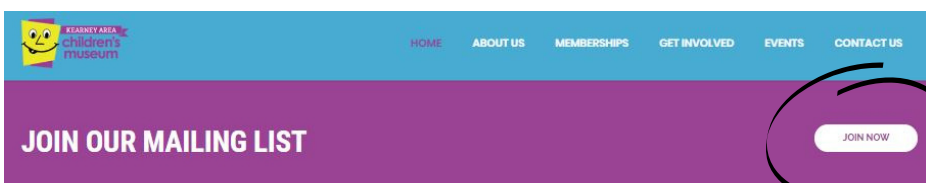
Kids Night Out at the Museum

Second Friday of each month from 6:00-8:30pm

Some run until 9pm if paired with Adult Trivia Nights



Follow us on Facebook for updates regarding Museum events or programs. KACM follows directive health measures and will plan programs / events accordingly.



Want weekly updates on what's happening at KACM?
Join our mailing list!

Visit kearneychildrensmuseum.org and scroll to the bottom of our page to find our "Join Now" option!



MUSEUM INFORMATION

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Closed for Cleaning
 Tuesday - 10:00am-5:00pm
 Wednesday - 10:00am-5:00pm
 Thursday - 10:00am-5:00pm
 Friday - 10:00am-5:00pm
 Saturday - 10:00am-5:00pm
 Sunday - 1:00pm-5:00pm

All guests school-age and up are required to wear a mask.

The Museum will be **CLOSED** Thanksgiving Day
 on the following holidays Christmas Eve
 Christmas Day

ADMISSION PRICES

Children (12 months-12): \$8
 Adults (Age 13 and up): \$7
 Seniors: \$6
 Children under 12 months: \$0

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Celebrate your birthday with the Kearney Area Children's Museum!

We have two different packages for you to choose from, with everything your child and guests need to have a great time. We offer All Day Play and After Hours Celebrations (And an exclusive offer from Raising Canes)! Contact KACM for more information!

Contact us for questions about membership or to purchase one. Tax not included in above prices.

MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Family Membership: \$90	Grandparents Membership: \$90
Family Plus Two Membership: \$102	Grandparents Plus Two Membership: \$102
Patron Membership: \$125	Daycare Membership: \$102
Patron Plus Two Membership: \$137	Daycare Plus Two Membership: \$192

Sharing & Caring Membership: \$12
 -qualifications required to apply for this membership

GIFT SHOP

Visit KACM to play, then stop by our gift shop on the way out to continue the play at home! There are exclusive deals for members and nonmembers. Come to our front desk and ask us what the deals are today!



You are
a star!

@ KACM