



KACM CHRONICLE

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 20



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Traci Winscot, Executive Director

Happy New Year!

With the highs and lows through 2020, the museum has been grateful to receive multiple COVID relief grants so we can continue spreading our mission of inspiring play, exploration, and discovery through interactive experiences.

Sure those interactive experiences may look a little different but the team has done an awesome job of still incorporating educational and engaging components into those activities.

This year will be even MORE important that the museum is a vital resource to the community as children and families navigate through many different needs. Whether it's mentally, physically, or emotionally, the museum is a healthy, safe, and encouraging place for our members and guests.

I challenge you in 2021 to share the museum with a friend- whether that's inviting them to be your "Plus 2" on your membership or purchasing a "Take & Make" craft kit for them. What a great way to spread positive experiences in 2021!



GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE 2020

Thank you donors for your Give Where You Live donations!

Over \$1.3 million dollars raised for our community non-profits in 24 hours through the Kearney Area Community Foundation's Give Where You Live event!

We surpassed our \$10,000 goal with raising \$12,155! PLUS we were winners of the **20/20 Contest** (earning an extra \$220) and the **100% Board Member Participation Contest** (earning an extra \$750)!



THANK YOU!!



With your help we surpassed our goal!



CLEAN THE WINDSHIELD

by Jennifer Beck
Director of Community Engagement

This past year has been tough, frustrating and downright messy! No matter how much we tried to keep our lives in order it seemed that something would come along and splatter hardship on the windshield. One of the most important ways to keep moving forward with a clear outlook is to "clean our windshield." We do it all the time while traveling to keep our line of sight clear, so why not for our everyday life? I don't know about you but my windshield needs some scrubbing!



jennifer@kearneychildrensmuseum.org



How are YOU
"cleaning your
windshield?"

Email me by **January 15** to share how you are "cleaning your windshield" going into this year and be entered to win a **free** carwash!

UPCOMING CAMPS - 2ND SEMESTER

January 18

February 17, 18, 19

March 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

April 1 (*Camp will not be held on April 2 or 5*)

May 10

All KACM Camps

- Ages 4-10
- 8:00am-3:00pm
- \$25 Members
- \$40 Non Members

Camp Extension

- For children enrolled in Camp
- 3:00pm-5:00pm
- \$10 Members
- \$15 Non Members



Camp Rates

2nd Semester 2021 (KPS No School Days)

Let's break it down

MEMBER - \$300

VS

NON MEMBER - \$480

One Child
KACM No School Camps held
January 18 - May 10
which includes all Spring Break Day Camps

**Member Savings
of \$180!**

One Child
KACM No School Camps held
January 18 - May 10
which includes all Spring Break Day Camps

**Buy a Membership
and Save \$\$\$**

Individual Day Camp Rates: \$25 M / \$40 NM

Memberships start at \$90 and you get the following:

- Unlimited admission to the Museum for a full year
- Discounts in gift shop
- Discounts on programs and events
- Birthday Party specials
- Special Rates at Big Apple Fun Center, Holiday Inn and FUNtastic



Visit kearneychildrensmuseum.org
or call 308-698-2228 and start saving & playing!

Hi! It's Ms. Jenn here and I have to say that our memberships are a great deal!

Become a member, save money and send your kids to KACM when school is out!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Emily Jameson
Emily, Aaron, Kayla,
Zachary, Alyssa, & Olivia



Why do you choose to volunteer at the museum?

I choose to volunteer at KACM because I am passionate about child development. I appreciate the endless possibilities offered through the museum for children to learn through play. KACM offers children the opportunity to explore, create, and imagine as they interact with family and friends in the many engaging exhibits. This type of experiential learning is invaluable to young children as they grow, and I find it so rewarding to volunteer with an organization that is focused on creating an environment that encourages child development.

What is your advice for someone considering volunteering at KACM?

Just do it! Seriously, there are so many opportunities for people with all different interests, strengths, and skills. Without dedicated volunteers, many of the museum's offerings would not be possible. There is a place for your talents and gifts, whatever they may be, to be put to good use in making the museum even better. You will be glad you did!

Why is the museum vital to our community?

KACM is such an enriching part of our community! The high quality exhibits, events, and programming that the museum offers are second to none. My own four children and countless others have benefited from the contributions of KACM. Whether it is offering a safe and fun environment for families to play and learn, providing daycare through camps, or the high-quality events and activities held, our community is a better, more vibrant place because of the museum.

NEW YEAR WITH UNLIMITED ADMISSION

by Jessica Johnson, Operations Manager

A Membership is the best way to maximize savings at the Kearney Area Children's Museum. Our Members enjoy many benefits which include:

- Unlimited admission to the Museum for a full year
- Discounts in gift shop
- Discounts on programs and events
- Birthday Party specials
- Special Rates at Big Apple Fun Center and Holiday Inn

If you haven't signed up for a museum annual membership yet or need to renew it, this is the right time.

Are you ready to start saving?

Visit our [Membership Page](#) and select the membership that is a perfect fit for your family!

Needing financial assistance?

Look into our [Sharing & Caring Membership!](#)

308.698.2228 ext. 2



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MUSEUM STAFF 2021 Board of Directors

Tiffany Shuda, President
Amy Kuchera, Past President
Christy Margritz, Vice President
Timaree Smith, Treasurer
Ayla Gregg, Secretary
Carly Weber, Member At Large
Emily Jameson
Brooke Ward
Janell Brown
Ellie Schroeder
Melissa Wells
Jennifer Harris
Mindy Ullman
Ashley Bjornsen
Heather Blecha
Tara Bowman
Benjamin Malczyk
Debra Rupp
Andrea Upson
Jesse Valenti
Heidi Woltz

Museum Leadership

Traci Winscot
Executive Director

Jennifer Beck
Director of Community
Engagement

Jessica Johnson
Operations Manager

Part Time Staff

Ashtynn
Katerina
Taylor
Alisha
Maleah
Loanne
Micah
Paul





Welcome 2021 KACM BOARD MEMBERS



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.

Elizabeth Andrew

WELCOME NEW KACM BOARD MEMBERS!

We have 8 new board members and they are excited to join our team!

We truly appreciate all that they do to help make KACM successful.

Welcome Ashley Bjornsen, Heather Blecha, Tara Bowman, Benjamin Malczyk, Debra Rupp, Andrea Upson, Jesse Valenti, & Heidi Woltz.

Family Suite Learning Center Childcare and Preschool



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Family Suites Learning Center

Lisa Miller, Owner

Why is the museum vital to our community?

The museum provides a safe learning environment for families to explore and discover various aspects of the world together. The museum is possible due to the volunteers who provide numerous hours of their time and the monetary donations from organizations and families in the Kearney area. The museum provides numerous opportunities during the year for the kids and adults. They offer school day out camps, summer camps, Breakfast with Santa, Family fun nights, Kids night out for parents to enjoy a date night. Plus, the museum offers affordable yearly memberships.

What do children learn at the museum?

The learning opportunities at the museum are endless and a fun environment for all ages from 1 to 99. There are numerous learning zones at the museum, each zone gives the kids the opportunity to learn while playing. The variety of the learning zones engages everyone! The children are always excited to be the Police Officer, EMT, Firefighter, Astronaut, Train Engineer or be an Amazing Artist. The sky's the limit on where their imagination takes them. I love seeing the smiles and excitement when they are playing at the museum.

How does the museum help your daycare?

Our children are always ecstatic to spend time at the museum! They always ask Ms. Lisa when are we going again? Having our Daycare Plus Memberships are an asset to our center. Our membership has paid for itself over and over. We have held a private daycare night for our families, complete with a taco bar. The parents raved about how much they enjoyed spending time with all the families. We have also held private daycare mornings at the museum during COVID for our families to enjoy the museum. I would highly recommend other daycares look into getting a membership or renting out the facility for your own private event. Huge shout out to the Children's Museum Staff for the extra precautions they have taken during Covid! Plus, the updates that have been done inside and outside the museum. WOW! You guys rock!

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!



ANNUAL EVENTS

Glitter Gala

Treasure Chest- moved to April this year!

Egg-stravagana

Storybook Walk

Roadway Heroes

LEGO Home Building Competition

BOO!-seum

Breakfast with Santa

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 4:00-7:00pm

with a special activity 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.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

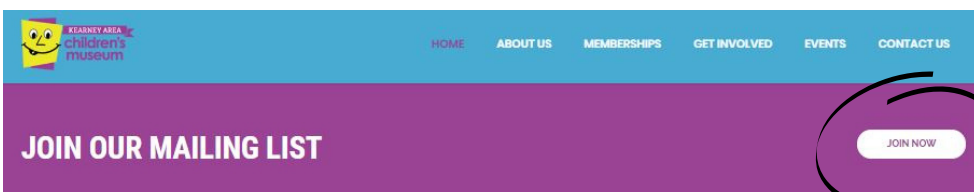


Staying at the Holiday Inn?
Bring your room key and show at the front desk to get \$3 off your admission.

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 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!



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 age 5 and up are required to wear a mask.

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

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!

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!



Keep
 Growing!
 @ KACM

