

Press Release



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[Editor's note: This press release contains events for December, January and February. Please consider it in its entirety, or feel free to use individual events as calendar items as space allows in the coming months.]

Programs Spotlight Creativity and Learning at DuPage Children's Museum

(Naperville, IL) – DuPage Children's Museum announces its winter line-up of Creativity Programs designed to foster children's joyful learning about the world and themselves and illustrate for parents how to support their children's learning. Registration closes one week prior to the start of most classes, and programs fill quickly. To register for the programs, or arrange accommodations for special needs, call (630) 637-8000, ext. 0.

Programs for December 2008:

Paint the Primary Way

Dec. 3, 2008; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 2 – 3 will discover color, line and texture using primary paint colors, brushes, fingers, wheels and other inventive tools that encourage the development of fine motor skills, creative thinking skills, color, knowledge of materials, and art skills.

Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Big or Small

Dec. 9, 2008; 10 – 10:30 a.m.

It's made to measure for toddlers ages 2 – 3 who will compare big and small, decide how big is big and become explorers of size and adventure. Activities encourage visual spatial awareness, mathematical reasoning, creative problem solving, logic, and sequencing.

Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

3-D Collages

Dec. 10, 2008; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Young artists ages 3 – 5 will create three-dimensional collages using a variety of media including string, ribbon, paper, tissue paper and glue to develop fine motor skills, creative thinking skills, spatial awareness, knowledge of materials, and art skills. Fee:

Member/Child Partner \$15; Nonmember/Child Partner \$17.

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Rainforest Rhythms, a Hop 'n' Bop Series Class

Dec. 11, 2008; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 15 – 24 months and parents can hop to the beat and bop on their feet as they experience rhythm, music, and motion in this lively class that emphasizes gross motor skills, patterns, and sequencing, creativity and artistic expression. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Makin' Munchies

Dec. 13, 2008; 1-1:30 p.m.

Know a petite chef ages 2 – 4 who has the munchies? Whip up some tasty and healthful treats at DCM, and learn about healthy snack choices. Learn proper use of kitchen implements, and the steps and stages in a simple recipe. New and different activities each month highlight fine motor development, sequencing, and materials science. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$14; Nonmember/Child Partner \$17.

Programs for January 2009:

Jumpin' & Jivin', a Hop 'n' Bop Series Class

Jan. 6, 2009; 9:30-10 a.m.

Children ages 3 – 4 can step up to the next sequence in dancing and rhythm by learning simple dance moves. They'll also learn a little about the history and feel of jazz. Activities focus on gross motor skills, patterns and sequencing, creativity and artistic expression. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Totem Pole, a Junior Books & Beyond Class

Jan. 9, 2009; 10-11 a.m.

After children ages 3 – 5 hear the heart-warming story *The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush* by Tomie de Poala, they will construct a totem pole together, take a photo for each child to take home and finish with a story-themed snack. Program focuses on multicultural awareness, fine motor skills, art and listening skills, and group dynamics. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$17; Nonmember/Child Partner \$20.

Huge Box Sculpture, A Books & Beyond Class

Jan. 10, 2009; 1-2 p.m.

Children ages 5 – 9 will create an inspiration box art to take home and share their creations over a story-themed snack. This 60-minute class combines the inspiration of the wonderful book *Christina Katerina and the Box* by Doris Burn with visual arts expression to encourage literacy, artistic expression, and fine motor development. *Please note: Children may attend this class on their own, but must be dropped off and picked up by an adult at the classroom.* Fee: Member \$17; Nonmember \$20.

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Hot and Cold Art

Jan. 14, 21 & 28, 2009; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 2 – 3 will listen to wintry music while mixing cool shades of blue and purple to spray paint a colorful frozen mural to display outside. They'll warm up with hot colors, toasty crayons and images of the summer ahead. Program emphasizes fine motor skills, creative thinking skills, color, knowledge of materials, art skills. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

Wet 'n' Messy

Jan. 16, 23 & 30, 2009; 10-10:30 a.m.

Preschoolers ages 2 -3 will create something amazing by pouring and mixing common ingredients together in this workshop that encourages creativity, sequencing, fine motor skills, and knowledge of materials. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

Makin' Munchies

Jan. 20, 2009; 10-10:30 a.m.

Know a petite chef ages 2 – 4 who has the munchies? Whip up some tasty and healthful treats at DCM, and learn about healthy snack choices. Learn proper use of kitchen implements, and the steps and stages in a simple recipe. New and different activities each month highlight fine motor development, sequencing, and materials science. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$14; Nonmember/Child Partner \$17.

Programs for February 2009:

The Art of Ice and Snow

Feb. 4, 11 & 18, 2009; 9:30-10 a.m.

Sculpt winter scenes with white, fluffy dough; explore painting with frozen color and discover symmetry by creating blizzards of snowflakes. Children ages 2 – 3 will work on their fine motor skills, creative thinking skills, color, knowledge of materials, and art skills. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

My First Mess

Feb. 6, 13 & 20, 2009; 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Make a mess at our house instead! DCM is the perfect place for children ages 15-24 months to explore one- or two-step messy art and science. New and different activities each month highlight fine motor skills, spatial skills, logic, and sequencing. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

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Fantastic Instruments, A Books & Beyond Class

Feb. 10, 2009; 4-5 p.m.

Inspired by the character in the book *The Remarkable Farkle McBride*, children ages 6 – 10 will make their own instrument, create and tune and perform their own concert. The session will end with a book-inspired snack. Activities encourage creativity, sequencing, and art process skills. *Please note: Children may attend this class on their own, but must be dropped off and picked up by an adult at the classroom.* Fee: Member \$20; Nonmember \$25.

Cup Cake Creations

Feb. 14, 2009; 10-11:30 a.m.

Children ages 6 – 10 will take three ordinary cup cakes and turn them into pieces of edible art. Students will decorate their own three cakes to take home. Beginning decorating techniques will be introduced in this class to encourage an understanding of sequencing while stressing fine motor development and eye-hand coordination. *Please note: Children may attend this class on their own, but must be dropped off and picked up by an adult at the classroom.* Fee: Member \$20; Nonmember \$25.

Handfuls and Footlongs

Feb. 21, 2009; 10-10:30 a.m.

Children ages 3 – 5 will have fun taking measurements of the world around them by using standard units of measurement, as well as not-so standard ones. Activities focus on building skills in estimation, categorizing, and spatial relationships. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Magnets

Feb. 24, 2009; 9:30-10 a.m.

Children ages 2 – 3 will learn and apply the process of science using special portable exhibits and other hands-on materials. Program, which includes take-home materials to continue exploring magnets, encourages understanding of scientific process, sequencing, logic, critical thinking, fine motor skills, magnetism. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$14; Nonmember/Child Partner \$17.

Mini Mathematicians

Feb. 27, 2009; 10-10:30 a.m.

This program encourages children ages 2 – 3 to use pizza toppings, apples and other objects that preschoolers recognize to introduce beginning math concepts like matching, less vs. more and graphing. Activities emphasize pattern recognition, problem solving, and listening skills. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

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About DuPage Children's Museum:

DuPage Children's Museum helps develop curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem solving in young children via interactive exhibits and programs that make learning fun for children and adults playing together.

The Museum is located at 301 N. Washington Street in Naperville, Illinois, a quick walk from the Naperville Metra train station. Parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible.

DuPage Children's Museum is a top Chicago area cultural attraction *where learning comes in to play*TM! For information about hours, museum admission, and membership packages, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org or call (630) 637-8000.

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