

Press Release

Media Contact: Alison Segebarth, Director of Marketing and Membership
asegebarth@dupagechildrensmuseum.org; (630) 637-8000, ext. 2600
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Programs Spotlight Creativity and Learning at DuPage Children's Museum

(Naperville, IL) – DuPage Children's Museum announces its winter line-up of activities, performances and classes that will be happening in the Museum for the remainder of the month of December.

Creativity Classes are 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 classes fill quickly. To register for the classes, or arrange accommodations for special needs, call (630) 637-8000, ext. 0. or register on-line by visiting the Museum's Web site at www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org.

Tiny Great Performances, Family Fun Friday Nights and other events listed are free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission, and no pre-registration is required.

Programs for remainder of December 2009:

Insect Zoo Returns

Dec. 10, 2009; 10 a.m. - noon

Children will again swarm DuPage Children's Museum to visit the Insect Zoo sponsored by Anderson Pest Solutions. Children and adults alike will have another opportunity feel the tickle of a giant pumpkin millipede as it marches across the palm of their hands. Or listen to the sound a Madagascar hissing cockroach makes. Or touch the strong shell of an Eastern Hercules beetle. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission. No pre-registration is required.

Family Fun Friday Night: Mad Scientist Concoctions

Dec. 11, 2009; 6 p.m.

Become a mad scientist! Explore different chemistry concoctions and science experiments, and see what kinds of messes and discoveries can be made. Open to scientists of all ages; join us for a night of predictions and experiments as we transform the Art Studio into a science laboratory. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission. No pre-registration is required.

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Tiny Great Performances: Special Consensus – Bluegrass Duo

Dec. 12, 2009; 10:30 a.m.-noon

Special Consensus has a unique thriving passion to introduce the beauty of bluegrass to people of all ages. The group is bound with energy and an unbelievable passion for bluegrass. With their seamless playing and booming vocals, Special Consensus brings audience members of all ages two-steppin' onto the floor! Come experience bluegrass with an attitude! Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission. No pre-registration is required.

Third Thursdays

Dec 17, 2009; 5-7 p.m.

Third Thursdays at DuPage Children's Museum are special times once a month for families of children with autism spectrum disorder, visual and mobility impairments to come play at the Museum during a typically quieter time, even though it is open to the public. Exhibits work on language development, social skills and purposeful play. Photo books and other aids are available to help visitors structure their experience.

Cub Scout Program: Feed the Birds

Dec. 18, 2009; 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Cub Scout Tigers (1st grade) will create some eco-friendly ways to feed the hungry birds this winter. Bring the Cub Scout den or the whole pack to work on age-appropriate activities and have fun while learning. Adults must stay with the Scouts. As a bonus, you can stay and play in the Museum. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Please call 630-637-8000 ext. 0 to register.

Family Fun Friday Night: Train Night

Dec 18, 2009; 5-8 p.m.

Choo-Choo! Become a conductor, engineer, fuel man and more as we explore the different sights and sounds of trains. Discover different train cars, parts of trains and how trains run while interacting with train experts from Al's Hobby Shop or creating your own train car. Also, there will be refreshments for visitors that evening donated by Whole Foods. Enjoy hot chocolate and marshmallows, apple cider and an assortment of apple slices, brownie bites and cookies. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission. No pre-registration is required.

Tiny Great Performances: Laura Fako Utley – Harp

Dec. 26, 2009; 10:30 a.m.-noon

Exquisitely mesmerizing, Laura Fako Utley's harp performance will entrance the audience with its whimsical beauty. Ms. Fako Utley began playing the harp in 1977 and has challenged her craft and striven to achieve musical greatness. She engages her audience in a variety of music appropriate for all ages and audiences. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission. No pre-registration is required.

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Kids Design Engineering Mini-Camp: Winter Break Mini-Camp

Dec. 28 & 29, 2009; 9 am–1 pm

Children ages 7 – 10 will learn about pneumatic power and how it can work for you. Based on our popular school program, Kids Design Engineering camp gives you the opportunity to use some cool tools as you design, build and test your own pneumatic (balloon) powered project for land, water or air. Plus, you'll get to take a ride on the Museum's Hovercraft. Children do not need an adult partner to participate. (An adult must drop off the child and pick up the child at the room.) Please bring a sack lunch. Museum floor time during program (included) will be supervised by Museum volunteers. Fee: \$90 Members; \$100 Non-members Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Please call 630-637-8000 ext. 0 to register.

Bubble Bash 2009-All About Bubbles!

Dec. 31, 2009; 9 am – noon

Families will enjoy the eighth annual family-friendly New Year's Celebration at DuPage Children's Museum. Music by Jeanie B! and The Jelly Beans! and bubble demonstration by Bubble Man, Geoff Akins. Hands-on, art activities suit you up for the countdown to noon, which will be led by Mayor Pradel. Reservations include light refreshments and keepsake photo in front of bubble backdrop to remember this special New Year kick-off. Reservations: \$15/member, \$20/nonmember. Call 630-637-8000 ext. 0. Pre-payment required.

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*™! For information about hours, museum admission and membership packages, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org or call (630) 637-8000.

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