

Press Release



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[Editor's note: This press release contains events for March, April and May 2009. 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 spring 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. For a complete list of Studio Drop-In art programs, mini-camps and other special opportunities, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org.

Programs for March 2009:

Tiny Great Performances: Las Guitarras de España

March 7; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Energy, precision and passion combine to ignite the music of Las Guitarras de España (The Guitars of Spain). Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive musical performance. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

Sink or Float, Start in Science™ Series

March 11; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 2 – 3 will use everyday objects to discover what floats and what sinks. Then as a group, they will categorize each object into its proper pile. Program encourages creative problem-solving, sequencing and an understanding of visual spatial relationships. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Wet 'n' Messy

March 13, 20 & 27; 10-10:30 a.m.

Preschoolers ages 2 – 3 will create a mini-composter, create a green-headed being and more in this eco-friendly workshop that encourages creativity, sequencing, fine motor skills, and knowledge of materials. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

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Ramp 'n' Roll

March 14; 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Children ages 4 – 6 will design and then create a complex ramp system using a variety of recycled materials. They will experiment with balls to test out angles, inclines and speed to develop an understanding of basic physics and scientific process, and use logical thinking. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Third Thursdays

March 19; 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 and visual and mobility impairments to come and play at the Museum during a typically quieter time, even though it is open to the public. Exhibits works on language development, social skills and purposeful play. Photo books and other aids are available to help visitors structure their experience.

Tiny Great Performances: Head Over Heels

March 21; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive musical performance of a female barbershop quartet. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

Makin' Munchies – Pizza!

March 24; 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.

Rainforest Rhythms, a Hop 'n' Bop Series Class

March 28, 2009; 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.

Kids Design Engineering: Spring Break Mini-Camp

March 30 & 31; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Based on DuPage Children's Museum's popular school program, Kids Design Engineering, this spring break mini-camp will give children ages 7 – 10 an opportunity to learn about pneumatic power and use interesting tools to design and build a project that will move across land, water or air under the power of a balloon. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. *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 \$90; Nonmember \$100.

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Programs for April 2009:

Kids Design Engineering: Spring Break Mini-Camp

April 2 & 3; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Based on DuPage Children's Museum's popular school program, Kids Design Engineering, this spring break mini-camp will give children ages 7 – 10 an opportunity to learn about pneumatic power and use interesting tools to design and build a project that will move across land, water or air under the power of a balloon. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. *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 \$90; Nonmember \$100.

Tiny Great Performances: Paula Abella Trio

April 4; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive jazz performance. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

Big Art for Little Hands, Start in Art™ Series

April 8, 15 & 22; 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Splash, splatter and toss paint onto huge canvases. Toddlers ages 15 – 24 months will explore many of the different media of visual art in a BIG way. Program focuses on large motor development, body kinetics and creativity. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$35; Nonmember/Child Partner \$40.

Gigantic Sunflowers, a Junior Books & Beyond Class

April 10; 1 – 1:45 p.m.

After children ages 3 – 4 hear the story *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle, they will create an amazing sunflower mural, make a "sunflower" for home and eat a story-themed snack. Program focuses on literacy, artistic expression, sequencing, and fine motor skills. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$17; Nonmember/Child Partner \$20.

Kaleidoscoping

April 14; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 4 – 5 will explore the math of symmetry by making a simple, creative kaleidoscope. Class includes a take-home discovery sheet and focuses on emergent math, artistic expression, sequencing, and fine motor development. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Third Thursdays: National Autism Month

April 16; 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 and visual and mobility impairments to come and play at the Museum during a typically quieter time, even though it is open to the public. In April, special activities will be offered in observance of National Autism Month. Exhibits works on language development, social skills and purposeful play. Photo books and other aids are available to help visitors structure their experience.

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Tiny Great Performances: DuPage Symphony Orchestra

April 18; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive musical performance. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

Just for Grown-Ups: "Looking at Children with New Eyes"

April 23; 7 – 8 p.m.

Dr. Jennifer Rosinia will engage workshop participants in a discussion about practical sensory strategies that can be incorporated into every day life. This workshop is intended for adults who have had an introduction to the theory of sensory integration. Advance tickets are \$15 for members and \$20 for nonmembers; day of presentation tickets sales are \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers.

My First Mess

April 24, May 1 & 8; 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.

DCM Spring Gala: An Evening Under the Stars

April 25; 5:30 p.m. – midnight; Westin Hotel in Lombard

Join honorary co-chairs John and Mae Calamos of Calamos Investments for the Museum's annual fundraising gala. Enjoy an elegant evening of fine dining, dancing and entertainment including both silent and live auctions with one-of-a-kind experiences. Tickets are \$200 or \$2,000 per table of 10. Call (630) 637-8000, ext. 2500 for more details.

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

April 29; 10 – 10:30 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.

Programs for May 2009:

Tiny Great Performances: Mama Edie

May 2; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive storytelling performance. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

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Sink or Float, Start in Science™ Series

May 12; 9:30 – 10 a.m.

Children ages 2 – 3 will use everyday objects to discover what floats and what sinks. Then as a group, they will categorize each object into its proper pile. Program encourages creative problem-solving, sequencing and an understanding of visual spatial relationships. Fee: Member/Child Partner \$12; Nonmember/Child Partner \$14.

Huge Box Sculpture, A Books & Beyond Class

May 16; 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.

Tiny Great Performances: Route 66

May 16; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive musical performance by an a cappella quartet. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

Makin' Munchies – Lasagna!

May 19; 10:30 – 11:15 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.

Third Thursdays

May 21; 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 and visual and mobility impairments to come and play at the Museum during a typically quieter time, even though it is open to the public. Exhibits works on language development, social skills and purposeful play. Photo books and other aids are available to help visitors structure their experience.

Shimmering Necklaces, A Native American Tale

May 22; 4 – 5 p.m.

Listen to the tale of how the Loon got its shimmering necklace of white. Children ages 5 – 9 will design and fabricate a necklace of their own to wear home. A related snack will be served. Workshop focuses on multicultural awareness, listening skills and creativity.

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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Tiny Great Performances: Alison Deaver

May 30; 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join the fun during this family-friendly, interactive musical performance that features solo flute music. Free for Museum members and/or with Museum admission.

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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