

Press Release

Media Contacts: Alison Segebarth, Director of Marketing and Membership
asegebarth@dupagechildrensmuseum.org; (630) 637-8000, ext. 2600

Dana Peters, Assistant Marketing Manager,
dpeters@dupagechildrensmuseum.org; (630) 637-8000, ext. 2650

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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 and in the community for the month of February.

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. Creativity Classes require pre-registration and separate fees.

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 online by visiting the Museum's website at www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org.

Programs for February 2012:

Jan. 30-Feb. 5, During Museum Hours ***Color and Light Surprise Studio Drop-in***

Draw, write and design a colorful image on clear material and discover what happens when it's placed over a bright light in this art-focused discovery activity. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled on most days; free with admission or membership. Check the website for details or to view a weekly schedule of alternating math-, science- and art-focused activities in the Museum's Art Studio.

Fri., Feb. 3, 9:30-10:00 a.m. ***My First Book (Ages 18-24 months)***

Personalize story time with a creation that says "all mine!" You and your child will make your very own book together. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member/Child Partner \$12, Nonmember/Child Partner \$18

Fri., Feb. 3, 5:00 p.m. ***Family Science Night*** ***DCM Family Fun Friday Night***

Explore science experiments with the whole family! Family Science Night is made possible by a grant from Motorola Solutions Foundation. During the school year, DuPage Children's Museum will have extended hours on Fridays (open until 8:00 p.m.) to give families with working parents and siblings who attend school during the week greater access to Museum exhibits and activities and an opportunity to enjoy time together.

Feb. 6-12, During Museum Hours

Crystal Paintings Studio Drop-in

Create colorful watercolor paintings; then texture your artwork by sprinkling it with salt in this science-focused discovery activity. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled on most days; free with admission or membership. Check the website for details or to view a weekly schedule of alternating math-, science- and art-focused activities in the Museum's Art Studio.

Tues., Feb. 7, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Little Blue and Little Yellow, A Start in Literacy™ Series Class (Ages 4-6)

Watch two colors become one before your eyes. Color mixing is the star of the classic story. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member/Child Partner \$15, Nonmember/Child Partner \$21.

Fri., Feb. 10, 6:00 p.m.

Willy Wonka Jr.: WJHS Winter Musical Preview

DCM Family Fun Friday Night

Get an exclusive sneak peek at Washington Jr. High School's winter musical, *Willy Wonka Jr.*, at DuPage Children's Museum. During the school year, DuPage Children's Museum will have extended hours on Fridays (open until 8:00 p.m.) to give families with working parents and siblings who attend school during the week greater access to Museum exhibits and activities and an opportunity to enjoy time together.

Sun., Feb. 12, 1:00 p.m.

Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, Tiny Great Performances Series

Fusing contemporary dance, live music and visual art, Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre electrifies the stage through diverse performance. Musical selections feature a variety of genres including jazz, classical, Latin, rock 'n' roll and blues while the choreography combines jazz, modern and ballet. Sure to deliver a high-energy, engaging performance for all ages. Free with admission or membership.

Feb. 13-19, During Museum Hours

Resist Studio Drop-in

Discover the repulsion of oil and water by creating a colorful drawing with oil pastels then covering it with watercolor paint in this science-focused discovery activity. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled on most days; free with admission or membership. Check the website for details or to view a weekly schedule of alternating math-, science- and art-focused activities in the Museum's Art Studio.

Wed., Feb. 15, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Snow Art, A Start in Art™ Series Class (Ages 2-3)

Turn snow into a piece of artwork! Add liquid color to snow and watch what happens when salt mixes with ice. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member/Child Partner \$15, Nonmember/Child Partner \$21.

Thurs., Feb. 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Third Thursday

Third Thursdays are a special time once a month for families of children with autism spectrum disorder, visual, and mobility impairments to come play at the Museum. Special activities last until 7:00 p.m. All activities are free with admission or membership. The Museum is open to the public until 8:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

Fri., Feb. 17, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Washington Jr. High Wild Life Science Club

Science for kids by kids! Members of Washington Jr. High's Wild Life Club are bringing hands-on science fun to DuPage Children's Museum. Younger children will love the opportunity to learn from "big kids" while exploring a multitude of different science topics. Each appearance will feature activities appropriate for two age levels, ages 4-6 and 7-10.

Fri., Feb. 17, 6:00 p.m.

***Do You Believe in Magic?, NCHS Theatre Central Children's Play
DCM Family Fun Friday Night***

Watch selections from Naperville Central High School Theatre Central children's play production at DuPage Children's Museum. During the school year, DuPage Children's Museum will have extended hours on Fridays (open until 8:00 p.m.) to give families with working parents and siblings who attend school during the week greater access to Museum exhibits and activities and an opportunity to enjoy time together.

Feb. 20-26, During Museum Hours

Velocity, Studio Drop-in

Control the speed, velocity and path of cars going down ramps by adjusting the angle, surface or creating bumps in the road in this math-focused discovery activity. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled on most days; free with admission or membership. Check the website for details or to view a weekly schedule of alternating math-, science- and art-focused activities in the Museum's Art Studio.

Tues., Feb. 21, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Math Opposites, A Start in Math™ Series Class (Ages 2-3)

Let's talk math. Explore math vocabulary and the world of opposites like big and little, long and short, up and down, and more. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member/Child Partner \$15, Nonmember/Child Partner \$21.

Thurs., Feb. 23, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Insect Zoo - All Ages, Free with Admission or Membership

Ever wanted to get nose-to-nose with a praying mantis? Pet a giant pumpkin millipede as long as your hand? See how far a giant lubber grasshopper can jump? The experts from Anderson Pest Solutions will introduce children to nature's Good Guy bugs, such as Hercules beetles, giant lubber grasshoppers, giant pumpkin millipedes and more. Find out how, as nature's recyclers, these insects contribute to our environment.

Fri., Feb. 24, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Drawing Perspective, An Art Skills Development Class (Ages 7-10)

Draw images of roads, trains and mountain ranges that look as if they go off into the distance by utilizing "perspective." Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member \$20, Nonmember \$25.

Fri., Feb. 24, 6:00 p.m.

***NCC Red Bike Performance Company
DCM Family Fun Friday Night***

The Red Bike Performance Company from North Central College will encourage imagination with kid-friendly improv and theatrical exercises. During the school year, DuPage Children's Museum will have extended hours on Fridays (open until 8:00 p.m.) to give families with working parents and siblings who attend school during the week greater access to Museum exhibits and activities and an opportunity to enjoy time together.

Sat., Feb. 25, 10:45 a.m.

Filament Theatre Presents Alice & Me!, Tiny Great Performances Series

The Filament Theatre Ensemble creates theatre with a folk tradition and an emphasis on imagination. In their performance of *Alice & Me!*, an interactive re-imagination of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, audience members will travel with Alice as she meets the Cheshire Cat, the Red Queen and other Wonderland favorites. Free with admission or membership.

Feb. 27-Mar. 4, During Museum Hours

Lines of Sand, Studio Drop-in

Sprinkle fine sand over your writing to discover the adhesive property of glue in this literacy-focused discovery activity. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled on most days; free with admission or membership. Check the website for details or to view a weekly schedule of alternating math-, science- and art-focused activities in the Museum's Art Studio.

Wed., Feb. 29, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Forces: Gravity vs. Centripetal Force, A Start in S.T.E.M.™ Series Class (Ages 4-6)

What goes around eventually falls down! Discover the strengths and weaknesses of force. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Member/Child Partner \$15, Nonmember/Child Partner \$21.

About DuPage Children's Museum

DuPage Children's Museum is a top Chicago-area cultural attraction...where learning comes in to play@! Via interactive exhibits and programs that make learning fun for children and adults playing together, DuPage Children's Museum helps develop curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem solving in young children. 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. For information about hours, Museum admission and membership packages, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org or call (630) 637-8000.

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