

Where
DREAMS
are
BORN



FLINT
children's
museum

celebrating children. celebrating 40 years.



OUR MISSION & WORK

celebrating 40 years in flint

For forty years, the Flint Children's Museum has believed that the foundation for lifelong learning begins in early childhood and is best developed through hands-on play and exploration.

Our work empowers children to take the lead in learning by providing an age-appropriate environment where they are encouraged to make decisions, take risks and engage in imaginative play with peers in order to develop their cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.

Through our work, we inspire a lifelong love for learning in young children — providing a place for them to dream and grow.





A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND DIRECTOR

The Flint Children's Museum has long been a place where children come to play and learn. For many of our young guests, a visit to the Children's Museum is like a visit to Disney — an opportunity to dream where all things are possible. A safe place to hear, see, smell, taste and touch the world around them, learning through their senses.

For many, a visit to the Flint Children's Museum is a first opportunity to play dress-up with other children, a first chance to play outside of the boundaries of home and school, a first chance to eat food right from a garden, and a first introduction to a museum. At our Museum, children are encouraged to practice and master their physical development, critical thinking and social skills — skills necessary for their healthy development. Parents are confident and comfortable in a safe and educational space made just for their children to play, learn and connect on a meaningful level.

The Flint Children's Museum is a place that not only connects parents and children, it connects our community as well. Everywhere we go, people tell us, "We love the Children's Museum! You must truly love what you do." And we do. The Flint Children's Museum is easy to love; it is fun, positive, bright and inspiring. And with so many amazing people coming together — the staff, board of directors, volunteers, donors, parents, teachers, social supporters and, of course, the children — what's not to love?

Thank you for joining us in making dreams reality for the children in our community and ensuring that future generations of children have a place to explore, play, learn and dream.

Dolores Sharpe
Board Chair

Kimberly S. Roddy, MPA
Executive Director

40 YEARS *of family*

THE PEOPLE WHO VISIT Who would have dreamed that after 40 years of serving the city of Flint, Genesee County and beyond, we would now be proudly working with three generations of families? Parents and grandparents, who themselves visited the museum as kids, are now bringing their children and their children's children to experience the magic at the Flint Children's Museum.

In the past two years alone, we have played and learned with 120,421 children and caregivers, helping to build their love for learning and the necessary foundation for future growth.

A total of 901 families joined us as members in 2018 and 2019, gaining unlimited access to our Museum and hundreds of other great museums around the world, from the Michigan Science Center to the Brooklyn Children's Museum or California's Kidspace Children's Museum, the possibilities are endless!

378 children celebrated their birthdays with us at the Flint Children's Museum, along with their friends and family members — many visiting for the very first time!



"It's called the Flint Children's Museum, but three generations enjoyed it tremendously. It made for a memorable experience that our grandchildren will never forget." – **CASSANDRA**

"Loved it! We went for three hours today ... we could have been there twice as long! The kiddos with us ranged in age from one to nine and not a one was bored! Five stars!" – **SHELLY**

"My young children LOVE your museum. Thank you for providing such a wonderful hands-on place for them to explore, learn and play." – **DONA**

40 YEARS *of fun*

EXPLORING, DREAMING & PLAYING TOGETHER

A total of 261 different groups and 4,670 people visited the Flint Children's Museum for field trips and special outings. So many of these guests have told us how they "love" the museum, and we love having them here!

Our team at the Children's Museum personally designed, fabricated and installed five new, fun and custom exhibits for children to interact and engage with. They included:

- Best Friends Animal Hospital
- What Happens at Night?
- The Great Sticker Experiment
- A Day at the Beach!, and
- Kids Create Space

"The kids created a maze and worked together using different materials. They problem solved and it was age appropriate. They loved it!"

— TEACHER

"The kids loved the program, and we have incorporated it into our 'how to' unit in writing"

— TEACHER

With the help of two anonymous donors, we also acquired a Virtual Reality Sandbox and the Giant Light Bright, two new high-tech exhibits that everyone loves learning with.

Visitors also enjoy exploring Sproutsides, our certified Nature Explore Outdoor Classroom — one of only five such spaces in the state of Michigan. And we continue to engage little learners with the Farmer's Playhouse, located inside the Flint Farmers' Market.





40 YEARS *of focus*

OUR LEADERS IN PLAY For four decades, Flint Children's Museum leadership has focused on the mission of providing the greatest learning opportunities for young children through hands-on play. It is the efforts of many that have brought the Museum to where it is today, and we are thankful to all of who have made this possible.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tatiana Amos-Walker, Play Educator
Adrice Triplett, Play Educator
Laura Mauck, Play Educator
Francesca Sydow, Play Educator
April Harman, Play Educator

"The staff is wonderful with all the kids, especially those who have special needs." —**MICHELLE**

AWARDS, HONORS & ACCOLADES

- **Children's Champion Award Winner** — Voices for Children
- **Everyday Hero Award Winner** — Genesee County Educational Foundation
- **Tour Site** — Edible Flint
- **Certificate of Appreciation** — Strive
- **Certificate of Appreciation** — National Night Out
- **Art of Achievement Award Nominee** — Flint and Genesee Chamber
- **Youth Art Month Award Winner** — Goldman & Associates
- **Freeman Foundation Asian Cultures Exhibits Series Chosen Partner** — Association of Children's Museums





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2018-19 DONORS With friends, all things are possible. Without them, we only dream. We remain grateful to the many generous donors and community partners, our friends, who support the mission of the Flint Children's Museum and continue to make all things possible.

Kay Bigelow and David Breauigh
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40 YEARS
of friendship



This program is sponsored by the Greater Flint Arts Council Share Art Genesee Grant Program made possible by the Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment Millage funds. Your tax dollars are at work!



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Mancino's Of Fenton
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Mary Tosto Design
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My City Magazine
NCG Trillium Cinema
Oliver T's Market
Orion Art Center
Painting With A Twist
Planet 3 Extreme Air Park
Pure Bliss Salon & Spa
Red Fox Outfitters
Red Robin
Richfield Bowl/ B's Bowling
Rollhaven Skate & Fun Center
Rupert's Brew House

Sea Life Michigan Aquarium
Serendipity Wellness Spa
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Skateland Arena
Sloan*Longway
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Sweet D's Bakeshop, Tea Room & Cafe
T.Dub's
Target
The Good Beans Cafe
The Grafted Root Eatery
The Grainery Natural Grocery
The Laundry/Crust
The Muddy Buddy Boys
The Whiting/Capitol Theatre
The William Peter Mansion
Tiffany's Food and Spirits
Totem Books
Twist In A Dish
Two Men and A Truck
Two Souls One Dance
University Of Michigan-Flint Recreation Center
Vogt's Flowers & Gifts
White Horse Tavern
Wilderness Trails Zoo
YMCA Of Greater Flint

Youthful
You Med Spa
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Village Hotel & Waterpark

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Fenton World of Wonder
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Keep Genesee County Beautiful
Kettering University
Michigan State University
Mott College Clowns
Mott Community College
Mr. Gaines Program



Mt. Pleasant Children's Museum and Curiosity Children's Museum
University of Michigan-Flint

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Back to the Bricks
Bikes on the Bricks
Block Party
Buckham Alley Festival
Kettering Science Fair
National Night Out
Pop Up Play

VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to the 239 volunteers who gave 2,366 hours of their time in 2018 and 2019. Thanks to them, the entire museum continues to improve and grow, just like the children we serve.

40 YEARS of fearlessness

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME	2019	2018
Endowment	\$ 48,497	\$ 48,502
In-Kind	11,546	9,725
Investment/Other	25,643	8,244
Earned Revenue	199,500	196,808
Contributions/ Sponsorships/Grants	326,428	259,158
	\$ 611,614	\$ 522,437

EXPENSE	2019	2018
Educational Programming	449,160	395,776
Management	81,587	103,381
Fundraising	36,902	39,656
	\$ 567,649	\$ 538,813

*"The museum has lots of awesome stuff!
Our kids loved the marketplace
with pizza restaurant and
food shelves!"* - ABI



*"I took my two grandsons
there and we had an
awesome time! Both
boys are very inquisitive, so the different
displays kept them on their toes."*

- GREGORY

BY THE NUMBERS

	2019	2018	COMBINED
Total Served	62,200	58,221	120,421
Flint Children's Museum	44,437	40,977	85,414
Farmers' Market Location	14,527	15,810	30,337
Schools and Community Events	3,236	1,434	4,670
Memberships	414	487	901
Parties	181	197	378
Field Trip Groups	123	138	261
Volunteers	109	130	239
Volunteer Hours	1,324	1,042	2,366

40 YEARS FORWARD

Just as we celebrate the past forty years, we look forward to the NEXT forty years — and we are dreaming BIG for the children in our community. In the next couple of years, we are looking for our new home, and envisioning the same warm welcoming children's museum our community knows, with a world-class experience that our children deserve.

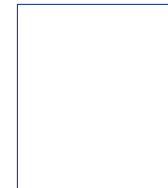
As we move forward, we are listening to the voices of our visitors, donors, volunteers and staff. With your help, we are reimagining our exhibits, our outdoor classroom, our educational programming, and our overall visitor experience. We invite you to stop by the Children's Museum anytime to share your thoughts and ideas to help make this dream come true for the children in our community.

As always, we continue to expand field trip offerings, secure new exhibits, find new partnerships, and make every child feel special when they walk through the doors of the Flint Children's Museum at our location on the campus of Kettering University.





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