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Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and MuseumLab to Reopen on Saturday, June 12

The Museum Will Have New Exhibits, New Health and Wellness Policies for COVID-19 Mitigation, and Updated Timed Ticketing

Pittsburgh, PA (Wednesday May 5, 2021) – Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and MuseumLab are overjoyed to announce the reopening of our campus to the public at 10:00 am on Saturday, June 12, 2021. The museum will be open Thursday to Sunday from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. MuseumLab will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Fun fact: June 12 is not just our reopening date, it's the date the Children's Museum officially opened in 1983!

Tickets are now available on our website, <u>www.pittsburghkids.org</u>, for open days from June 12 through August 31, 2021.

The Children's Museum has been reimagining its exhibits, programs, systems and procedures to make your visit as exciting, fun, safe and comfortable as ever. We offer visitors two new exhibits, refreshing upgrades in many of your favorite exhibits and a necessary emphasis on safety and comfort with new COVID-19 safety protocols.

One of the most important changes is the transition to an online timed ticketing system, which the Museum strongly encourages all visitors, including members, to use to secure an entry time for your family's visit. Walk-up tickets may be available but cannot be guaranteed.

"We are so excited to announce our reopening on June 12, 2021. We have missed seeing children every day, and while we have done our best to support remote learning and socially-distanced activities, we are thrilled to welcome back kids and families to the museum. The team is doing

everything within our power to make it as safe and engaging for members and guests to return," said Jane Werner, Executive Director of Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. "We have worked hard to reimagine our exhibits and activities to provide new and fun ways to share joy, creativity, curiosity and kindness with the world."

New exhibits in the Children's Museum include the world premiere of **Emotions at Play with Pixar's** *Inside Out*, based on the award-winning animated film and-the Kindness Gallery, an exhibit offering creative ways to communicate and show kindness as inspired by the lessons of Mister Rogers and Daniel Tiger. Favorite exhibits MAKESHOP[®] and Waterplay offer refreshed looks, while the Garage features a new interactive projected on the vaulted dome of the former Buhl Planetarium and the Studio features an exhibit based on the puppet collection of Margo Lovelace. The Nursery and Limb Bender will not be open at this time.

MuseumLab will reopen with two brand new exhibits, the stunning climbing environment *Gymlacium* in The Stacks, and *FACE VALUE* in Studio Lab.

In addition to our timed ticketing system, the following health and safety protocols are part of the Museum's approach to reopening:

- All staff and visitors will be required to wear face masks in the Museum, except children ages two and younger.
- All staff and visitors will have their temperatures taken before entry into the building.
- The total number of visitors admitted to Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and MuseumLab combined will be limited daily to ensure social distancing in a safe and strategic way.
- The number of families in each exhibit will be monitored and signage will assist groups maintain six feet of distance from other groups.
- Touchless technology has been added to the Museum's admission process and bathrooms to provide for less touching of common surfaces.
- Additional hand sanitizer stations have been added throughout the Museum's campus.
- The Museum will undergo a deep cleaning nightly and exhibit areas will be cleaned at intervals throughout the day on open days.

The Museum's Cafe will not provide food service when the Museum reopens. Visitors are welcome to bring a lunch or snack and drink to enjoy in the Cafe during their visit. Water fountains in the Children's Museum and MuseumLab will not be operating, but water bottle fillers will be available.

Learn more details about the Children's Museum's reopening and reserve your timed tickets at <u>www.pittsburghkids.org</u>.

If you have any questions about your visit, please call us at 412.322.5058, x240, or email <u>hi@pittsburghkids.org</u>.

<u>Click here</u> for a welcome back message from Jane Werner, Executive Director of Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and MuseumLab

<u>Click here</u> for an overview on timed ticket buying.

ABOUT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

<u>Children's Museum of Pittsburgh</u> is a place that provides innovative and inclusive museum experiences that inspire kindness, joy, creativity and curiosity for all learners. We forge connections with artists, community partners and neighbors to work on behalf of children, youth and families. With 80,000 square feet of space the Children's Museum welcomes more than 307,000 visitors annually and provides tons of fun and loads of "real stuff" experiences for play and learning. Permanent hands-on, interactive exhibit areas at the Museum include The Studio, Theater, Waterplay, The Kindness Gallery, Backyard and MAKESHOP®. The Museum's award-winning, three-story, center building is screened by a shimmering wind Sculpture and connects two historic structures (Allegheny Post Office Building & the Buhl Building).

ABOUT MUSEUMLAB™

<u>MuseumLab</u> is a new museum located adjacent to the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, offering growing kids cutting-edge experiences in art, tech and making. With three exhibit spaces, program and rental space, a host of commissioned artwork and unique camps, workshops and afterschool activities, and multiple partners, MuseumLab sits at the crossroads of interactive museum, learning lab and one of the coolest designed spaces in Pittsburgh. With the opening of MuseumLab on April 27, 2019, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh transformed a North Side landmark into an integral component of what is now the nation's the largest cultural campus for children. In 2020, MuseumLab was honored to receive the Civic and Cultural Interior Design Award from Dezeen, an award we are so grateful to share with all of the partners, collaborators, and supporters of the project

https://www.dezeen.com/awards/2020/winners/museumlab/)

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