



For Immediate Release

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Duquesne Light Company's CEO and Great Night Gala Chair Kevin Walker joins the Museum in honoring Kim and Curt Fleming with the Great Friend of Children Award

PITTSBURGH (June 15, 2022)--Children's Museum of Pittsburgh hosts its annual Great Night Gala, presented by Duquesne Light Company, on Friday, June 24. This year's event is the Children's Museum's first in-person gala in three years and part of the Museum's large-scale return to welcoming families and friends back to in-person events and programs.

As our biggest fundraising of the year, the Great Night Gala is a joyous opportunity to thank those who made our re-opening in June 2021 possible after 15 months of closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are also excited to introduce the Museum's new metals studio and accompanying programming for older youth. This theme also offers a playful duality to celebrate Pittsburgh's mettle and resilience demonstrated during these challenging times.

"I can't believe it's been a year since re-opening our doors," says Jane Werner, the Museum's Executive Director, entering her 22nd year in that role. "The Children's Museum has been able to finally allow its new metals studio and metals programming shine with in-person workshops, in-classroom outreach and summer camps. Children and youth are hammering, soldering, fusing, bending and stamping their way through the year. Thanks to our community of supporters, the Museum has come back from 15 months of closure with new ideas, fresh perspectives and a reinvigorated sense of purpose. Celebrate this year of accomplishments with us and dance the night away on the Northside."

The Gala also gives the Museum the opportunity to give the Great Friend of Children Award to someone in the community who has improved the lives of children and youth. This year's recipients are Kim and Curt Fleming, who have shown a lifetime commitment to Pittsburgh as active board members for several local groups including the Buhl Foundation and the Pittsburgh Foundation. They have also been dedicated friends of the Children's Museum, serving as our 2020 Gala Chairs and assisting with the huge undertaking of pivoting that event from an in-person to a virtual gala due to the pandemic. They join former Great Friend of Children award recipients such as Margo Lovelace, the PPG Foundation, Fred and Joanne Rogers and Jim Henson.

Interested friends and neighbors are encouraged to purchase tickets for the night's festivities, participate in the silent auction online, or make a donation. For more details and tickets, please visit the event's website: greatnightgala.org.

All proceeds from the gala support the Museum's ability to inspire kindness, joy, creativity and curiosity in all learners and foster the community's future artists, creatives, leaders and innovators through hands-on learning and play. We hope you will join us on this joyous night! If you are unable to attend, you can still support the Museum by making a donation at pittsburghkids.org/donate and participating in our online auction at greatnightgala.org.

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ABOUT KIM AND CURT FLEMING

Kim Tillotson Fleming is Chairman and CEO of Hefren-Tillotson, a Baird Company, and Curt Fleming is Director of Information Technology at Microbac Laboratories.

Kim and Curt met during their freshman year at Northwestern University and have been married for 40+ years. Both were fortunate to grow up in families who valued community service and philanthropy. They possess a strong belief in family and compassion for those in need.

Together, Kim and Curt support many organizations in the Pittsburgh community. In addition to the Children's Museum, they support the American Heart Association, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Habitat for Humanity, the United Way and many more charities. Curt serves on the Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry Board. Kim has participated in many mission trips to Africa and has led two trips to Guatemala for employees of Hefren-Tillotson and their families to help build homes. Their love for community translates into a reputation for doing "whatever it takes" with excitement and enthusiasm.

Kim and Curt live in Wexford and have two sons, Grant and Todd. Their free time is spent with the family, including Carol Hefren Tillotson, Kim's mother, and their beautiful granddaughter Claire.

ABOUT KEVIN WALKER

Great Night Gala Chair Kevin Walker has nearly 30 years of experience in a host of roles at multiple utilities throughout the country. Prior to joining Duquesne Light Company (DLC), he served as senior vice president of customer and operations services and nuclear decommissioning at Southern California Edison. In this role, he oversaw customer experience for more than five million accounts; the services provided to the corporation through the Operational Services group, which included Supply Chain, Corporate Real Estate, Transportation Services and Corporate Environmental Services; and the on-site transfer of spent nuclear fuel from wet to dry storage.

As DLC's first Black man and person of color to become president and CEO, he is a proud Veteran of the U.S. Army, having served six years as a field artillery officer with a deployment to the Middle East during Operation Desert Storm. Kevin holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from West Point Academy and a Master's of Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He resides in Marshall Township, Pennsylvania, with his spouse John, seven-year-old twins

Grace and Max and two dogs, Ellie and Henry. In his spare time, Kevin enjoys biking, hiking and exploring Pittsburgh's trails and parks.

ABOUT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh 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. Permanent hands-on, interactive exhibit areas include The Studio, Theater, Waterplay, Kindness Gallery, Backyard and MAKESHOP®.

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is open daily from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$16 for children 2-18 and senior citizens. Children under two are free. The Museum is located on Pittsburgh's historic North Side at 10 Children's Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. For more information, please call (412) 322-5058 or visit the Museum website, www.pittsburghkids.org. Follow us on [Facebook.com/pittsburghkids](https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghkids) / [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/pittsburghkids) and [Twitter @pghkids](https://twitter.com/pghkids)

Please visit greatnightgala.org for more information on the 2022 Great Night Gala.