

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh Celebrates 40 years of Sharing Joy, Creativity, Curiosity and Kindness with All Learners

*Birthday activities kick off on June 12 and include throw-back pricing,
free days, special programs and more*

PITTSBURGH (June 7, 2023) — Turning 40 is a more than just a milestone for Children's Museum of Pittsburgh – it's a reason to celebrate a joyful history of serving children and families throughout the region.

The Children's Museum, recently ranked #2 in USA Today's 10Best Children's Museums in the U.S, will begin months of festive events on Monday, June 12, featuring roll-back-the-clock admission pricing of \$1.50, the same price as opening day 40 years ago. Activities include party hat decorating, fun activities and "blowing out the candles" on a six-foot tall cake from Prantl's Bakery. (Members and children under 2 will be free as always.)

Members of the media are invited to the museum for this 11:00 am event.

Special birthday events will follow throughout the year, including a free day for a birthday party blowout on Saturday, June 24. Event updates and the latest news on the museum's 40th birthday can be found at pittsburghkids.org/40_years.

The museum was founded in 1983 by the Junior League of Pittsburgh in the Old Post Office building on Pittsburgh's North Side. Over its 40-year history, it has not only grown in size, but become a leader in informal learning, creating exhibits and programs that explore making, social and emotional learning and art and artists.

"We are so thankful for 40 years of support in creating innovative and inclusive museum experiences for kids and families," said Jane Werner, the museum's Executive Director. "We cherish the memories we have created together, and are looking forward to the what comes next."

That's a long way from the museum's modest beginnings in a snug 3,000 square foot basement, with exhibits such as an old-style market, riverboat, climbing structure and Stuffie, the signature eight-foot tall figure that helped museum educators teach health

and nutrition to visiting children with a zip-open torso and removable organs. Acquiring the Margo Lovelace puppet collection, and collaborating on exhibits with the Fred Rogers Company, Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, author/illustrator Mo Willems and Pixar, are milestones along its storied history.

Throughout the year, the museum will mark its 40th birthday with other events and activities including:

- Annual gala fundraiser - June 8
- Founder's luncheon - June 9 (not open to the public)
- Summer Free Day - June 24
- Meet the Makers Series
- 21+ Night
- Oral history collection
- Commissioning 4 new artworks
- The museum routinely sees over 300,000 visitors a year, and has exciting exhibit, programs and collaborations in its future.

"40 is really a great age," says Werner. "You know what you're about, and you can still keep learning new things. We are so excited for the next 40 years."

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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/pghkids) and Twitter [@pghkids](https://twitter.com/pghkids)