



Contact: Max Pipman  
Sr. Director of Communications  
412-586-6042  
[mpipman@pittsburghkids.org](mailto:mpipman@pittsburghkids.org)

## Children's Museum of Pittsburgh Debuts an Immersive "Firefly" Experience and New Interactives from Summer Artists-in-Residence

*Spontaneous Order: the rhythm of fireflies Opens on Sept 13  
2024 Tough Artists' Work Debuts Sept 14, the Museum Hosts Free Admission  
Days on September 15 and 16 in Partnership with RAD Days*

**PITTSBURGH, PA (September 12, 2024) – *Spontaneous Order – the rhythm of fireflies*** is an immersive experience inspired by the wonder of watching fireflies in nature that opens at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh on Friday, September 13, at 10:00 AM.

***Spontaneous Order – the rhythm of fireflies*** is created in collaboration with artist Sally Weber and optical innovator Craig Newswanger, founders of Resonance Studio of Oakland, CA.

Two hundred jars suspended from the ceiling blink randomly with a golden glow like individual fireflies. When the light from one jar recognizes one glowing nearby through photo sensors, their blinking gradually synchronizes and the lights turn blue. Watch in wonder as the light shifts from blue to gold along a 50-foot stretch of ceiling and back again, creating luminous patterns. The experience includes a custom summer soundscape and resources on how to be firefly "friendly" in our daily lives. The exhibit is open through January 5, 2025.

"This is a wonderful melding of art and technology with the beauty and magic of nature," says Anne Fullenkamp, Sr. Director of Creative Experiences at the Children's Museum. "It takes captivating memories from childhood and brings them to a new level."

New art works by the [2024 Tough Artists in Residence](#) can also be explored in MuseumLab starting on Saturday, September 14, at noon. The Tough Art residency, now in its eighteenth year, brings artists to work collaboratively with Children’s Museum staff each summer to create engaging works of art that are tough enough to withstand public interaction, especially that of children.

This year’s Tough Artists are: Bryce Li, an interactive experience designer from the San Francisco-Bay area; Sydney Parcell, an emerging multimedia artist from Miami; and La Vispera, an art collective by Colombian artists Kelly Jiménez and Alejandro Franco who specialize in found/discarded art assemblages.

Other highlights coming up at the Children’s Museum include:

PNC Mobile Learning Adventure on September 13 and 14, a free outdoor early-learning environment for families, schools and communities.

Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh will offer free admission for all on September 15 and 16 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm as part of RAD Days by the Allegheny Regional Asset District.

Be sure to check the Museum’s [website](#) for the latest hours when planning your visit.

###

### **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, Garage, Waterplay, Kindness Gallery, Backyard and MAKESHOP®. Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh is open daily from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, and closed on select Wednesdays throughout the year. Admission is \$19 for adults, \$17 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](http://www.pittsburghkids.org).

MuseumLab, where growing kids can have cutting-edge experiences in art, tech and making, is next door to the Children’s Museum and included with museum admission. Starting June 17, MuseumLab will be open seven days a week for the summer, noon – 5:00 pm.

Follow us on Facebook.com/pittsburghkids / Instagram and Twitter @pghkids