



Contact: Max Pipman

Sr. Director of Communications

412-586-6042

mpipman@pittsburghkids.org

I AM WILD: A Charley Harper Exhibit Opens at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh on Saturday, January 25, 2025

Explore six habitats filled with colorful animals and birds inspired by the artwork of Charley Harper

PITTSBURGH, PA (January 21, 2025) – *I AM WILD: A Charley Harper Exhibit*, inspired by the artwork of Charley Harper, opens at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh on Saturday, January 25 and runs through Sunday, August 31, 2025.

In this hands-on exhibit showcasing Harper's signature style of "minimal realism," visitors will explore the flora and fauna of six different habitats, including the Desert, Ocean, Rainforest, Sky, Woods and City. The exhibit invites children and families to discover the diversity and interdependency of life in the natural world, fostering an appreciation for its creatures. Additionally, visitors can view a collection of Harper's artworks, highlighting his favorite subjects and printmaking methods he used during his career.

I AM WILD: A Charley Harper Exhibit, created by Children's Museum of Pittsburgh in partnership with Charley Harper Art Studio, will first be presented at the Museum for an extended run before travelling across the country to other museums and venues.

"We are thrilled to give visitors the opportunity to experience Charley Harper's artwork and ideas about biodiversity in a unique way," says Anne Fullenkamp, Senior Director of Creative Experiences at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. "The immersive play and

interactive art experiences will help kids and families feel more connected to nature that is all around us.”

Visitors can interact with the colorful birds, animals and insects in these vibrant habitats through hands-on activities, including:

- Playing hide-and-seek with different animals and insects found in the woods
- Creating your own natural soundscape with a musical machine of different bird calls
- Acting like your favorite creatures or “be wild” in your own way in our interpretation of Charley Harper’s habitats
- Exploring art making in Harper’s style of minimal realism

I AM WILD: A Charley Harper Exhibit was made possible by generous support from presenting sponsor PPG, and Flyspace Productions, Wild Birds Unlimited and Dentons Cohen & Grigsby.

“This exhibit will provide young visitors from the region with an opportunity to interact with the science and discovery found in nature. Experiences like this are critical for developing an understanding and passion for learning and the environment. We’re thrilled to bring this exciting learning opportunity to the Pittsburgh region,” says Malesia Dunn, Executive Director of the PPG Foundation & Global Corporate Social Responsibility.

The opening weekend of *I AM WILD* will feature these special programs:

Saturday, January 25

- Double bass soloist Barry Green will bring Harper’s vibrant animal artwork to life through captivating music
- Kids can participate in drop-in programs exploring animal tracks, fur, feathers and scales

Sunday, January 26

- Get up close with live animals from Living Treasures Animal Park and experience creatures from Harper’s art in person

Visit our [website](#) for more information about *I AM WILD: A Charley Harper Exhibit*.

###

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. 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.

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 is open daily during the summer, noon – 5:00 pm.

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

About Charley Harper

Charley Harper (1922 - 2007) found his love for nature and wildlife as a child growing up on a small farm in West Virginia. He began drawing creatures from his backyard creek in the fourth grade, and this passion eventually led him to Ohio to attend the Art Academy of Cincinnati - meeting his wife and eventual collaborator, Edie, on the very first day. Harper spent the majority of his adult life living and working in Cincinnati, creating a vast collection of iconic and treasured works, and left behind a legacy of clever artistry and a deep commitment to conservation.

About Charley Harper Art Studio

The Charley Harper Art Studio, founded in 1947 by Charley himself, is dedicated to preserving and promoting his legacy through a small but passionate team. The studio collaborates with brands and organizations worldwide, showcasing Harper's iconic work, renowned for its distinctive minimalistic style and vibrant depiction of nature. In doing so, and in reaching very diverse audiences, these partnerships support his lifelong commitment to conservation and advance environmental awareness and education initiatives in line with Harper's vision.