













What a Story to Tell!

For nearly 35 years, Kohl Children's Museum has been using play to inspire a love of learning in young children.

Our playful history began back in 1985 when the Museum was founded in a building that had been an old bowling alley in Wilmette. When I joined the Museum in 1998, we were on the verge of an exciting new chapter, planning for and launching our new purpose-built facility in Glenview that we all enjoy today.

Like any good story, we've had highs and lows, ups and downs, but one thing has remained constant: We have made **Kohl Children's Museum a leader in the field of early childhood education**. It is our unswerving belief that <u>every</u> child has the right to play and learn and secure a brighter future.

This year has brought two additional twists in the ongoing plot: first, we've launched the \$15 million *Play it Forward* campaign to further grow the Museum and create greater access to play—within our walls and beyond. With this campaign, we plan to:

- update our current building
- expand our space and offerings
- extend our access and inclusion
- sustain our quality and operations
 - secure our financial future

In addition, my time as narrator for the story is drawing to an end, as I will be transitioning back to my native England in 2019. However, I maintain there is still much more of our story to be told, so I've enlisted a friend to help tell our tale.

Are you all sitting comfortably? Good. Then settle back and enjoy our story...

Frenda Luman

Sheridan Turner, *President & CEO* sturner@kcmgc.org

VISION

We will be an essential leader in providing playful experiences that inspire every child.

MISSION

We are a place that provides experiences and memories to build a foundation for a lifetime of learning.



www.kcmgc.org

#PlavKCM

oday is my day! I'm a new volunteer
At Kohl Children's Museum. I'm so stoked to be here!
Among the exhibits I loved as a child—
A place where my imagination went wild.

I loved it so much, it was my favorite place
For music and building and painting my face,
Adventures in Art and the Baby Nursery
In Powered by Nature and All About Me
When I was a kid, why we'd go almost daily
My mom, dad, and sister and me: My name's Bailey!



I grew up, but why let the fun disappear?
I came back and now I'm a Kohl volunteer!

So now I get chances to come back and play,

To model good teaching, or just make their day,

For grandpas and grandmas and uncles and cousins

And busloads of school kids that come by the dozens







From north or from south, and from west or from east, We've welcomed eleventy hundred at least!

From schools and from daycares,
they come to our door
Expecting a magical world to explore
With water for splashing and gearwheels for turning
I always remember: The children are learning.

But it's not just exhibits, oh no — it's much more!

There's all kinds of programs that kids can explore.

In Science Sleuths, children don lab coats and vests
They make their hypotheses, prove them with tests,
And how many tablespoons make up an ounce?
You just might find out if you visit Math Counts.

"Each child's an actor!" That's one of our claims
When the guests come to try out our Theatre Games.
Each month's last Tuesday the kids shout Hurray!
For it's our Monthly Make Believe —
themed fun all day.

Twice every month we've got cool things on deck
Like codes and robotics in Toying with Tech.
On Tinkering Tuesdays, kids work as a team,
While Adventures in Art keeps "A" firmly in STEAM.

There's so much to try and there's so much to do,

I think I could play every day, couldn't you?



Besides all the great things the public can try
We have outreach programs, they're in vast supply.
The best part of serving is this, I should stress:
The programs providing much-needed access.

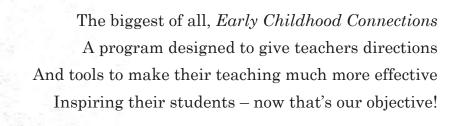
It's one of the Museum's favorite creeds

To help out those families with special needs.

So six times a year on a special Sunday

We open the Museum for *Everyone at Play*.

And three times a year as well, I should mention
We're open exclusively for *Play Attention*,
A program that truly is extraordinary
For families of veterans and active military.
Together they play and get chances to bond,
A program of which we're all awfully fond.



I love all the kids, always happy to see 'em, I'm so glad I work at Kohl Children's Museum.



Last year came our latest program to crop up:

A nifty idea that we're calling the Pop-Up!

For those for whom traveling here might be hard,

Why, we take the Museum right to their own back yard!

Big blue construction blocks, studios for art
Air-mazing stations, they all played a part.
We took all our programs to kids who are yearning
To establish the patterns of true lifelong learning.

For families in need, there was one thing to do: You can't come to us? Then we'll bring it to you!

The pilot, which everyone had great intrigue in Proved such a success in its run in Waukegan,
In 2019, we'll take on three locations
For two months each, thanks to generous foundations.



Our Museum's so cramped, it's a very small size,
And the crowds are a problem we cannot disguise.
Our parking lot's full from the visitor throng—
The line for the *Whole Foods* is fifteen feet long!
We have outreach for children who'd otherwise not
Have the chance to experience the programs we've got,
But so many have called and demand is so steep
That to meet it, we'd pack the kids seventeen deep.

These children need more, so much more they deserve,
So we've made a strong plan from which we can't swerve.
Our leaders made plans (or so we on the floor heard)
For a fundraising campaign they call *Play It Forward*

An Imaginarium,
tech lab for tots,
theatre space,
even more parking spots.

A new enclosed entry
to grace our front door

Why, all of that's packed in the campaign – and more!



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Everyone at Play Impact

(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

Free admission to the Museum and programming specifically designed for families with special needs

1706 attendees

6 events held

4 - 6 therapy dogs participating per event

40 community partners

Underwritten by the Edmond and Alice Opler Foundation and the Women's Board of Kohl Children's Museum



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145,183 Students Impacted

1602

Educators Received Professional Development Training

FREE

Training, Field Trips, and Family activities

684

Free Brighter Future Family Museum Memberships Distributed

Statistically Significant

Gains in Observational Classroom Improvements and Attitudinal Assessments

40 community partners

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5,000 square feet in downtown Waukegan

2,461 attendees in 27 days

56 free field trip groups from schools in need

6 months of operation planned for 2019 in **3** different Lake County communities

Sponsored by Golder Family Foundation;



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Glenview Public Schools

Heather Heavey Northern Suburban Special **Education District**

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Consultant

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One and Only

Liza Sullivan

Through Play

Sheridan Turner

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Rush University

Joyce Weiner

Lana Weiner

Ounce of Prevention

and Learnina Center

Molly Witten, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist

Kohl Children's Museum

Northern Suburban Special

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Luz Maria Solis

National-Louis University

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Michelle Proesel

Karin Singleton

Mimi Wotring

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FISCAL YEAR – JUNE 30, 2018

REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT

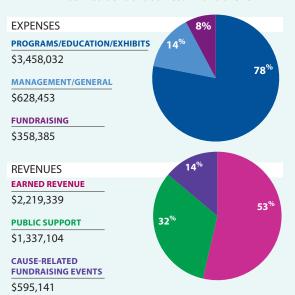
| REVENUES AND OTHER SUFFORT | |
|--|-------------|
| Contributions & Grants Operations | \$1,337,104 |
| Special Events (Net) | \$595,141 |
| Admissions | \$818,239 |
| Membership Income | \$885,639 |
| Field Trips and Educational Program | \$239,103 |
| Facility Rental Income | \$217,583 |
| Exhibit Rental Income | \$20,450 |
| Other | \$38,325 |
| TOTAL REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT | \$4,151,494 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Program Services | \$3,458,032 |
| Management & General | \$628,453 |
| Fundraising | \$358,385 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$4,444,870 |
| INCREASE/DECREASE NET ASSETS | (\$293,376) |
| BEFORE OTHER CHANGES | |
| OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS | |
| Play It Forward Campaign Contributions | \$4,064,802 |
| Play It Forward Campaign Expenses | (\$25,119) |
| Interest Earnings on Investments | \$14,218 |
| Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investments | \$23,590 |
| | |
| TOTAL | \$4,077,491 |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS | \$3,784,115 |

Admission and membership fees cover **less than 40%** of the Museum's annual operating expenses.

BE OUR PARTNER IN PLAY

Thank you! Your generous donations are what make our community access programs possible. Tax-deductible contributions allow us to take our proven brand of playful learning to the audiences who need it most. Your gifts and support help us build a foundation for a lifetime of learning.

William Sanders
Vice President of Business Affairs & CFO





FLUENT IN THE POWER OF PLAY

While we created a fictional character to tell our story, the impacts of our programs, exhibits, and community access are very real. We are committed to the serious role that play has in a child's development and ensuring that all children have the chance to experience our fun, captivating, giggle-inducing brand of learning.

As a supporter of Kohl Children's Museum, you know this and share our vision of providing a place where we can prepare children to be creative, imaginative, and inspired to become the innovative thinkers of the future. With the launch of the *Play It Forward* campaign, our dreams are bigger than ever before.

Please contact us for more information about how you can play a part in what promises to be a brighter future.

\ |-----|

Od F. Ball Gr.

John F. Ball Jr.

Chair, Kohl Children's Museum Board of Trustees jball@kcmgc.org



See for yourself why we're **The Place Where Awesome Lives!**

Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago • 2100 Patriot Blvd, Glenview, IL 60026 • (847) 832-6600 • www.kcmgc.org

SOCIALIZE WITH US

(f) (2) (0) (1)

#PLAYKCM

