

Sherry Turner

From Nanny to CEO



*Winds in the East,  
mist coming in.  
Like somethin' is brewin'  
and bout to begin.*

*— Mary Poppins*

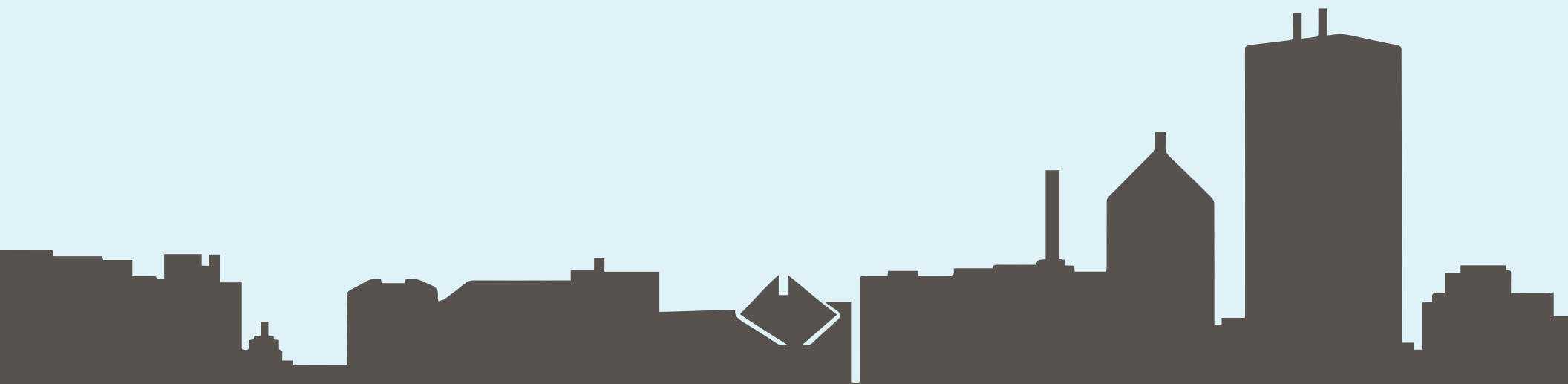


1981  2019



*Anything can  
happen if you  
let it! —Mary Poppins*

*— And it did!*



## FROM NANNY TO CEO



### Coming to America

As it happened, Sheridan was looking for a new challenge at a time when the Hiiemae (Karen) and Holmwood (Ron) family were looking for help as Ron was returning to London to work and leaving Karen as a single parent for a number of years. Thus, Sheridan's decision to rejoin the family and enroll at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The rest is happy history.

### With Children

The important thing about Sheridan is that she has always been not only smart and well-organized but fun. And, she could charm the birds out of the trees. Memorably, she persuaded the driver of the train from two mine towns - Durango, Colorado, to Silverton, Colorado - to let two young boys to join him in his cab while the train climbed the mountains.

### Karen's Memorial

It is a measure of our love for Sheridan as a person and respect for her work at the museum that we decided to plant a memorial tree for Karen on the museum grounds with a dedication that Sheridan helped compose.



### **Sheridan as Godmother**

Amelia and Cassidy consider themselves incredibly lucky to have gotten Sheridan as their godmother. Who else has a godmother with full command of a Children's Museum? They have spent many happy school breaks doing "testing and development research" at the Museum and have been ever so pleased when their recommended improvements are implemented.



### **Sheridan, Sir Winston, and Bella**

Of Sheridan's many loves in life, horses are among the most important. Never is Sheridan more at home than when she is teaching children about horses. Amelia and Cassidy have been lucky enough to experience several lessons, which, of course, include not only riding, but grooming, bathing, brushing and care.







*Open different doors,  
you may find a  
'you' there you never  
knew was yours.*

*— Mary Poppins*





ita

ILLINOIS TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION



For the Governor's Commission  
on Science & Technology  
March 12, 1986  
Leon M. Lederman

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

1. Brief History

The idea grew out of the experience of Saturday Morning Physics at Fermilab where we recognized that the exceptionally bright high school student was not being challenged by the generally good schools in the affluent suburbs.

An important event was a design workshop held on December of 1983 in which all the educational constituencies were represented: high schools, experts in gifted education, seven Illinois universities, community colleges, industrial research scientists, Fermilab and Argonne.

The proposal was formulated as a result of the curriculum design and presented to the Governor's Commission on Science and Technology and the Task Force on Quality of Mathematics and Science Education in Illinois. It was discussed before the BHE and the SBE and approximately one million talks were given before meetings of PTA's, school superintendents, service clubs, etc., etc.

University of Illinois



To all persons be it known that

**Sheridan Turner**

having completed the prescribed studies and satisfied the requirements for the degree

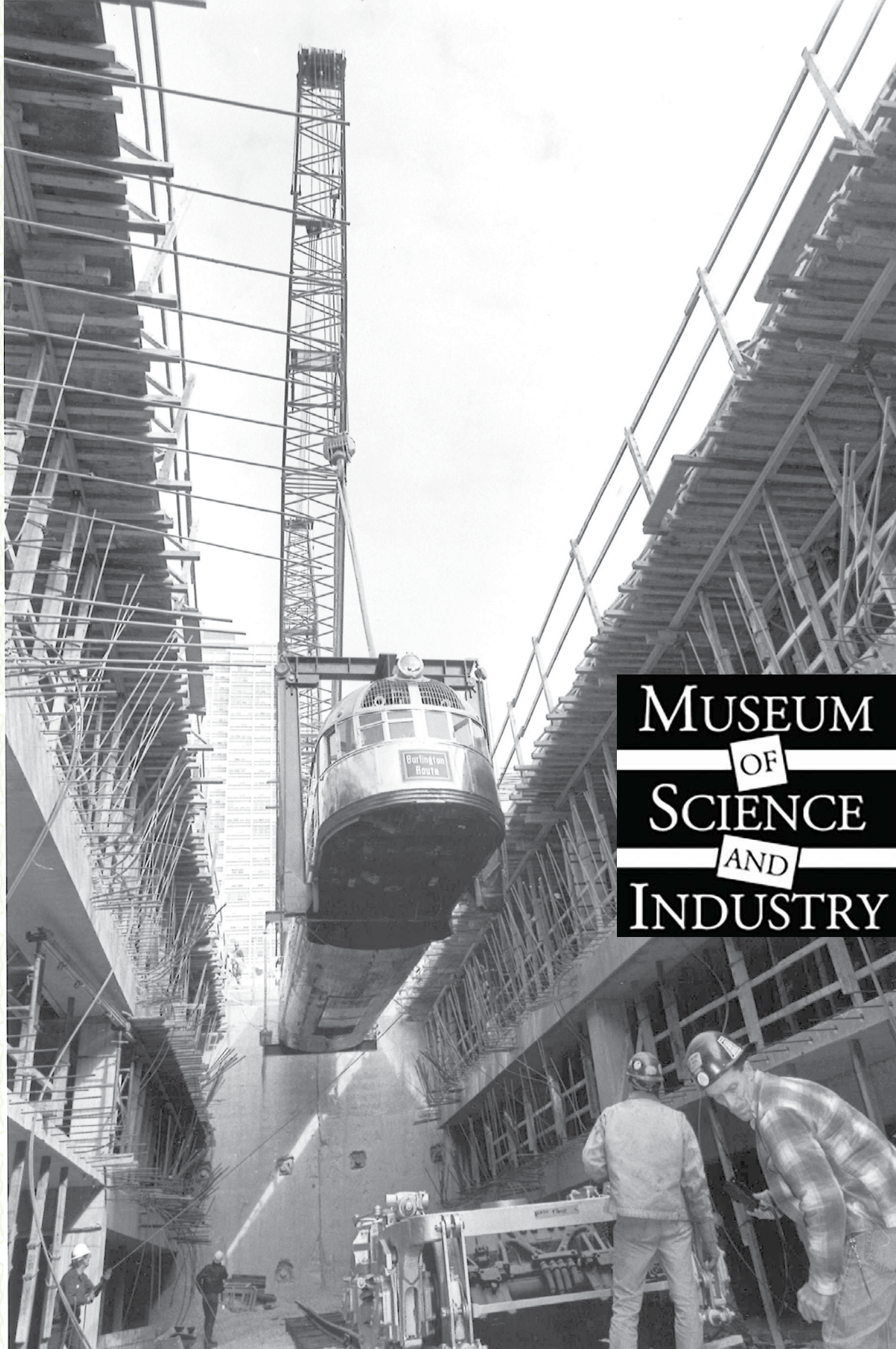
**Master of Education in Early Childhood Education**

has accordingly been admitted to that degree with all the rights, privileges and immunities thereunto appertaining.

*James M. Strogatz*  
Chancellor of the University of Illinois System

*Robert S. Hoff*  
President of the University





MUSEUM  
OF  
SCIENCE  
AND  
INDUSTRY



*B*efore Sheridan joined Kohl Children's Museum as CEO, she made her mark on Chicago's cultural landscape by serving as the Executive Assistant to the President of the Museum of Science and Industry. In that position, she was the project manager for the \$44 million project which relocated all of the MSI's parking from a vast surface lot to an underground garage, allowing the lot to be turned into lovely green grass. The highlight of the garage was to provide visitors with their first exposure to an exhibit, the famous Zephyr diesel locomotive. Getting that massive piece of machinery down into the bowels of the garage was a stunning feat of engineering and construction, requiring the world's biggest crane...and sheer willpower—the latter having been provided in ample supply by Sheridan Turner. I first met Sheridan when doing the legal work on that project for the Museum, and witnessed her tenacity in overcoming problem after problem to build the garage. When she took the job at Kohl, she recruited me to the Board, and I was proud to help her make



her second big mark in Chicago, with the construction of the Glenview Museum—and once again, it was all driven by her indomitable, “can do” attitude!

*With deepest respect and affection,* Tony Licata



first met Sheridan in 1984 or 5 at a Rush University gathering of my own making. Within a week she had me on the board of the Illinois High Tech Association (no salary) where she was the executive director. I should have known that I was now in for it! Her brilliance, her cleverness, her beauty, and her delightful British accent won the day.

This was only the start of it!

The next year, thanks to her, I found myself on the board of her start-up day care and fun operation for kids (at the same salary). It was fun, but I was going hungry!

So... I was not really surprised when Ms. Kohl, whom I knew well, asked to chat with me about Sheridan for the leadership of the Museum. Apparently Sheridan thought that I would be an excellent non-biased (and non-salaried) reference. Also, I might even get involved with the Museum. (She would see to that!) I am not used to using superlatives in recommendations, but I didn't hold back, even though I smelled another non-paying job in the making. She was awarded the position, and the rest was history. I know of no one else who could even hold a candle to what she has accomplished.

SURPRISE!!! I WAS NOW ON THE SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD. (NO SALARY). Did I list cleverness as one of her attributes???

She won 3 to 0! However, realizing that she "took me around the block" she tried to make amends and took care of my two chocolate labs when I was away. That's what she liked about me... The dogs.

I did NOT pay her!

I want to wish her the very best in her new undertaking across the pond.

But we will miss her... our loss!

Leo Henikoff



*Sometimes  
a little thing can be  
quite important*

*— Mary Poppins*



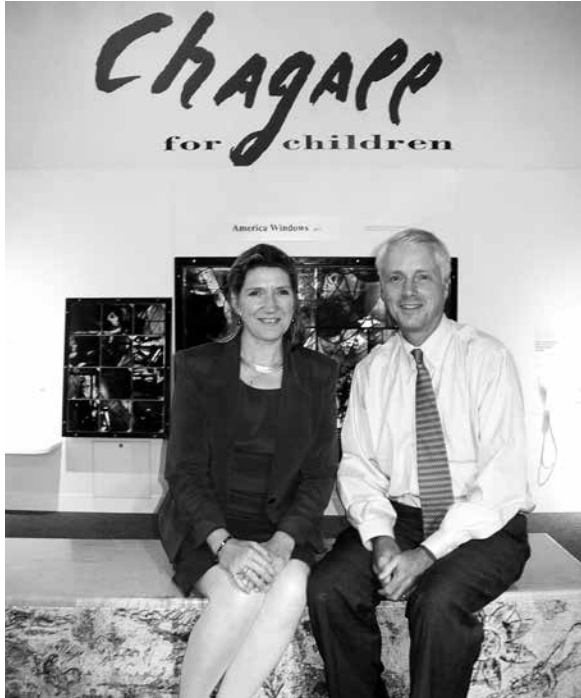
FROM NANNY TO CEO







*Surprisingly  
serious  
about play!*  
— Sheridan Turner







# 2004

## **A toast to today**

To the friends I survey  
A nod to each valued Board member  
And our highest regard  
For your work, long and hard  
That we celebrate now in December

## **A toast to tomorrow**

Slight tinges of sorrow  
That make us all wish to remember  
The wonderful years  
In the place it appears  
A farewell we will bid in September

## **A toast for next year**

As it draws ever near  
There's a thought that may  
make you turn sober  
Though there's much work to do  
This last toast is for you:  
Raise your glass to what  
waits in October





*In every job that  
must be done,  
there is an  
element of fun.*

*— Mary Poppins*

# letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

How fortunate for me that you were President/CEO of Kohl Children's Museum when a perfect spot to relocate the museum became available. Not only was I able to bring a jewel to Glenview, but I gained a wonderful friend as well.

Timing was everything. At the Kohl Teacher Awards luncheon I approached you to let you know the perfect site had become available. It was the last site not spoken for, a prime site Glenview was holding until the end of the redevelopment process. That site was a prime site and we wanted to make sure the right thing was built there. The museum was perfect. However, you told me it was too late. You were signing a contract for a site in Glencoe that Friday. I was able to persuade you to at least come to Glenview the next day and see the site. After climbing up a very muddy observation lookout over the lake, where you could see the whole Glen, I showed you where the museum site would be. The rest is history.

We still have the great Museum but unfortunately, I am losing my great friend to the place where she really belongs. Wishing you nothing but happiness and everything you wish for.

We will stay in touch and see each other, either back in Glenview, or perhaps Merry Old England.

Fondly,

Nancy







FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









# Letters from friends



*Sheridan,*

Congratulations on your next chapter! From the moment we met, you have inspired us. Your boundless energy, enthusiasm for learning and your wit will be terribly missed by our community. A few of our Pepper team members in particular wanted to share some fond memories.



I met Sheridan during our interview for the Museum. While I liked her immediately, I knew we would be friends when she brought her dog to our planning meeting. I was right and throughout the course of our project, she left an indelible mark on me.

On the lighter side, Sheridan forever altered the way I hear words being pronounced. In particular, the word schedule will never be the same for me. "On budget, on Shhedule!" she'd say.

That said, it's Sheridan's leadership that I remember best. She is a visionary who always finds a way to get the best out of people. Whether it was "the look" over the top of her glasses or our spirited debates over various ideas, she would draw the best out of everyone. She was completely engaged from design through construction. Her passion for both the Museum's mission and how this project would embody that vision inspired our team and brought us together.

Beyond construction, I also respected that Sheridan cultivated great working relationships with everyone. From her team, to the board to the community – she brought everyone along as a team. Nobody does that better.

Congratulations Sheridan, enjoy your well-earned retirement!

Lance Tritsch, Vice President & Project Director



*Sheridan,*

While it was a short time that we knew each other at the culmination of the Kohl Children's Museum construction project, you made quite an impression! I will never forget the day you came up with a puzzle concept for the CBC Presentation highlighting the teamwork of our group in bringing Kohl Children's Museum to life. You transformed a ho-hum effort into sparkling dialogue and the visible demonstration of what teamwork really is. Kohl Children's Museum is truly a work of art, and a memorial to the finished project hangs in our employee hall today. I think of you every time I go past.

Congratulations on your return to England! I hope many days and happy trails are in front of you.

Shannan (Blagg) Ghera, Communications











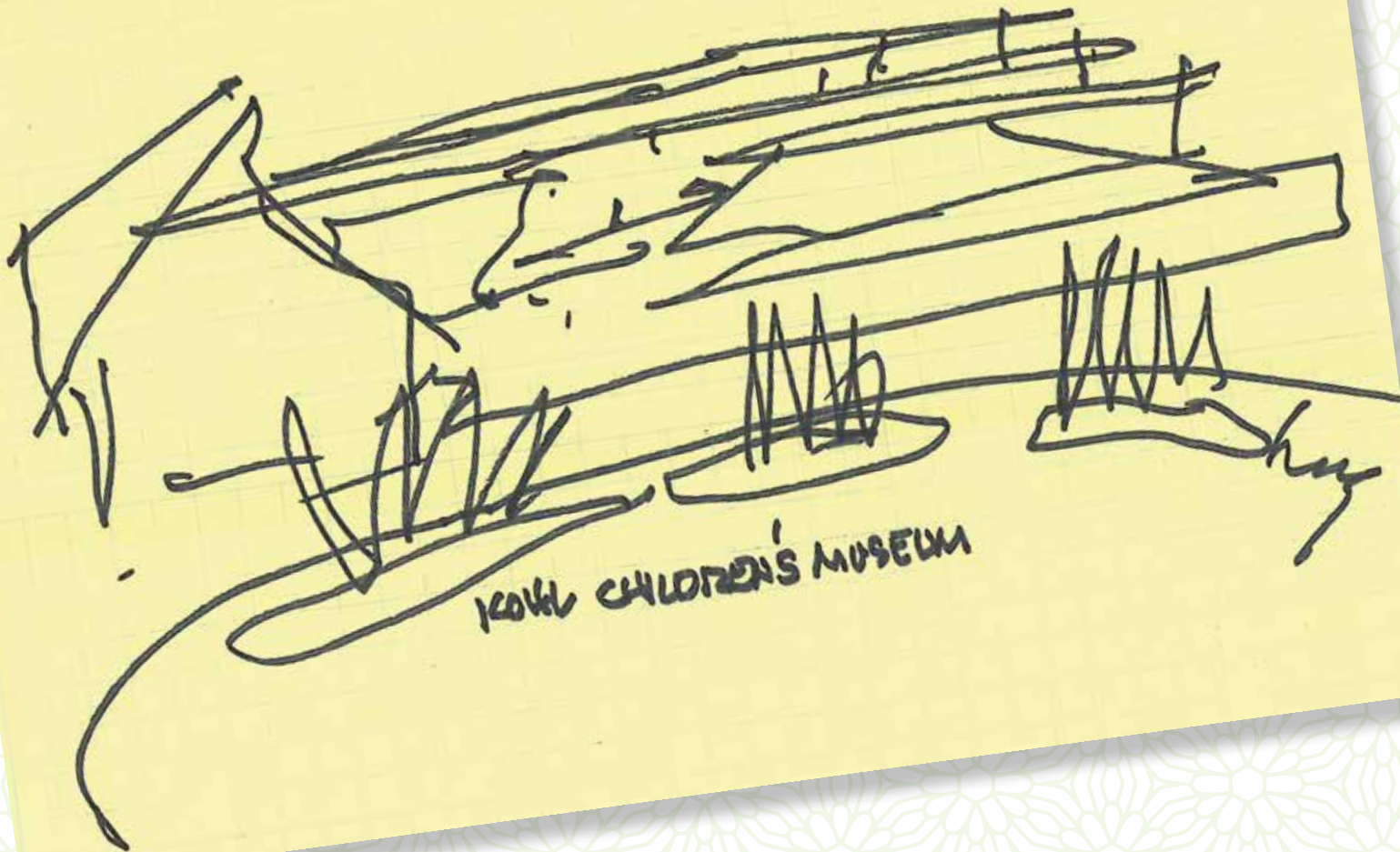


We opened  
on time and  
under budget!  
—Sheridan Turner

SHERIDAN:

HERE IS THE DEFINITIVE SKETCH FOR YOUR BUILDING.  
YOU ARE THE GREATEST! GOOD LUCK WITH ANIMALS!

huy



KOHL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM





*Practically  
perfect in  
every way...*

*— Mary Poppins*



FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO





*"Never Never Never Never Give Up" – Winston Churchill*

This is the quote I associate most with you, having seen it in your office variously on paperweights and greeting cards, often accompanied by an image of an unyielding bulldog.

This is the attitude I associate with a leader who dug in through the lowest of times, scrimping by when necessary to make ends meet during a long campaign, and soaring through the high times, never once losing sight of the joy of your most memorable creation, the new Kohl Children's Museum.

This is the spirit I have no doubt will continue with the new chapter in your life back in Merrie Olde England. Leave with the knowledge that many of your dreams have already come true, and with the conviction that the same will happen with many more to come. After all, as that resilient old English leader also said:

*"This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."*  
– Winston Churchill

Best wishes on your newest adventure as the road you've chosen takes you home.

Dave

*Dear Sheridan,*

There is so much to say, but the main message I want to send with you as you start this next phase of your journey is "thank you." It has been a pure joy to work with a supportive woman who promotes and helps other women. I have learned so much from you, both watching you as you work with donors and directly from meetings we've had where we've worked through some challenging situations. Your support has helped me grow professionally. Your love for the Museum has helped all of us create a place where every child benefits from the highest quality hands-on early learning. Thank you for all you've done and all you are!

Stephanie

*Sheridan,*

For the last four years, I have been witness to your magical storytelling. At the heart of every good storyteller is a passion for the story that they tell. Your passion for Kohl Children's Museum is incredible. Your heart and soul is in every inch of this beautiful Museum and in all the smiles and brain synapses that it creates both in Glenview and beyond. It has been a pleasure being your partner in crime during all the high and lows of fundraising for the Museum. As you take flight for your homeland, remember the millions of children that have known the power of play through your hard work and dedication. Your final act of taking leave has been an example of your amazing grace and your commitment to pursue one's passions and dreams. And let me not forget the importance of PLAY!!!! As you move into this new phase of your life, let me share the words of a dear friend. Have a playful day!!!!

With love, Michael

*Dear Sheridan,*

Well, we've laughed and we've cried. I never could have imagined how great it was going to be working for you and the Museum. Best decision I ever made. Friends forever. Family forever.

Until we meet again.

Curt



*Letters from Friends*



FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









# letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

There are many lessons you can learn from Paddington Bear about how to be a great leader.

Great leaders spring into action. Paddington teaches you to not wait around for someone else to do something. If he sees an issue or problem, he will spring into action with creative solutions. For instance, when he was working on his garden and accidentally ruined the builder's cement with his marmalade. He came up with an idea to use the rock-shaped cement to create a rock garden.

Great leaders know people in their community and beyond. Paddington is a friendly bear who is always trying to make new friends even if the start of the friendship is a little rocky, like with the builders, the taxi driver, and the Brown Family. But, in the end, he proves to be a good friend and bear.

Great leaders try to do the right thing and treat others fair. "Aunt will be right." Paddington raises his hat and remembers his manners, even if he manages to get in all sorts of trouble.

Great leaders stay positive. Paddington tries to see the glass as half full. At the zoo, all the animals and zookeeper were taking his marmalade sandwiches, Paddington was upset but chose to remember the positive, like the parrot who said "thank you" for the sandwich.

There are many great lessons from the mischievous bear named Paddington. And it is no wonder that this is your favorite childhood book because you truly are a GREAT LEADER! You encompass everything a great leader is, should be, and more. Not only are you a great leader, you are also a great mentor.

I am so grateful for the time we have had together at Kohl Children's Museum. You guide me, inspire me, and have taught me so much.

Thanks for being a great leader, mentor, and friend. I look forward to sharing a cup of rosie lee. Don't forget to use the dog and bone to stay in touch!

Sincerely, Lizzy







FROM NANNY TO CEO









dolores **kohl** education foundation

My dear Sheridan,


Has it really been 21 years since we have known each other, worked together, and laughed together? How can we ever forget all our breakfasts, lunches and dinners; our brainstorming, dreaming, our celebrations? And, all the galas...the speeches...the victories and milestones.

I could never have chosen a more perfect person to succeed me as CEO: you created the magic to make the new, larger and amazing Glenview Kohl Children's Museum a reality, doing it all with your charming English ways (I love your scones!), your bubbly sense of humor, your Mary Poppins- no-nonsense-"can do" style.

So, take a bow, my "forever friend", knowing that you have made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children, families, and teachers and that all of us — your loyal staff, dedicated boards and thousands of friends of the museum will forever sing your praises...

As for me, I am going to really miss you, Sheridan...but don't be surprised when I come knocking on your door on my next trip to England!

Bon voyage, good luck, tally ho...

And much love always, 



Dolores









FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









# Letters from friends

*Dear Sheridan,*

We are so thrilled for you as you move on to the next phase of this adventure we call Life. Repeatedly we are reminded of the passage of time not by dates on the calendar but by watching our little ones grow and develop into intelligent, sensitive, adventurous and responsible young and not so young adults. The Kohl Children's Museum and specifically your contribution have had a significant impact on the North Shore, the greater Chicagoland area and the ever precious family unit. Your insightful and tireless leadership impacts not only the generations of children you serve. The generations that follow will feel the impact of the enrichment activities, exhibits and activities offered at the Museum under your dedicated leadership

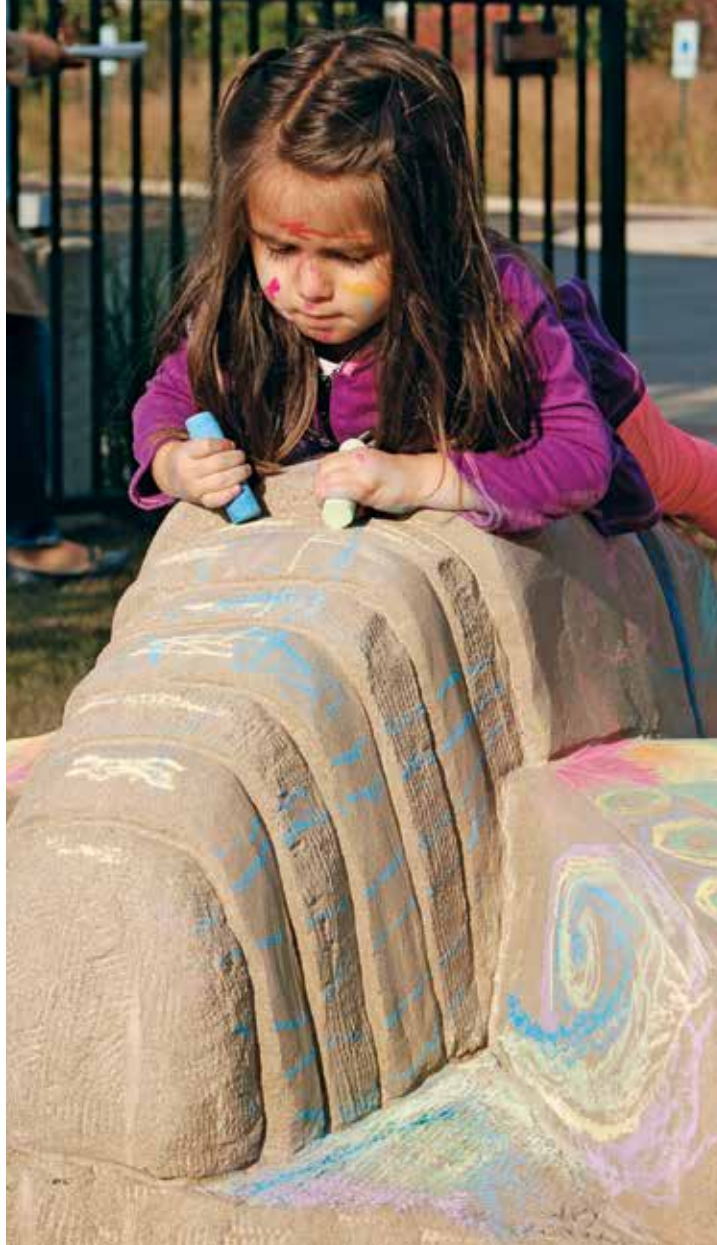
As we look back on our personal history with the Kohl Children's Museum our hearts are filled with warmth and joy. From the time our children were toddlers enjoying action packed, enriching and educational days at the Green Bay Road site, we knew the Kohl Children's Museum was a unique and extremely valuable place. As our children grew, so did our relationship with the Museum and you, Sheridan. From the modest, yet impactful footprint on Green Bay Road to the spectacular facility in Glenview your vision and guidance remains true to our mission. Through the development of unique and creative outreach programs, gala, and other fundraising efforts, your vision and mission flourish.

At the ground breaking for the Glenview site we thought how great it was that we would not have to deal with limited parking like in Wilmette, Oh how wrong we were! On any given day what used to seem like unlimited open space is now filled with excited children and grateful chaperones! It is thanks to you! We have so enjoyed working, playing and learning with you! We send you off with much love, respect and gratitude.

Much Love,  
The Souder Family

Fritz, Tracy, Fritz, Jr., Jack & Hattie







FROM NANNY TO CEO









CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

March 2019

Sheridan,  
You have been such  
a wonderful friend +  
colleague. I am thrilled for you  
+ wish you great health +  
happiness in this  
Thank you next exciting  
stage of life.  
- Jean

RAVINIA 2019  
EXPERIENCE MUSIC IN A WHOLE NEW WAY.

JENNIFER W. STEANS  
Chairman

WELZ KAUFFMAN  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

*Dearest Sheridan,*

Thank you for your brilliant leadership of one of Chicagoland's flagship arts organizations, KCM. You will be dearly missed by all at the Museum, by your DO NORTH colleagues, by the greater Chicago arts community, and by all of those who care about the care, welfare and education of kids.

All best for your new endeavors - you are always welcome at Ravinia!

Welz





DO NORTH





FROM NANNY TO CEO









# Letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

Thanks for everything. It has been a heck of a ride these last 20 years!! Who would have known the "little Museum" in Wilmette would grow up to be an internationally recognized institution being shared by so many children and their parents and grandparents.

Your vision and focus has led us through great times and challenging times as well. No mountain is too high for you and your glass is always full. And all of your enthusiasm is infectious and we will always remember how to do things your way and the right way.

While sad about your departure, I am thrilled for you and your next step in life. I know whatever you do will come with vigor and we will think about you often.

Don't be a stranger and please enjoy yourself.

All the best.

Art Fogel

Sheridan Turner has been a pillar of strength in Chicago and for Kohl Children's Museum. I love her generous heart and the energizing spirit she brings from across the pond. She has grown the Museum through her selfless efforts. We will miss you, Sheridan!

- Sid Bala

I met Sheridan several years ago when I worked at the Alford Group. While I was already a believer in Kohl Children's Museum, she made me love the Museum even more! What I remember most from our work...her commitment to the importance of play in a child's development.

"You can discover more about a person from an hour of play than in a year of conversation." - Plato

- Jill Zimmerman







FROM NANNY TO CEO









letters from friends



# GLENVIEW PARK DISTRICT

1930 PRAIRIE STREET, GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS 60025-2823, (847) 657-3215, FAX: (847) 724-8601

## COMMISSIONERS:

William M. Casey  
David M. Dillon  
Angie G. Katsamakias  
Robert J. Patton  
Daniel B. Peterson  
Jennifer G. Roberts  
David S. Tosh

Attorney:  
James D. Rock

Treasurer:  
William D. Moore

## ADMINISTRATION:

Michael D. McCarty,  
Executive Director/  
Secretary

Katie J. Skibbe,  
Deputy Executive Director

Todd B. Price,  
Superintendent of  
Leisure Services

Lori L. Lovell,  
Superintendent of  
Special Facilities

James R. Warnstedt,  
Superintendent of  
Park & Facility Services

March 2019

Dear Sheridan,

On behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners and all the staff and volunteers of the Glenview Park District, I want to thank you for your service to our community and wish you good fortune on your move back home.

Personally, I will miss your presence at Kohl Children's Museum and at Wagner Farm. I recall the first time I met you during an event at the Farm when my family and I were climbing onto a hay wagon for a ride. Little did I know that the Teamster loading the Wagon and driving the horses was also the famed Kohl Children's Museum President and CEO. My daughter is also most grateful for the generous annual Holiday Party invitation, which allowed her to roam the Museum with less competition for the exhibits and plenty of wine for her parents.

As a key leader in our community, you should take great pride that you're leaving Glenview better than you found it and that you have created wonderful memories for countless children in the Chicagoland area. You will be missed.

Thank you, good luck and if you're ever back on this side of the pond, you can drive our horses anytime.

Sincerely,

  
Mike McCarty



March 11, 2019

Sheridan Turner  
Kohl Children's Museum  
2100 Patriot Boulevard  
Glenview, IL 60026

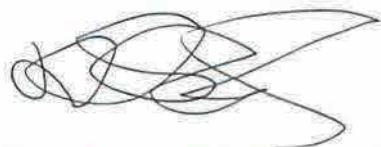
Dear Sheridan:

My heartfelt congratulations on closing one chapter of your story book career and opening another. Your book is not a conventional story on a two dimensional piece of paper. However, a 3D book where you have engaged all you have touched with your imagination, charm, and whimsical wit.

It was a pleasure getting to know you through the Glenview Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Glenview. I was always impressed with your vision, calm and collected manner, and leadership perspective. You helped make Glenview the great place it is to live and to work.

You should be very proud of what you have accomplished and the wonderful legacy you leave. Wishing you much success and happiness as you return to England and begin making a difference in your new chapter as only you can.

Best wishes,



David Rahija, PT, MPT, MBA, FACHE  
President, Skokie Hospital  
NorthShore University HealthSystem



## Glenview's Business Person of the Year: A nonprofit leader

SUBMITTED BY GLENVIEW  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sheridan Turner, president and CEO of The Kohl Children's Museum, has won a title she did not expect this year: The Glenview Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.

The awards ceremony is part of the chamber's Board Installation and Awards on Jan. 10.

One inspiration for the award: "To be successful a nonprofit has to be run like a business," Turner said.

Like a business, a nonprofit must raise revenue; but unlike a business, extra revenue goes directly into programming and growth. Nearly 330,000 people visit the museum each year.

That's 330,000 people who might not have visited Northwest Glenview, wandered through The Glen shops, stopped for a movie or a meal, or maybe even wandered by a real-estate office soon after. Besides offering well-researched educational experiences, an early childhood connection program and a commitment to children across the region, including children living in Chicago, Kohl contributes to the economic health of the region.

A longtime executive with the museum, Turner took the lead in moving the museum from its original spot in Wilmette to Glenview in 2005.

With help from state legislators and other civic leaders, land being used to recycle concrete while The Glen was being built became Kohl's nine-acre



**Sheridan Turner, president and CEO of The Kohl Children's Museum, was recently named The Glenview Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.**

PHOTO SUBMITTED

home, via an 80-year lease from the Village of Glenview. The move also coincided with a shift in the museum's funding — moving away from primary dependence on a single donor, founder Delores Kohl, to a community-based approach.

In a sense, Turner helped the museum find and spread its wings.

Turner also sits on the Glenview Chamber of Commerce Board. She's a

volunteer with the Chamber's micro-internship program for high-schoolers and career-changers.

In everything she does, she's generous, said Elizabeth Fritz, real estate sales director for 22nd Century Media, who has served with Turner on the Chamber Board.

"Sheridan is generous in spirit, in her time, in her ideas," Fritz said. "When you need help, she always says, 'Yes.'"







FROM NANNY TO CEO







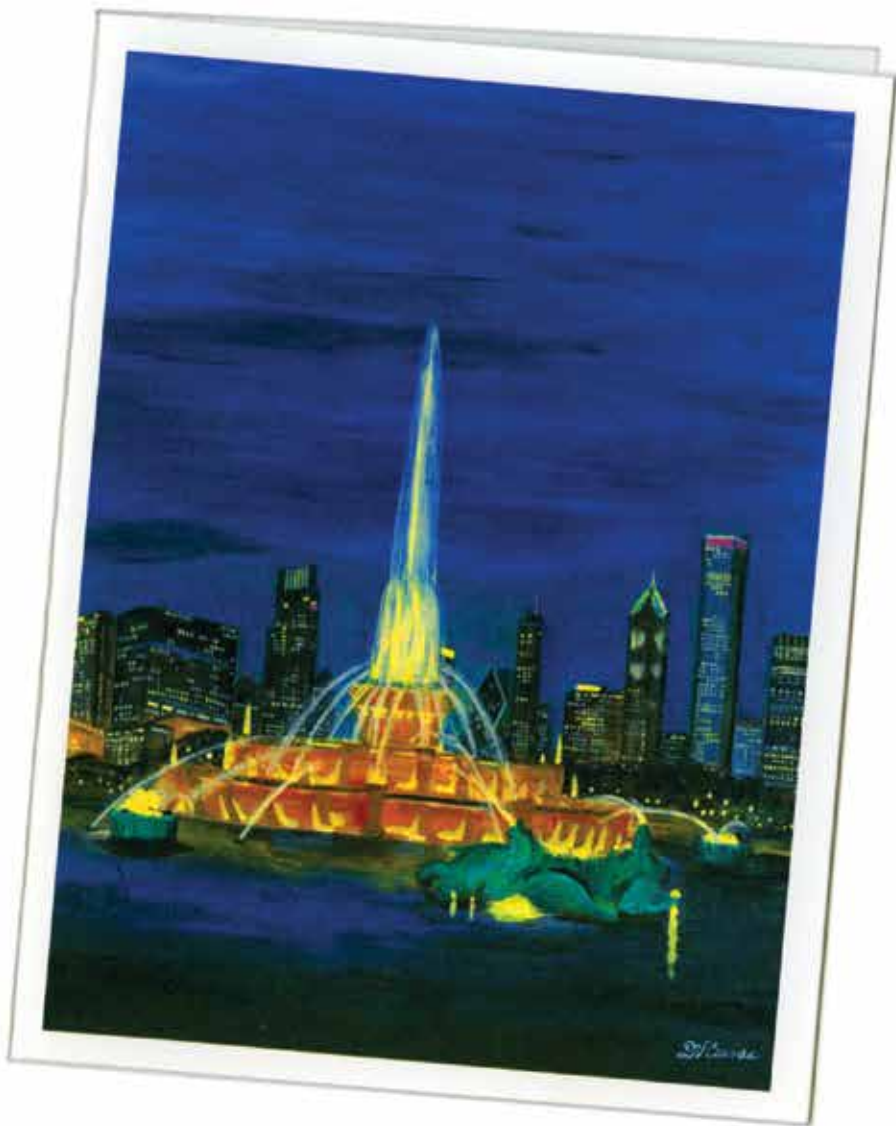


# letters from friends

11-28-18

Dear Sheridan,

I hope you had a good Thanksgiving. Been think a lot about our last conversation. It is hard to get my head around the thought of you gone. You are such a model of inspiration to me. When I went for the Superintendent job I felt a quiet confidence in knowing if there were any issues I had someone that I could go to & ask anything of in you. Our friendship has meant the world to me. - I was just thinking about you & wanted you to know. All The Best,  
Todd









FROM NANNY TO CEO









*Give The gift of a wish*









FROM NANNY TO CEO









# Letters from friends

*Dear Sheridan,*

Thank you for all you have done for the Kohl Children's Museum over the past 20 years. I will never forget our fortuitous meeting at the Economic Club where you convinced me on the spot to get involved in raising important funds for the Museum's amazing community outreach programs. Your advocacy and passion for the mission has always been infectious, and you have inspired so many wonderful and talented people to support this worthy effort. The past seven years have been a pleasure, and I thank you for bringing me into the fold. I wish you great joy and happiness in your next chapter! Congratulations!

Best regards,  
Christine Kline

*Dear Sheridan,*

Thank you so much for your infectious inspiration to better the lives of our most precious resources, children. Though being new to the Women's Board, my short time working together with you has been a joy. Your dedication is unparalleled. Those who have had the fortune of working with you through the Museum are better having known you and your spirit.

Best wishes on your next chapter!

Gratefully,  
Jocelyn Huffer  
Women's Board

*Dear Sheridan,*

I wish you all the best as you move back to England. It was such an honor and a pleasure working with you for six years on the Kohl Children's Museum board.

Your passion for providing children with a fun environment in which to play and learn was so inspiring, and KCM is such an amazing place because of your countless dedication, energy and vision.

I feel lucky to have worked with you on my first non-profit board. You were always very kind and appreciative. As you move back to your homeland, the UK's gain will be our loss, but we'll always be better for having had you here for the time we did. You will be missed!

With fondest regards,  
Terry McDougall







FROM NANNY TO CEO









letters from friends

March 15, 2019

Ms. Sheridan Turner  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Kohl's Children's Museum  
2100 Patriot Blvd.  
Glenview, IL 60026

Dear Sheridan:

Congratulations on a wonderful career of leadership and impact at the Kohl Children's Museum!

Your leadership has been evident from the very beginning when you came to the board and said we can build a new museum that will be the preeminent showcase for early childhood learning. You overcame great obstacles and some skepticism (including mine!) in securing a site, raising the funds and designing and building what we all know is the finest children's museum in the world.

Along the way, you have touched the lives of thousands of visitors, educators, staff, board members and friends. Your open personality, friendliness, community engagement and commitment to early childhood education have strengthened your stature as a great leader in this field and served as a role model for others.

On a personal note, working with you has been one of the highlights of my own career. You taught me that dogged determination coupled with a great vision equates to success. I remember sending you a note with a quote from Daniel Burnham about "making no small plans". The KCM of today would not have come into being without your determination and vision. I was more than happy to be a part of your success!

The entire Waddell family, including our three grandchildren who look forward to experiencing the wonders of the museum in the years ahead, join me in wishing you all the very best in the years ahead. While you will be miles and miles away from us, you will be in our hearts forever.

With warmest regards,

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FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









THE  
ECONOMIC  
CLUB OF  
CHICAGO  
\*\*\*\*

March 13, 2018

Dear Sheridan,

It has been an honor to work with you on The Economic Club of Chicago Board of Directors and the Membership Committee. You brought creative ideas and helpful improvements to our Membership Committee process, all with a bright smile and a sunny disposition. The Mary Poppins closing to your Membership Chair term was so very appropriate, as it captured perfectly your excellent leadership skills and your great sense of humor! I will miss your wise counsel and your ever-present willingness to help the Club.

Don't be a stranger across the pond, please come back and visit us in Chicago. I will certainly plan to visit you at your lovely new home in Potter Heigham.

Wishing you all the best in your next chapter!

With admiration and gratitude,

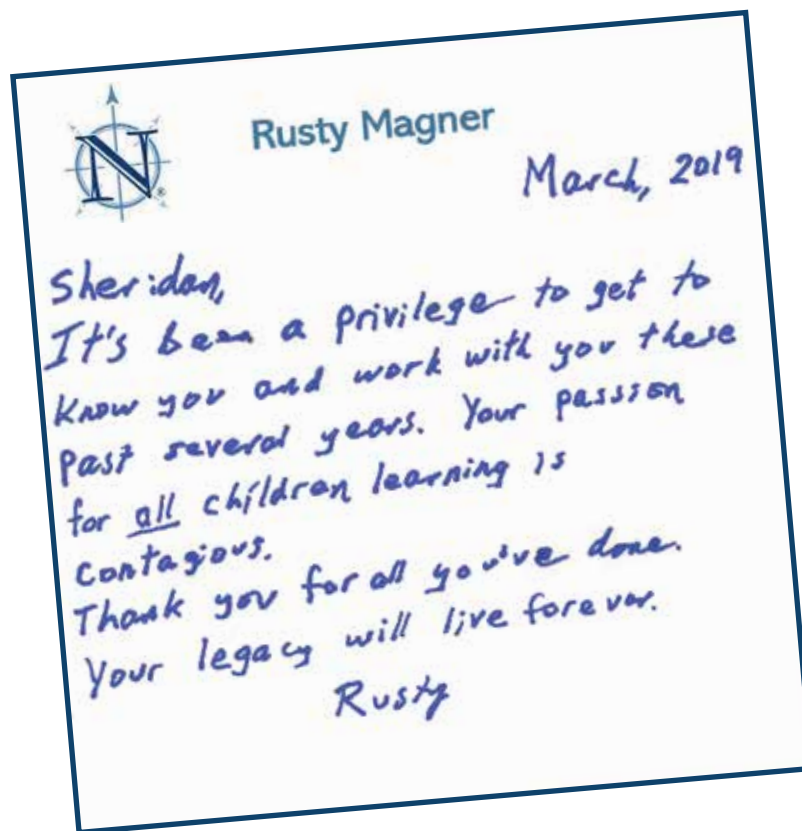
*Anna*







# Letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

It has been a pleasure building a relationship with you throughout the years and witnessing your impact on Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago. I wish you the best of luck in your next endeavor – may the animals you aid benefit as much as the children whose lives you touched!

One of the biggest honors in my life was being selected by you and Kohl as person of the year eight years ago, an honor that I never would have experienced without you advocating on my behalf. Thank you for all you have done and all the best to you during your next chapter.

Best,

Les Coney

*Sheridan,*

I can still remember the first time we met at Corner Bakery when I was interested in getting involved with the Museum. We have come so far since that time. There are so many wonderful memories from board meetings, to Galas, Marketing Committee meetings to the 4th of July parade and fireworks events in Habitat Park (my kids loved the ice cream) to starting the social committee and redesigning the website, the list goes on and on. You have always been so warm and welcoming to me and my family. You always made me feel my contribution made a difference. You are a beautiful person inside and out. You have left an amazing legacy for generations to come that you should be so proud of. I'm grateful to have worked with you. I wish you all the best and let's make sure to stay in touch.

Rachel Winer







letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

Because of you, young children play,  
so rapt you can't tear them away.  
Their lives brighter, as they engage,  
beaming smiles at every age.

On their behalf, I offer thanks  
for filling in the needed blanks.  
For on site learning and outreach,  
you made Kohl the very best of each!

Your brilliant work will still inspire,  
as you move to England to retire,  
To young and old you are a treasure.  
Knowing you has been a pleasure.

Cheers,  
Pam







**DIANA MENDLEY RAUNER**

720 ROSEWOOD AVENUE • WINNETKA, ILLINOIS 60093

Dear Sheridan,

To begin to celebrate your extraordinary tenure at the Kohl Children's Museum, well...let's start at the beginning, more than twenty years ago.

You were eager, driven, gracious; always with a smile, always prepared, always respectful and deferential, and yet the engine was revving and we all knew you were ready to take off. You deftly navigated the acquisition of land at the Glen, managed Larry Booth and his architectural vision (and yours), lived through countless challenges with Illinois First (!) and rallied us all to raise the funds, create the enthusiasm, bring KCM to its new home and new stature in Chicago's cultural community. We would never had opened had it not been for your boundless energy, your single-minded focus, and the way you were able to keep everyone together to accomplish an audacious goal.

After that extraordinary accomplishment, your continued drive to make the Kohl Children's Museum better, more relevant, and more connected to its community has helped to make the Museum an exemplar of children's museums across the country. I am particularly grateful for your efforts to improve the practice of home-based child care providers across our community, who have benefitted so much from the Early Childhood Connections program and the many other teaching resources the Museum has created.

Throughout your career at the Museum, you have served as a model of personal style and grace. You are the same person I met so many years ago: a lover of horses, dogs and children (in that order?); a positive and hopeful citizen of the world; a leader more given to put others in front than herself, but who could play a mean Mary Poppins when necessary!

Bruce, Katherine, Matthew, Margaret, Eric, Stephanie and Elizabeth join me in thanking you for building and sustaining a treasure in our community that has been, and will be, a source of joy, learning and connection for families for many years. We wish you all the best as you return to your friends and family in England, knowing you have done so much for so many children here in Illinois.

Fondly,









March 19, 2019

Dearest Sheridan,

It is with great joy and fondness that we offer our congratulations on your retirement from Kohl Children's Museum. We have a deep appreciation for your stewardship and the partnership you helped foster with ITW over your many years as President and CEO at the Museum. Without a doubt, you leave an indelible mark not only with us, but also with the thousands of children who have passed through your doors on a field trip or visiting with family. Surely you must be so proud of the many sparks you helped to light in our young children through the mission-driven work you have led all these years. How better to spend a career (and a life!) than to give our youth a safe space to explore, learn and play that prepares them for lifelong learning?

In your twenty years at the helm of Kohl Children's Museum, the Museum has had so many great achievements and successes; it has been served immensely well by your leadership and the amazing team that you have built around you. We have often said your leadership is "best-in-class" as we say here at ITW and we could not have enjoyed our time with you more than we did over the many years exchanging calls, having lunch, attending your annual dinner gala and cheering on new exhibits! We are so proud to stand among your many supporters.

It is our hope that you care for yourself in retirement as well as you have cared for others during your tenure at the Museum. We hope you will enjoy your days across the pond riding Bella, continuing to give back to others, and spreading your joy to others. You are a true gift in this world!

Sincerely,

Rosemary Matzl and Katie O'Brien-Jensen

I have been fortunate indeed to have known Sheridan Turner. As a parent whose three children grew up exploring, learning and growing within the Kohl Children's Museum walls and as a former Women's Board President, I can personally attest to Sheridan's vision, passion, and infectious sense of humor. Her love for our beloved Museum is truly unmatched, and her dedication to the Museum's pioneering approach to interactive learning - as well as its strong connection to a community of young learners - has set the Kohl Children's Museum on a model course for many years to come.

- Bethany W. Crocker





Sheridan has been an amazing partner to Speer Academy. For her, taking senior interns has been more than just an act of service, she has poured her heart into developing teenagers at our campus and has provided them with opportunities to be a part of a larger community. Last year, five of our students began working on a video project that was designed to encapsulate the kind of learning that takes place at the Kohl Children's Museum. Along with support and guidance from Museum staff, these high school students were able to complete Sheridan's vision for the video. In May, our students presented the video to her at the end-of-year banquet in front of many other supervisors that had been working with our senior class. When I saw the tears pouring down her cheeks, I realized that this work was more than just a job to her and that the work that we had completed together was very, very special.

Sheridan is clearly a very passionate person who has dedicated her life to the betterment of our society and I feel privileged to be a part of the change that she is driving.

Jordan Kruger

Director of STEM Education  
ITW David Speer Academy



# Letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

Congratulations on your more than 20 years of service leading Kohl Children's Museum! Your vision, leadership, and unmatched talents have kept the Museum at the forefront of early childhood education and play. You have extended the Museum's impact and reach as countless children in Chicago and around the world have benefited from the excellent traveling exhibits highlighting the arts, sciences, and the environment. You will be sorely missed and Chicago's loss is England's gain.

Time and space do not permit a thorough reflection of my many years serving on the board as a member and then as Chair under your leadership. Two memories, however, stick out in my mind. One has to do with the building of the new Museum into a "forever new" structure. Despite no apparent construction management experience, you were able to deliver the new Museum on time and UNDER budget! This was all the more amazing as during the same time period, the building of Millennium Park went several years and several hundred million dollars OVER budget!

Another memory that I will always cherish was the gala where children were invited. When the Souders had the idea to include children, you took the ball and ran with it. I remember my daughter Shelby who was maybe 6 or 7 years old at the time danced all night and had the best time. For years afterwards, she would ask when was the next gala where she and her friends could attend!

Sheridan, please accept my gratitude for your storied career at the Museum and my best wishes for this next chapter of your life.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Donna Sims Wilson'.

Donna Sims Wilson

President of Smith Graham Investment Advisors

*Sheridan,*

You have touched so many lives through your work, your hobbies, and your passions. I feel so lucky to be one of those people.

As a young professional I was searching for an affordable place to live, and I was lucky enough to be connected with you. You generously allowed me to rent from you and I gained a new crew of friends - Elsa, Shiraz, and of course you! I enjoyed that summer, and all of the conversations we had. You were so thoughtful in sharing advice and stories, and you quickly became a great mentor for me.

When the opportunity arose to work with you more directly at Kohl Children's Museum, I leaped at the chance. In my four years of working at the Museum, I learned and grew so much. I learned about fundraising, working with board members and corporate donors, and how to lead with passion. My life changed as I got married, bought my first house, and adopted my first dog. Your care and dedication to the Museum was always an inspiration to me, and your care and dedication you always show for the people in your life is also so admirable.

I feel so lucky to have had you as a mentor and friend for so many years. Thank you for all that you have done for both me and for so many others!

Warmly,

Lisa Lazzaretto



*Dear Sheridan,*

It is hard to capture in a short letter the ways in which you and the Museum have touched my life. I can recall attending the Museum as a child, prior to your arrival, and having lots of fun there, often in my favorite play space, the Water Works area. Those times no doubt had a profound impact on my childhood and young adulthood. I can also recall the Museum re-entering my life when Dolores Kohl asked my Dad to join the Board in 1995.

Without a doubt though, the greatest impact the Museum has had on my life is when you gave me the opportunity in 2009 to assist KCM with a number of new strategic initiatives. In that time, and through the work we did together, I learned important lessons and gained a tremendous amount of confidence. I will forever be grateful for the faith and trust you placed in me during that time. I think of it often and fondly. That time shaped my life in ways I am still just beginning to understand.

The Museum will not be the same without you, but thanks to your dedication, vision and hard work, I know that Caroline, Emily, Annie and I, along with countless other families in the greater Chicagoland area, will create lasting and enjoyable memories there for years to come.

Thank you, Sheridan and best wishes to you in your next chapter.

Sincerely,

Frederick H. Waddell Jr.

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*Dear Sheridan,*

As the day nears where you will be moving onto green pastures, I think back to the day I first met you in the fall of 2000. We were invited to interview for the new Kohl Children's Museum. The morning of the interview was a big ice storm that created a situation where only you and one other board member were able to make it to the Museum. While we imagined that designing a children's museum would be an engaging and fun experience, the leadership and creativity you brought, and the encouragement in your staff and our team, led to one of the most amazing experiences I have had in my thirty years working with all types of clients. That cold wintry day of the interview you were extremely hospitable, providing coffee and pastries, and demonstrated to us the qualities of patience, empathy, humility while at the same time pushing us to go further. That began a great journey and privilege to work with you over the last 19 years.

We truly believe that great clients make great architecture. You have always been involved in the process, interested in the result and contributed your vision balanced with an unmistakable trust for us as your architect. Your unique ability to quickly learn the process and the details allowed us to go further. Your leadership along with your humor created an unparalleled architect-client relationship that I will always treasure. Best wishes in your next phase of life as I'm sure it will be as fulfilling as the last.

Sincerely,



David Mann, AIA, LEED AP Principal





FROM NANNY TO CEO









FROM NANNY TO CEO









# Letters from friends

## *Our Dear Sheridan,*

Officially we now have known you over twenty years. Unofficially this makes you family. Both of us deeply cherish our friendship which has sincerely grown over these years. Our collection of memories, of introductions, engagements and events, are not only fond, they are timeless.

We introduced you to Elsa. We both still laugh when we think how you were so hesitant to even consider a puppy. Linda was already convinced for both of you! The joy and compassion you have for animals is precious and contagious.

You introduced us to Sir Winston and Bella. What wonderful stable mates. You taught us that dressage is more than a funny French word for horseback riding. Your love for equestrianism is more than just horsing around. It is beautiful and graceful. Seeing you ride, and witnessing your relationship to these grand mounts, has given us such an appreciation as well.

You are the hit of every party, the one everyone wants to be with, regardless if it's a major event or a casual gathering. Clearly this is because you always make people welcome and comfortable. You came to Paul's birthday party and engaged with our intimate group like you also knew each of them for 40 years. Likewise, at every crowded Kohl Gala, you are on everyone's dance card.

Your personal rolodex always has amazed us. Your list, from floor-sweeps and chimneysweeps, to Chairmen and CEO's, and all in between, are not just your contacts, but your personal friends. We always enjoy attempting to keep up with you as you rattle off industry barons and civic leaders on a first name basis. We have been honored to be included in your circle of friendship as well. Your ability to network undoubtedly has kept the Economic Club of Chicago flush with new members.

Your leadership style has just one word: brilliant. This brilliance has sprouted gardens, spawned architectural gems, shaped outstanding programs. The KCM is what it is today, because of you. Your ability to foster a thought, to spark an idea, has inspired legions and impacted thousands. We feel blessed to know that these thousands are the precious young children who have been having fun at play. They learned that play is fun, that learning is fun and thus play is learning. Actually, you have taught this to many adults as well.

Some of Paul's most cherished memories during his tenure as Chair were engaging with you, Sheridan. The weekly meetings and calls were always anticipated, since they were a perfect chance to chat, to catch up, rather than to just knock around some serious Museum business. You taught Paul so much about philanthropy and governance, lessons that will be used for a lifetime.

Your legacy to KCM, to Chicago and beyond is immense. You will be missed by all you have ever been in contact with. Therefore, this letter of tribute is purposely being left incomplete and unfinished, as the three of us must plan to carry on our friendship, just from a slightly different location.

See you in England!

Paul & Linda Sutenbach









*My Dear Sheridan,*

Do you know we go back nearly 20 years?! It's hard for me to believe, too. From the first search for a Vice President of Development in 1999 and 2000 to neighbors! I do wish I had taken better advantage of our geographic proximity. I will miss you.

You have been an extraordinary leader for the Museum – bringing it all the way from a former bowling alley on Green Bay Road to the wonderful Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago in The Glen. I honor you, Sheridan, and your vision and the wonderful impact you and the Museum have had on so many families from all around Chicago and beyond.

### **A BLESSING FOR SHERIDAN**

May you experience every day as a blessing.

May every desire of your heart be fulfilled and bring you immense joy.

May you meet every challenge with ease and grace.

May your next chapter be filled with amazing adventures and loving service.

May the light and love within you be a beacon of light and love for others.

May the compassion you have always had for all beings flourish.

May you trust that you are right where you need to be.

The Universe is absolutely conspiring for your good.

And in the stillness of every evening and every morning may you feel and know with every fiber of your being that Divine Spirit loves you completely, unconditionally, eternally.

Breathe ...

With Love and Peace, Molly Hansen  
March 29, 2019





THE ALFORD GROUP™

March 2019

Sheridan Turner  
President & CEO  
Kohl Children's Museum  
2100 Patriot Blvd.  
Glenview, IL 60026

Dear Sheridan,

What a pleasure to share our very best wishes to you as you leave Kohl Children's Museum – strong and growing – to enter a new phase of life. You can be proud of what you've nurtured and grown here in the Chicago area which will go on to benefit so many families for years to come.

The Alford Group has been fortunate to have worked with you for nearly 20 years – starting with an executive search assignment in 1999 and continuing with a feasibility study in 2001-2002, interim staffing in 2011 and a constituency perceptions audit in 2016. Thank you for allowing us to serve your special organization and thank you once again for hosting our firm's all-staff retreat in 2007 at the newly built Glenview facility.

Your thought leadership in advancing children's and family engagement with the arts in Chicagoland and beyond is your legacy to our community. Take pride in knowing that. May you find great pleasure in pursuing new endeavors back "across the Pond!"

Our best to you always.

Fondly,

Sharon Tiknis  
Executive Vice President/East Division Manager  
The Alford Group



FROM NANNY TO CEO





# letters from friends

Dear Sheridan,

On behalf of all at the Porter Family Foundation, Congratulations on your impending retirement as well as the new adventures awaiting you in England. How wonderful to be returning 'home' to your family and friends and to pursue another career that is important to you. Your time spent at Kohl Children's Museum has been a great gift to all who know you and have worked and dreamt alongside you, creating and implementing a vision and strategies to make KCM a local and regional gem. A destination for families, teachers, students - frankly a magical place that brings out the child in everyone who steps through the door. It is a welcoming environment with something for everyone, no matter your age, interest or learning style. Your summer programs have touched and

enriched the lives of North Chicago students and, over the years, many children in the North Chicago Community Partners After-School Program have enjoyed field trips to your campus.

You have much to be proud of as your leadership and love of learning have grown the Museum exponentially in physical space, relevant exhibits and the donor and partner base. I have enjoyed each and every shared experience with you and join Sue Gates, Kary and Cheri Richardson in wishing you all the very best in your retirement from the Museum and in the next phase of your life.

With warmest regards and CHEERS!

Gay Mitchell





letters from friends

ROBERT R.  
**MCCORMICK**  
FOUNDATION

March 13, 2019

Sheridan Turner  
President and CEO  
Kohl Children's Museum  
2100 Patriot Blvd.  
Glenview, IL 60026

Dear Sheridan,

You know I have very mixed feelings about writing you on the occasion of your passage home to England.

It has been one of the joys of my time in philanthropy to know you and work with you on our shared mission to help our youngest learners. What you and your team have created is a true gift for our families and children, and your commitment to reach under-served communities through imaginative programs like your pop-up Museum in Waukegan is a model for the whole field.

I will miss you as colleague and friend, including our meetings over olives and wine for some of our best brain-storming!

Thank you again for all your contributions and leadership. Chicagoland is better for your time here. And best wishes in your next chapter!

Your friend,



David D. Hiller



# Move, Change, Grow

(Sounds like a KCM tag line but it's perfect to apply to you)

## Move

Embarking on an old yet new adventure. Home is where the heart is and you'll be seeing it all anew through a different lens after being away for so long. I know your experiences in America will only enhance your appreciation of England, your country of origin. Just as children scaffold their learning, so will you. You'll be taking your experiences and friendships along with you as you forge ahead to the promise of new and renewed friendships and experiences. My what an amazing journey it will be to live in England again! Moving home will let you reestablish your roots and spread your wings to soar.

## Change

Not only will your address change, so will your career path! I'm so glad to see your hard work to achieve animal therapy certification paying off. Your dream of working with animals will come to fruition in a new and exciting business venture. All the empathy, creativity, devotion, passion and leadership you brought to KCM on behalf of children will serve you well in the start of your new enterprise on behalf of animals.

## Grow

I can only marvel at how much you've grown professionally as you led the Museum to its unprecedented growth and success. I know how difficult it is to walk in the footsteps of a founding director and forge a path of your own. You not only mastered it, you exceeded all expectations as you excelled time and time again with each new challenge. Your strengths were seen in all areas including board development, marketing, fundraising, exhibit development, staffing and programming. You focused on diversity and the underserved and have begun an exciting new chapter for KCM with pop up museums and the beginning of a new major capital campaign that will bring expansion of the organization to even greater heights. You are leaving an amazing legacy of stability and opportunity for continued growth and development. I have been truly inspired by you and honored to work with you. I hope you know that despite missing you terribly, I want to wish you all the success in the world. Please keep us posted as you begin this new chapter of your life and bon voyage!

– Lana Weiner



**Oh the places you'll go,  
Today is your day!  
Your mountain is waiting,  
So ...get on your way!**

**--Dr. Seuss**

*Sheridan,*

“Oh, the places you’ll go” captures the essence of working with you during the last 20 years: connecting and collaborating with fellow board members, staff, the community, and of course, kids. What a pleasure! I can’t think of another professional relationship that I have enjoyed more than my time working with you to promote early childhood education.

***Out there things can happen and frequently do  
To people as brainy and footsy as you.***

From a bowling alley in Wilmette to The Place Where Awesome Lives in the Glen. Who would have believed you would be an expert in golf (Chip In for Children) and commercial trucks (Touch A Truck)! And you are always good for a story, a book and a nook.

Let’s not forget your charm, that British charm. How a Brit won the hearts of Chicago, from the most important CEO, to KCM colleagues donors and staff, to that underserved child in Waukegan. Let’s not forget Barack and Bono. Oh the places you’ll go!

***Oh, the places you’ll go! There is fun to be done!***

The KCM Queen, the practitioner, the educator, the fundraiser. What more can I say about the impact you have had on the Chicagoland community, early childhood education, and kids. All of us are thankful for your passion and work.

But most of all: KIDS!! Kids, kids, and more kids. Let me sing you a song, let me read you a book, let me tell you a story. Your 20 years is about nurturing the playfulness and curiosity of our dear young ones. May they grow in Awesomeness in their own Imaginarium of life, thanks to your dedication to early childhood development.

***You won’t lag behind, because you’ll have the speed.  
You’ll pass the whole gang and you’ll soon take the lead.  
Wherever you fly, you’ll be best of the best.  
Wherever you go, you will top all the rest.***

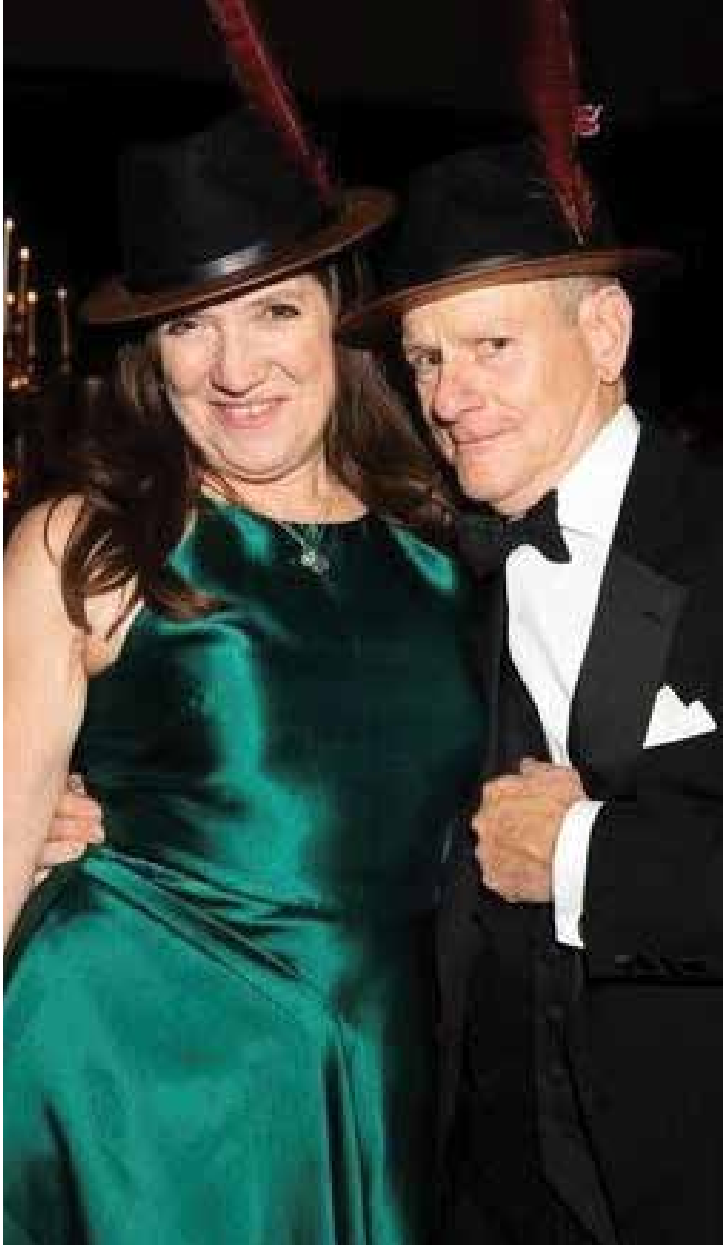
Let me put a smile on your face! A smile is happiness. Sheridan makes us all smile.

Oh the places you’ll go, home to England and family. Happiness and a smile for you, Sheridan. More than anything, all your kids want YOU to smile, drift on a country field, or on an estuary, and to the nearest pub for a mash and bitter.

***Oh the places you’ll go! And you will succeed, 99.9% guaranteed!***

Jack Ball















FROM NANNY TO CEO









*Dear Sheridan,*

It's hard to believe that more than twelve years have gone by since we became "girls of the hood" and dog walking buddies. Our friendship has strengthened along the way to be what it is today. We have shared good times and bad, happy and sad.

You took me under your wing when Phil passed away. You invited me into your inner circle to meet your family and friends. You taught me to play canasta and to make marmalade and jam. We have taken pleasure in nature by hiking in the winter woods and enjoying the beauty of many sunrises.

I have cherished this bond and hope it won't be diminished by distance. I just wanted you to know how much I'll miss you when you go.

Thank you for more than a decade of friendship.

Wishing you all the best in jolly old England!

Love,

Ginny Frogge

---

*W*endy and I have known Sheridan since the mid '90's. We became fast friends due to our love of dogs. Every morning at 6am promptly - rain, snow, sleet, or sun - weather was no deterrent - Sheridan appeared at our door ready for our 1-hour morning trek.

As a reminder to us all, each a different personality but loved no less - Emma, Bailies, Charlie, Elsa, Crosbie, and Daisy!

Many mornings the conversation centered around the opportunity Sheridan had been given to oversee the construction of what is now the Kohl Children's Museum located in Glenview, IL.

As neighbours for many years we spent many holidays, time with Mum when she visited from England, and even a few weekend get-a-ways together.

When Sheridan moved to Glenview, our friendship continued - weekend dinners, canasta, and the occasional afternoon dog walk.

Wendy and I will miss Sheridan, wish her well and are looking forward to visiting her in the UK!

Michael and Wendy Marchant





THE ALFORD GROUP™

March 18, 2019

Dear Sheridan,

*"The best is yet to be"*

Your enthusiastic zeal for life is reflected in everything you do. It is my delight that our paths have intersected in a multitude of ways! Fond memories surround me as I reflect on our wonderful memories over the past twenty years.

Where to start? First and foremost I cherish our informal times together – revealing, sharing, encouraging and enjoying. Our dinners have created memories that are very 'dear to me'! We have supported one another in the deepest of ways. I am blessed and thankful for your personal friendship.

Professionally we at The Alford Group have been fortunate to partner with you and the Kohl Children's Museum over the years to advance your exemplary work. A true partnership, we learned from one another – creating and implementing new strategies and celebrating successes together. Each engagement was enlightening and rewarding. Your leadership and determination was revealed throughout each assignment. Our respect and admiration for you grew in significant and delightful ways.

As you begin your next chapter please know you are admired and loved. You are a shining example for so many – I am one of those who aspires to emulate you in all I do.

"The best is yet to be" – Your next chapter will be filled with new adventures: new friends, new opportunities, new successes! My travel plans will include a trip to visit you in the future so we can make more memories.

With love and respect,

Maree G. Bullock  
Vice President



# Letters from friends



*Dear Sheridan,*

I think the Network will need to get in a very long line of organizations on which you've had a tremendous impact. You have been such a bright light for us and will be sorely missed, but we are thrilled you are returning home to family and pursuing your passions for horses and making the world a better place.

You are an amazing ambassador for the Museum, and it has been a pleasure to see how you have used your "thinking outside the box" approach to increase the Museum's reach, both inside and outside its walls. You have brought the same energy, creativity and leadership to all you have done for the Network.

Membership, as you know, is the hardest volunteer gig at the Network. As the long-time chair of our Arts and Culture membership subcommittee, you have guided the committee wisely to attract artists, playwrights and others who enrich the cultural texture of our membership. You have also not shied away from some of the tougher parts of being a committee chair and I admire deeply the ways in which you are both kind and firm in communicating with others. And during your service on the Program Committee you helped us immeasurably in keeping our content relevant and attractive to the busiest women on the planet.

I will miss most the gift of your friendship, the abundant support you have provided to me, and your smiling face at so many events where your very presence brightens the room. You have been an ideal TCN member, and we have benefitted immeasurably from your generous donations of time, talent and wisdom. I look forward to seeing you across the pond!

Fondly,

Kate Bensen  
President and CEO







letters from friends

# POLK BROS FOUNDATION

March 20, 2019

Sheridan Turner  
President and CEO  
Kohl Children's Museum  
2100 Patriot Boulevard  
Glenview, IL 60026

Dear Sheridan,

Chicago will miss you!

Thank you for the leadership and passion you brought to your time with Kohl Children's Museum.

Polk Bros. Foundation has been pleased to support your Early Childhood Connections program and other efforts throughout the years – stretching all the way back to the mid-1990s. Throughout this time, you developed a terrific partnership with us and with so many others in the region. You shepherded the growth of the Museum in its Glenview home, and kept it focused on its mission and its important early learning goals. Chicago's teachers and students have truly been the beneficiaries of your work.

On behalf of everyone at the Foundation, I wish you the very, very best for your new adventures back in England.

With warm regards,



Gillian Darlow  
CEO

20 West Kinzie Street, Suite 1110  
Chicago, IL 60654-5815  
P 312.527.4684 F 312.527.4681  
[polkbrosfdn.org](http://polkbrosfdn.org)

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*Director*



# 2018 Toast

**A toast to today,** to the friends I survey  
A nod to each valued Board member  
And our highest regard, for your work, long and hard  
That we celebrate now in December

We started a pop-up, the bonds we have mopped up,  
Held steadfast to learning and fun:  
New people, new faces, new reach to new places,  
It's awesome how much we have done.

**A toast to tomorrow,** slight tinges of sorrow  
Like dusk at the end of the day  
Though I'll miss this place so, back to England I go,  
A new chapter starting in May

We look to the future, reflect on the past  
Learn from mistakes, just a few.  
We build on success, big needs we'll address  
The Museum stays forever new.

**A toast to next year,** though I might not be here  
This one thing is true - I believe it  
Our vision is strong, and I've known all along  
You're the best group around to achieve it

And just as we planned, as we start to expand  
There's one thing I certainly know  
Though the Queen leaves her realm, what a team's  
at the helm

And *Oh! All The Ways That We'll Grow!*





FROM NANNY TO CEO











*Thank You,  
Sheridan...*

*You have touched us,  
we have grown.*





*Go and chase  
your dreams, you  
won't regret it*

*— Mary Poppins*



# Welcome Home

# SHERRY







Ringsfield Dog Show Alfie Best In Show



Alfie First in  
Juvenile  
Class, and  
Best in Show  
Hethersett



*From*  
NANNY TO CEO



*It's kind of a* **BIG DEAL**