



Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut

Stay Connected



Did You Know ...

With Community Support, CMSECT Will Celebrate **25** Years!

Every week, for nearly twenty-five years, scores of children and parents have come to the Museum to play, to learn, to enjoy precious time together. What a gift in these hectic overscheduled days – and the museum is one place where this happens.

Outreach Programs

Each week, educators from the Children's Museum go out into the community, taking our programming to schools from Old Greenwich to Plainfield. Our special brand of hands-on, inquiry-based learning has enriched the educations of children across the state.

Support from Donors

None of this happens without the support of you – our community. With the help of donations, in the past year, we have added our new **Creation Station** and opened the re-imagined **Toddler Room**.

Our animals now live in **improved enclosures**, conveniently at child-height. Our educators work in an **upgraded classroom**. Our children and families are enjoying these new exhibits and facilities every day and donors helped make that possible!

What Lies Ahead

I have **even more planned for the next year**. Thanks to the guests at our fourth **Be a Kid Again! Gala**, we are well on our way to raising the funds to build a new outdoor play area. Indoors, picture a new dinosaur land, complete with volcano! We are also talking to sponsors about several other new exhibits. The possibilities are endless! With generous support, the museum is poised to enter the next twenty-five years, better and stronger than ever.

Holly Cheeseman, Executive director

YES! Children's Museum of SECT can count on me!

Annual Appeal

Donation Levels:	\$1000+	(Best Friend Level)
	\$500 – 999	(Friend Level)
	\$250 – 499	(Buddy Level)
	\$100 – 249	(Pal Level)
	\$50 – 99	(Neighbor Level)

Safe online donation can be made with a click here:



Prefer to support by check? Make payable to **Children's Museum of SECT**.
Mail to: 409 Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357

Did You Know ...

... CMSECT receives NO local, state or federal funding? That is why your generous gift is so important!

Did You Know ...

... you can spread your gift out over the year by selecting the **Donate!** tab on our website and click the box "Make this a monthly recurring donation."

Fun Fact: If every member of CMSECT gave just \$5 a month, nearly the price of a single, venti size Starbucks® Latte, we would raise close to \$50,000!

Toddlers & Preschoolers – Classes just for YOU!

Three Winter Sessions:

- Session 1 starts January 3
- Session 2 starts February 7
- Session 3 starts March 14

Fee for Each 5 Week Session:

\$48/member \$78/nonmember –includes child's admission

Register
TODAY
Online Registration
Available!

PRESCHOOLERS

For the 3-5 year old ready to attend without caregiver.

LITTLE ARTISTS: Tuesdays, 10–11 am

Click: **Making Music** Jan. 3–Jan. 31

Music builds logical reasoning and critical thinking skills but it is also so much fun. Explore and play different instruments, build instruments of your own, learn how to keep a rhythm, try scarf dancing and singing!

Click: **The Mitten** Feb. 7–Mar. 7

In this class, children delve into Jan Brett's wonderful story, The Mitten. Each week, we complete a different craft as we have fun learning about the various animals in the story, make our own "mitten", and learn about dressing for the season. Our last class is filled with fun as we recreate our own version of the story!

Click: **Spring Into Art** Mar. 14–Apr. 18 (no class Apr. 11)

Learn all about this wonderful season as the weather warms and animals emerge from their winter homes. Have fun experimenting with plant life, make observations, and create spring themed works of art to take home!

LITTLE CHEFS: Thursdays, 1–2 pm

Click: **Eat a Rainbow!** Jan. 5–Feb. 2

Weekly focus on a different color of the rainbow and make delicious recipes using a food from the week's color! Red, orange, green and blue, we eat a rainbow and have fun too!

Click: **Tasty Treats** Feb. 9–Mar. 9

All about baking! Take an old-time favorite and recreate the recipe using healthful ingredients. We learn that yummy foods can be healthy too!

TODDLERS

TOGETHER TIME, 18–30 mo., with caregiver,
Wednesdays, 10–10:45 am

FIRST FRIENDS, 24–36 mo., without caregiver,
Wednesdays, 11:15 am–Noon

On the Go! Jan. 4–Feb. 1

Click: **Together Time** or **First Friends**

We explore transportation through various methods, from planes to trains, we have fun learning all about things that GO! Stories and crafts included.

Little Builders! Feb. 8–Mar. 8

Click: **Together Time** or **First Friends**

Children enter the construction zone! We explore the fascinating world of building, from tools of the trade to bridges and towers, your little builder won't want to miss this dynamite class! Stories and crafts included.

Nature's Explorers! Mar. 15–Apr. 19 (no class Apr. 12)

Click: **Together Time** or **First Friends**

Toddlers explore nature as we move from winter to spring! From trees, bees, to warm breezes, children learn all about this exciting season through sensory play, songs, and crafts.

Regular Hours

Tues.–Sat., 9:30–4:30

Sun., Noon–4:30

Closed Dec. 25 & 31, Apr. 16

Address:

409 Main Street
Niantic, CT 06357
Phone: 860-691-1111

Website:

childrensmuseumsect.org

Follow us:



The mission of the Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut is to encourage learning and spark imagination by engaging children and all families through creative and hands-on play in a safe and accessible community environment.

Museum Staff

Holly Cheeseman
Executive Director

Amy Boudreaux
Education Coordinator

Kathy Duda
Visitor Services

Virginia "Ginger" Steiner
Visitor Services / Museum Educator

Julie Clements-Reagan
Graphics Coordinator

Patty Bryan
Museum Educator

Donna Dione
Museum Educator

Jennifer Dums
Museum Educator

Sarah Jolly-Ballantine
Museum Educator

Tara Miner
Museum Educator

Rachel Patten
Museum Educator

Rachel Perry
Museum Educator

Deb Weller
Bookkeeping

James Gillespie
Facilities and Maintenance

Board of Trustees

John Schweizer, *President*

Ellen Cummings, *Vice President*

Art Tanner, *Treasurer*

Catherine A. Marrion, *Secretary*

Nell Kleinhans

Matt Strekel

Pandy Wohler

Click: **Maple Delight!** Mar. 16–Apr. 20 (no class Apr. 13)
Little chefs learn all about maple syrup, where it comes from, and its many uses in this delicious class. Each week, we make a maple inspired recipe and create some fun art projects, too!

LITTLE SCIENTISTS: Fridays, 10:30–11:30 am

Click: **Space Is the Place** Jan. 6–Feb. 3
Learn about the moon, the planets, and our solar system. Create craters, make moon sand, learn winter constellations, and find out what it's like to be an astronaut.

Click: **Let's Build It!** Feb. 10–Mar. 10
Young builders dress the part, experiment with different tools and materials, create blueprints, learn about gravity and of course, build, build, build!

Click: **Animals Abound!** Mar. 17–Apr. 21 (no class Apr. 14)
Let's take a look at farm animals, pets, rainforest animals, sea creatures, and zoo animals. We learn about different animals each week. Be on the lookout for some live special guests!

Registration Policy for Classes

All classes must be paid-in-full at the time of registration. If patrons need to withdraw from class for any reason after that time, they are issued a museum credit toward future classes, or museum membership. Classes need a minimum of five children. Refunds are only given in the event a class is canceled due to low enrollment. **Note:** Nonmember fees include museum admission for child.

Mark your calendar!

Wednesday, Nov. 23, 10 am

Bird Buffet

Treat your feathered friends, make a variety of bird treats. \$2/family fee payable at admission.

Saturday, Nov. 26, 3-4:30 pm

Letterwriting to Santa

Stop by & write to Santa during **Niantic's Holiday Stroll!**

Saturday, Dec. 17, 10-11 am OR 1-2 pm

Holiday Workshop

Decorate your own mini-"gingerbread" house, craft a holiday card, make your own wrapping paper, & create some peppermint playdough! Materials fee \$5/person.

Saturday, Dec. 31, 10 am-2 pm

Click: Countdown to Noon

Southeastern CT's premier New Years Eve family celebration! Museum is closed as the fun moved just minutes away at East Lyme Community Center.

Register early and SAVE!

Monday, Jan. 16, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

School Vacation: Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Day

Stop by to learn about how Dr. King wanted to make the world a better place. Complete a craft activity on what you would do to change the world. Free w/admission.

Saturday, Jan. 28, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

National Puzzle Day (a day early!)

An early celebration with puzzles of all sizes and shapes. Free w/admission.

Monday/Tuesday, Feb. 20/21, 8:30 am-Noon

School Vacation Day(s):

Choice of ½ day workshops for ages 6-10!

Presidents' Day – no school Monday and Tuesday? Pick one OR BOTH mornings for drop-off workshops.

Click: Monday: **Jr. Engineers: LEGO Fun!**

Click: Tuesday: **Stained Glass Workshop**

One: \$35 (\$47/nonmember). Both: \$60 (\$72/nonmember)

Sunday, March 5, 2 pm

Click: Maple Sugaring

Great family activity! Learn about the process of making maple syrup including how to tap a maple tree!

Fee: \$8/family. Note: Museum admission additional if staying to play.



Countdown to Noon!
Family Fun

NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY FUN!
E.L. Community Center
Dec. 31, 10 am–2 pm



The Rolling Tomato
Mobile Wood Fired Brick Oven Pizza

Saturday, December 31, 10 am-2 pm

Countdown to Noon!

With event partner, **East Lyme Parks & Recreation**, CMSECT rings in the New Year with a family celebration at the **East Lyme Community Center**, located at 41 Society Road, Niantic, CT.

The museum is closed this day as all the fun has moved just minutes away!

- PRE-registration: \$5/member, \$7/nonmember
- Day of event: \$7/member, \$9/nonmember

The Rolling Tomato.com returns to the event selling their delicious wood fired brick oven pizza!

Current event sponsors:

L+M Hospital, The Williams School, and Frontier



Children's Museum
of Southeastern Connecticut
409 Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357

INSIDE:
Winter Classes
for Preschoolers
and Toddlers!

Sign-up today!

Our genuine appreciation for support during our 2015-16 Fiscal Year

*We strive to publish an accurate list of donations.
Please alert us of any omissions or errors in posting. Thank you!*

Annual Appeal 10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016

Best Friends Level

Anonymous
Ellen & Bruce Cummings

Friends Level

Dr. David Hayes
John & Marcy Schweizer

Buddy Level

Holly Cheeseman
Thomas & Renée Fecteau
Laura & Kieran Mooney

Pal Level

Capt. & Mrs. Joseph Anderson, Jr.
Jane & Daniel Brannegan
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Cherry, Jr.
Paul & Betty Ann Grady
Susan Hafler & Sam Maeby
Sharon & Stephen Jackson
Dianne Kent
Evelyn MacDougall
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Mary & Sam Mirabito
Mark & Marlene Nickerson
Lisa Picarazzi
Betty Purvis
Kevin Seery
Americus (Vic) Vicari
Deborah Weller

Neighbor Level

Anonymous
Minnie & Femi Bajomo
Susan & Russell Brown
David Jacobs
Steven Kelley & Diane Tischer-Kelley
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Linden
Irene & Emanuel Makiaris
Madeleine & John Makiaris
Karen Parks
Linda & Frank Raffa
Charlie & Sue Wyand

Individual Donations

Anonymous
Mimi & Henry Amdur
Jackie Beyerle-Kalajainen
& Kimberly Kalajainen
Cheryl & Don Desautels
Mark Dignoti
Linda Fecteau
Sara & Gary Heard
Olga & George Manos
Amand Marchese, Chris & Colin LaBelle
Merrilyn & Terry McNatt
Anthony L. Minton
Jane & Kenneth Moriarty
Gina & Joseph Pennell
Dr. William J. Reagan
Maggie & Adam Robitaille

Rob Simmons
Zhanna & Nathan Sobol
Jill Stranger & Barbara Harvey
Meredith & John Werner
Sha Yang & Dingzhon Li

Corporate Matching Gifts

Benjamin Moore Paints
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union
Eversource
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
United Way of Central & Northeastern CT

Corporate / Business / Organizations

Byles-MacDougall Funeral Services, Inc.
East Coast Taco
Flanders Fish Market & Restaurant
Frosty Treat of Niantic, LLC
Main Street Grille
MOMS Club of New London & Waterford
ProHealth Physicians
The Spice Club
United Way of Central & Northeastern CT

Goods & Services

Patricia Bosso Bryan
Melissa & Sean Donovan
Dunn Associates
John Ridgeway
Stuart Woronecki - Stonewall Apiary

Foundation Grants

Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation
Child & Family Agency of SECT (ServeHere)
Charter Oak Foundation
Chelsea-Groton Foundation
Chet Kitchings Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Eastern CT
Electric Boat Employees Community Services Association
Frank Loomis Palmer Fund
George & Grace Long Foundation
NASA CT Space Grant Consortium Found.
National Environmental Education Found.
Pfizer Foundation
The Josephine Lanzalotta Allen Fund
The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
The Xerox Foundation

In Memoriam

Nanci & Mike Thibault
- in memory of Donna Formica

Angel Scholarship Fund

Maryellen & Gilbert Bowman
Susan & Russell Brown

Animal Fund (#GivingTuesday)

Toby & Robert Ladd
Rena Maher & Gita Patel

Generous Supporters of the 2016 Benefit Gala:

Discoverer Level Sponsorship: Dominion, L+M Hospital

Voyager Level Sponsorship: Angel Care

Seeker Level Sponsorship: Charter Oak Credit Union;
Waller, Smith & Palmer, PC.

Additional Sponsorship / Program Book / Table Sponsor:

Boats, Inc.; Cash True Value; Charter Oak Credit Union; Coldwell Banker; Coastal Dermatology; Guy's Oil; Hamilton Point Investments; Luscious Hair Salon; Marrison, Catherine; McNamara & McNamara, PC; Mitchell Family Trust; Niantic Plumbing; Noank Consulting Group; O&G Industries, Inc.; People's United Bank; Rosemary Vann Accounting; Secor Subaru; Seaward & Monde, CPAs; Shoreline Eye Group; Smith Insurance;

Smoochie Bird; Swanson Insurance; TCORS; The Day Commercial Printing; The Williams School; Thomas L. Neilan & Sons; Washington Trust; Waterford Group; Webster Private Bank; William Pitt Sotheby's.

Auction donations:

American Clock & Watch Museum; Antonio Hair Design; Bradford Renaissance Portrait Corp.; Bruce Museum; Cafe Sol; Center for Healing Therapies; Charity Fundraising; CT Tigers; Eastern CT Symphony Orchestra; EF Watermelon; Essex Steam Train; Flanders Fish Market & Restaurant; Flavour of Life; Garde Arts; Great Neck CC; Harriett Beecher Stowe Center; Hill-Stead Museum; Inn at Harbor Hill Marina; Kidcity; L&J Blooms; Legends Limousine; Lyman Allyn Art Museum; Main Street Grille;

Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk; Mark Twain House; Matthews Catering; Mohegan Sun; Mystic Aquarium; Mystic Seaport; Mystic Whaler; Nehemiah Brainerd House B&B; Noah Webster House; Palmieri's Slice Shop; Park Hersant; Rob Rivers The Salon & Spa; Saybrook Point Inn; Smith Acres; TCORS; Twist Yarn Shoppe; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art; Waterford Hotel Group; Waters Edge Resort & Spa; Zulu Nyala