Thomas & Friends®: Explore the Rails Traveling Exhibit at DISCOVERY Children’s Museum

10-Year Tour Brings STEM Learning with Thomas & Friends to Las Vegas

The world's most beloved #1 blue engine rolls into DISCOVERY Children’s Museum this fall. Thomas & Friends®: Explore the Rails, an interactive exhibit created by Minnesota Children's Museum and inspired by the popular children's series on PBS KIDS steams into Las Vegas for a three and a half month stay through January 10, 2016.

The Thomas & Friends exhibit was designed and developed by Minnesota Children's Museum in partnership with HIT Entertainment, a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc. Fisher-Price, the #1 Infant/Preschool Toys manufacturer¹, is the presenting sponsor for the exhibit. 3M is the national tour sponsor.

Featuring the favorite engines and destinations from Thomas & Friends, the STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) - focused exhibit seeks to engage children, ages two through seven years, and families in foundational skills that foster STEM literacy through playful learning experiences. The exhibit incorporates foundational STEM practices that encourage thinking mathematically, making comparisons, experimenting to solve problems using a variety of methods and tools, thinking creatively and reflecting on actions and results.

"The skills and proficiencies children learn and refine through play in the early years set the stage for future learning and success from the kindergarten classroom to the workplace," said Tifferney White CEO and President of DISCOVERY Children's Museum. "Thomas & Friends: Explore the Rails will deliver high-quality playful learning experiences rooted in science, technology, engineering and math for the children of Nevada and beyond."

Visitors to the 1500 square foot exhibit will be delighted as they find themselves surrounded by the Island of Sodor’s iconic locations: Knapford Station, Sodor Steamworks and much more. In the exhibit, children help Thomas and his friends solve a variety of challenges, from a simple sorting and shape identification activity to more complex engineering obstacles, such as completing a train track using track pieces with different levels of elevation. As children confront new challenges and test their abilities, the smiling faces of Thomas, Percy, Victor and others are there to offer encouragement and remind children how “really useful” they all are.

¹Source: The NPD Group/Retail Tracking Service/Annual 2013/Infant-Preschool Toys Supercategory/ Dollar Volume © 2014 Gullane (Thomas) Limited. Thomas & Friends®: Explore the Rails! was created by Minnesota Children’s Museum, presented by Fisher-Price and sponsored by 3M.
Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner? Bugsy, Lucky, Tony, Frank, Marilyn, Carolyn, Oscar & You!

Discovery Children’s Museum proudly presents

Rat Pack Gala

Sat., Oct. 24, 2015
at the Four Seasons – Las Vegas

This year’s fundraising event will pay homage to the Golden Age of Las Vegas which began on the night of January 20, 1960, when Dean Martin was performing on stage in the lavish Copa Room of the Sands Casino and was joined on stage by Frank Sinatra to sing “Sleep Warm.” That same year, five entertainer friends—Martin, Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Lawford, and comedian Joey Bishop—appeared together in Vegas-based heist film Ocean’s Eleven and became known as the “Rat Pack.” Guests are encouraged to dress in the glamour style of the Golden Era of Las Vegas. Black Tie Optional.

The evening will be a real blast from Vegas’ colorful past beginning with a swanky cocktail reception and lively silent auction, followed by a night of dancing and entertainment, including a gourmet dining experience and live auction. Monica Jackson from KVVU Fox 5 will emcee the event and Randy Parnell will conduct the live auction and you won’t want to miss the “must-see” entertainment.

This year’s Rat Pack Gala will honor The Honorable Carolyn Goodman, Mayor of Las Vegas and Former Mayor Oscar Goodman. They have been tremendous supporters of the Museum and contributed to making the new location and the downtown revitalization a reality.

Tickets are $500 each or table sponsorships range from $5,000 to $25,000. For more information call 702.382.3445.

SuperHeros Day A Huge Success!

DISCOVERY Children’s Museum kicked off August with Art Appreciation Month and a themed special event centered around this year’s art theme - Superheroes and Comics. Visitors (kids and adults) were encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero and there was special SuperHero themed programming and SuperHero character appearances scheduled throughout the day. The event was a huge success with nearly 3,000 visitors who came out to support the museum and see their favorite SuperHero!
SHOWS AND PROGRAMS THIS QUARTER!!!

Join us for a variety of demonstrations and presentations featuring the following:

★ **Horton Hears a Who! Story Time** – Nano for Little Learners (5 years old and younger)! Little Learners make “elephant ears” to wear while they actively listen to a Dr. Seuss favorite! After story time, follow your nose while you explore scent molecules that are too small to see.

★ **Adventures of Thomas & Friends**
Join us for an interactive read aloud with a classic storybook friend, Thomas the Train. Accompany Thomas & Friends on exciting adventures and learn how Thomas works hard and strives to be a “really useful engine” as he explores the rails leading to exciting destinations! Recreate your favorite part of the story through imaginative play that incorporates STEM learning.

★ **What’s in the Trash?** Dive in and take a closer look at what’s in the trash and see what you discover and learn a little about sustainability also!

★ **It All Depends on Perspective...** Learn all about the elements of Art by dissecting one component and exploring it in a fun and engaging way.

★ **Exploring Theatre Through Interactive Games** Be ready to stretch your body and mind as you play exciting theatre games! Learn the basics of putting on a performance as you work together and engage your imagination.

★ **Scientific Method – A Journey of Investigation** Elias and Jessica are challenged with a special science project for their teacher Mrs. Frazzle-Sticks. They have no fear because they have a secret weapon at home... their crazy Aunt Millimeter who takes them on an enlightening journey of exploration through the scientific method – and it all happens in her kitchen!

★ **It’s Game Time!!!** Summer is the perfect time for fun and games. Join us at the Performing Arts Stage for some game challenges. Bring your best game face and be ready to participate.

★ **Know Your Neurons** Learn how to give your brain a “workout” through mental exercise and learning new things!

★ **Action Reaction** Flames, color changes, awesome actions and really neat reactions. Explore Chemistry like never before!

★ **Fun with Polymers** Things are not always what they seem. Through clever demonstrations, discover the importance of polymers and develop an appreciation of why plastics are an integral part of our everyday lives.

★ **Digging Through the Past** Do you like to dig in the dirt? Find things that are lost? Put pieces together? Figure out stories from clues? These are all things archeologists do—maybe you’re one, too! Join us as we explore what an Archeologist does; get your hand dirty as you put the clues of the past together.

See the program schedule on wayfinding monitors throughout the museum for a list of times. Programs and program schedule are subject to change without notice.

KONA ICE – TOO COOL!

Through the collaboration with Kona Ice Las Vegas, the Museum is excited to have received nearly $4,000 from this community-engaged company. Kona Ice has been serving shaved ice to our guests all summer long and will continue on a condensed schedule Friday through Sunday through the winter. Kona Ice Owner Evan Louie presents Director of Marketing Denye Tuller with proceeds.
FALL PROGRAMS
Visit Toddler Town (TT), Young At Art (YAA), It’s Your Choice (IYC), Patents Pending (PP) and Solve It! to participate in engaging and integrated arts activities and experiences. TT features experiences developmentally appropriate for our youngest visitors, those 5 years and younger. All other areas feature experiences designed for a variety of ages, including adults!

CELEBRATE LOS DIAS DE LOS MUERTOS!

OCTOBER – Celebrating the Fall Season, Los Dias de Los Muertos and Halloween!

★ October 3 – October 9 ★ Fun in Fall
TT - Create a colorful pumpkin texture collage using unique art materials.
YAA - As the days get shorter and the temperatures cool down, celebrate the changing season by creating a fall-themed masterpiece!
Patents Pending – One of the most harvested foods in the fall is the pumpkin. Join us as we celebrate this fall fruit and turn it into a cool science experiment.

★ October 10 ★ Royal Fall Ball
Hear ye hear ye, Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses: You are formally invited to attend our Royal Fall Ball celebration! Join us all day for festivities fit for royalty! (See the schedule of events in the calendar on our website).

★ October 11 – October 16 ★ Continuing to Celebrate Fall
TT - Design a beautiful leaf collage in celebration of the season.
YAA - Use the colors of the changing leaves to create a stunning work of art just in time for fall!
IYC – The changing of the seasons - Learn about the four seasons and how the leaves change colors during the fall season.

★ October 17 – October 23 ★ Celebrate Los Dias de los Muertos!
TT - Design delightful dancing Calaveras in celebration of Dia de los Muertos!
YAA - An ofrenda is an offering to commemorate loved ones. Use our Dia de los Muertos-themed materials to create a colorful ofrenda as we celebrate El Dia de los Muertos!
IYC - For el Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) family members honor their deceased relatives with ofrendas. Explore what makes an ofrenda and make you very own.

★ October 24 – October 30 ★ Celebration of Los Dias de los Muertos!
TT – Explore beautiful Mexican Folk Art by famous artists, and recreate your favorite image!
YAA - The skull, or calavera, is an important symbol of Dia de los Muertos. Come create skull-themed artwork in preparation for El Dia de los Muertos!
IYC – Compare and contrast Dia de Los Muertos and Halloween as we play a fun interactive game of “This or That.”

★ October 31 ★ Celebrating Halloween
TT – Spin a spooky spider web in celebration of Halloween!
YAA - It’s that special time of year! Celebrate Halloween with our day-long festival of spooky art projects in Young at Art!
Solve It! – Investigate what makes a scary sound scary as you make your own creep sound maker.

NOVEMBER – Celebrate Los Dias de los Muertos and Native American Heritage

★ November 1 – November 6 ★ Celebration of Los Dias de los Muertos!
TT – Design a beautiful monarch butterfly in acknowledgement of this symbol of returning spirits of loved ones.
YAA - El Dia de los Muertos is finally here! Celebrate with us by creating tin-paintings, sugar skull dolls, paper crafts and more!
Solve It! – Investigate the clues to figure out if it is Halloween or Dia de los Muertos in a fun eye spy game.

★ November 7 – November 13 ★ Native American Paiute Tribe Celebration
TT – In honor of the Paiute Tribe, design your own petroglyphs using a unique and colorful scratch art technique.
YAA – Celebrate the history and artwork of Nevada’s indigenous Native American tribe- the Paiutes.
Solve It! – With extreme weather how did the Piute tribe survive here in the Mojave Desert? Investigate the type of structures they used for shelter from the elements, then help construct a mini-wickiups.

Funded in part through Nevada Humanities Foundation
★ Saturday, November 14 ★
Special Native American Dance Performance

★ November 14 – November 20 ★
Celebrating Native American Heritage

TT – Design your own beaded bracelet in recognition of this Native American handcrafted form of art.
YAA – Explore the contribution of Native American Artists to the world of contemporary art as we celebrate Native American Heritage Month!
Solve It! – Native American Mapping- Learn the similarities and differences between European style and Native American style mapping and participate in a scavenger hunt using a map similar to what Native Americans used.

★ Saturday, November 21, 2015 ★
Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with Lost City Museum
10 am – 4 pm
Join our special guest The Lost City Museum to learn more about this historical museum, and, learn historical techniques that Nevada Native Americans used long ago. Using native plants and minerals create your very own piece of art. Explore the mano and metate as you use them to grind corn.

★ November 21 – November 26 ★
Celebrating the Lost City

TT – Practice the art of pottery in recognition of the Anasazi prehistoric ruins discovered in the Lost City.
YAA - Did you know there is a “lost city” hidden beneath the waters of Lake Mead? Come explore artifacts and artwork of the Anasazi and create a work of art of your own!
PP – Join us as we investigate what the Atlatl is and how it works. Explore the physics of why it was replaced by the bow and arrow.

DECEMBER – A Nutcracker Extravaganza!

★ November 27 – December 4 ★
The Nutcracker Celebration

TT – Design a dazzling crown fit for a Nutcracker king!
YAA – Join us as we kick off our Nutcracker celebration by creating art focusing on the characters of the Nutcracker!
PP – Investigate the Toy Soldiers drum from the ballet The Nutcracker. How does it work and why do different drums sound different? Learn this and more as you create you very own drum.

★ December 5 – December 11 ★
Land of Snow

TT – Create a beautiful winter wonderland scene in celebration of the first act of The Nutcracker Ballet.
YAA – Let the color white be your focus as we explore snow-themed art to celebrate the Land of Snow from The Nutcracker!

PP – Take a journey to The Land of Snow. Explore the properties of snow through some fun experiments.

★ December 12 – December 18 ★
Ballet, a Balancing Act

TT – Design a pair of dazzling dance shoes in the spirit of dance!
YAA – Art doesn’t always have to be a still image-sometimes art can move! Come see how a dancer can use their body as an instrument to create amazing art!
PP – Join us as we explore what center of gravity is by doing some fun experiments. How do dancers use their center of gravity?

★ December 19 – December 25 ★
The Nutcracker – Designing a Masterpiece

TT – Create a beautiful ballet scene from The Nutcracker.
YAA – When creating a performance, sometimes the setting can help transport the audience to another world! Create a work of art inspired by the fantastical world of Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker!
PP – Take on the challenge of designing a functional ballet stage.

★ December 26 – January 1 ★
The Music of Tchaikovsky

TT – Design a musical collage while listening to the beautiful music from The Nutcracker Ballet.
YAA – Explore the timeless music of the Great Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky as we create artwork inspired by his music!
PP – Discover what sound waves look like for different types of music as we use a Rubens’ Tube to make flames dance.

See the program schedule on wayfinding monitors throughout the museum for a list of times. Programs and program schedule are subject to change without notice.
The magic of all things Nutcracker will be felt this December as we collaborate with Nevada Ballet Theatre (NBT) for the third year in a row. Families will learn about *The Nutcracker* through specially planned programming throughout the museum (see Programming Calendar) including designing your very own point shoes in the spirit of the dance and creating a dazzling crown fit for The Nutcracker King (and you).

And you won’t want to miss taking a journey to The Land Of Snow where you will explore the properties of snow.

Look for special appearances and opportunities to meet Nutcracker characters throughout the holiday season and you won’t want to miss marching in the Nutcracker Closing Parade!

The museum in collaboration with Nevada Ballet Theatre will host a Nutcracker Extravaganza on Black Friday, November 27, 2015 featuring set and costume pieces from the ballet. Also, walk The Nutcracker red carpet and get your Nutcracker autograph. Academy Nevada Ballet Theatre performances will take place hourly starting at 12 pm. And, you will be able to dress up as Nutcracker characters. Walk through interactive story highlights of *The Nutcracker* with your family and preview the wonder of Las Vegas’ favorite holiday tradition.

Special ticket discounts and promotions are also available to museum visitors and members for Nevada Ballet Theatre’s presentation of *The Nutcracker*. Performances will take place at The Smith Center December 12 -13 and December 18-20, 2015. Las Vegas’ favorite holiday tradition features full orchestra and larger than life landscapes. Nevada Ballet Theatre’s presentation of *The Nutcracker* has been hailed as “the most visually beautiful production ever staged” in Reynolds Hall. Enter into a wonderland of moonlit snow and waltzing flowers as Clara and her Nutcracker Prince dance along the border between imagination and reality. This is the centerpiece of the holiday season and the perfect experience for your family, group or as a gift to loved ones.

Visit DiscoveryKidsLV.org for more information.
Thank you to our annual supporters!

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- Cox Communications

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President’s Club ($1,000-$2,499)
- Abbey Dental Center
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- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
- Las Vegas Sands Foundation
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- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
- Surf Air
- The Capital Grille
- UFC
- V Theatre Group

As of September 2015

Calling all Adults!

There are a variety of ways for you to get involved as a volunteer at DISCOVERY Children’s Museum. We are looking for adults that want to work in a fun and energetic environment while giving back to the community and seeing the immediate impact of your generosity.

Do you love working with children and families? Do you have a special talent (like sewing, love for arts, sciences, young minds and early learners, maintenance of exhibits, public speaking, etc.) that you would like to share? Whether you want to play in the galleries or assist behind the scenes in the office, we have a great opportunity for you to ignite a love of lifelong learning. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available and we would love to have your help.

Apply today! Call 702.382.3445 or email volunteers@discoverykidslv.org for an application.

COMING WINTER 2016

Animal GROSSOLOGY
Admission Fees
Adults: $14.50 for ages 1 to 99
Children under 1 year are free.
Membership packages are available!

Contact Us
For more information, call (702) 382-KIDS
email info@DiscoveryKidsLV.org
or visit DiscoveryKidsLV.org.

NEW HOURS
Tues.- Fri. 9am - 4pm
Sat. 10am - 5pm
Sun. 12pm - 5pm
Closed Mondays except for designated Monday holidays.

FIRST 250 CHILDREN RECEIVE HALF PRICE ADMISSION

Hear ye, hear ye, all families far and wide are invited to the Royal Fall Ball at Discovery Children’s Museum on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 10 am – 5 pm. This special one day only event is co-sponsored by “Let’s Go to College: Nevada Saves,” learn more at NV529.org. Using their imaginations, children and adults are invited to create their own Royal identity – prince, princess, queen or king and celebrate the fall season. The first 250 children* will receive half price admission ($7.25 per ticket).

“Royal” programming will focus on STEM education (science, technology, engineering and math) and the arts. Themed activities include: A Royal Read A Loud where visitors practice the art of puppetry as they create scenes from the story; Fairy Godmother’s Science Spectacular: Science or Magic? Our Fairy Godmother will reveal the scientific secrets behind her magical powers and will demonstrate the science behind fire breathing dragons, too! Visitors can create their own crowns, tiaras and wands, as well as Royal Court finger puppets. Fall will also be celebrated throughout the day with presentations on the changing of the season – why leaves change colors and creating your very own scented leave.

Visitors will also be able to participate in a pumpkin decorating activity for an additional charge of $3 per person. A pumpkin decorating contest will be held as part of the day’s festivities, guests are invited to submit their decorated pumpkins. Judging will take place at 3 pm in The Traveling Exhibit Hall and winners will receive a Family Four Pack. Judging categories are by age: 1 to 4 years old, 5 to 8 years old and nine and over.

To top of the day fit for royalty, there will be free ice cream sandwiches** and visits from Prince and Princess characters.

All visitors are encouraged to dress up in royal themed costumes, but it’s not required for admission. For more information and event schedule on The Royal Fall Ball visit DiscoveryKidsLV.org.

*Children 17 and under **While supplies last