

# Northeast Texas Children's Museum

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 3

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2016

## The Director's Corner

*The mission of the Northeast Texas Children's Museum is to inspire imagination, enhance creativity, and build confidence in Children.*



**Sharline Freeman,  
Executive Director**

We have been given our pirate names (mine is Mad Squiffy Jones) and we are getting ready for Pirate Day and all the other exciting activities during July and August. With many activities for children, the event for adults will be the Donors' Event on October 6 at 10:00 AM. This fall the Children's Museum will be concluding its fourteenth year of operation. This year has seen a large increase in attendance: during the first six months attendance at the Children's Museum has increased 31%.

We have also dedicated our most ambitious exhibit to date. That exhibit is the *SS Good Neighbor* donated by Dixie Turman and Bob

Stachowiak. We also have two new indoor exhibits which include Monkey Ball and the Redline Raceway.

To continue growing and providing new exhibits for children, your support is important. You have an opportunity to show your support on North Texas Giving Day on September 22. Donations begin at \$25. Last year \$20,000 was donated by 50 individuals on that day. This year we hope to increase that amount, but we also want to increase the number of individuals donating on that day. Mark your calendar to give on September 22 and then join us at our Donors' Event on October 6 as we celebrate and thank you for your support.

## 2015-2016 School Field Trips

When the last student boarded the bus back to school on May 31, field trip visitors at the Children's Museum during the 2015-2016 school year totaled 6,964. May was the busiest month with 2,382 field trip students. Field trip students include pre-k to third grade. With a different curriculum for each grade level, students saw "shows" on Bubbles, Stuffee, Oximeters, Water Friction, Farm Life, Gases, and Magnets. Schools came from throughout northeast Texas and included students from Royce City, Crandall, Mt. Pleasant, Princeton, and Mineola.



Mothers and daughters are invited to a



*Mother-Daughter  
Tea Party*

July 12, 1:30 PM  
\$20 per couple  
\$10 for extra daughter

*Wear your prettiest dress and  
join us for tea, crafts, and fun!*

Call the Museum to reserve a spot  
903-886-6055

**MUSEUM INFORMATION**

**Northeast Texas  
Children's Museum**  
2501 Hwy 24  
Commerce, TX 75428

www.netxcm.com  
903-886-6055

**Hours of Operation:**  
Tuesday - Saturday: 9:30 - 4:30  
Summer Hours: 10:00 - 5:00  
Closed Sunday and Monday

**Admission:**  
Children: \$6.00  
Adults: \$5.00  
Children under 2: Free  
Memberships available

**For more information:**  
Sharline Freeman,  
Executive Director  
director@netxcm.com

Elana Barton,  
Director of Development,  
elana@netxcm.com



## Summer Classes and Activities

Sign up now for the following classes:

- **Wild About Art** with Lonnie Plunkett will be offered July 13, 14, and 15 at 10:00 AM for children 7-12. Price \$30
- **Cake Decorating** with Kathy Erwin will be offered July 21 at 10:00 AM for ages 6-10. Price \$15
- **Pirate Day** will be at 1:30 on July 26. Price \$12.



## Outdoor Week

To begin Outdoor Week, Hunt County Master Gardeners will introduce children to Plant People. Coordinated by Pat Abramson, the group will be at the Children's Museum on July 19 and 20 from 10:00 to 1:00. Other activities during the week will be crafts using sun paper and making birdfeeders.

Theme weeks for August include Olympics Week, August 2-5, and Back to School Week, August 9-12.



## NETXCM is on Instagram!

The Children's Museum is on Instagram! Follow us [@netxcm](https://www.instagram.com/netxcm) to see what's happening at the Museum. You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



## North Texas Giving Day

Mark your calendar now for North Texas Giving Day on September 22. This is the Children's Museum's second year to participate in this event. North Texas Giving Day began in 2009 and is the largest single-day giving event in the nation. The day is very important to the Children's Museum, and we need your support to

make this day a success. Funds for maintenance and new exhibits are made possible through your donations. Any gift above \$25 will help us receive bonus funds for the Children's Museum. Visit [www.northtexasgivingday.org](http://www.northtexasgivingday.org) on **September 22** to make a quick, convenient online donation.

### Board Members

Sharline Freeman,  
*Executive Director*

Becky Thompson,  
*President*

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*Vice President*

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Donna Tavener

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Wyman Williams

Colette Young

### Ex officio Members

Paula Hanson

Bonnie Hunter

David McKenna

Cari Sturch

## Healthy Kids from A to Z

The fall class of Healthy Kids from A to Z will begin on September 14 with the letter "A". Each week will highlight one of the first eight letters of the alphabet. The eight week class will end on November 2 with "H", the eighth letter of the alphabet. This year the class will be under the capable leadership of D'Ann Frank. D'Ann is a certified pre-school teacher. She has also taught 27 years in public school. Activities will include healthy activities, healthy food, and songs.

Healthy Kids for A to Z is open to ages 3 to 5. The price, which includes mother and child, is \$16 for members and \$20 for non-members.



## Volunteer Spotlight

When 120 children and 50 parents arrive at one time for a field trip to the Children's Museum, help is needed to get them in and counted. During this time, Weldon Freeman has been the #1 volunteer to man the door. With other staff members teaching and rotating the groups, his help has been invaluable. Just answering questions - such as "Where is the water fountain? Where is the restroom? Can I buy the \$4.00 dinosaur from the Gift Store with my twenty-five pennies?" - is important to making the day go smoothly. His willingness to help is greatly appreciated. Of course, being



married to our director puts him in a precarious position of being asked frequently and often without much notice. Weldon is a graduate of Texas Tech University and retired from Purvis Industries in 2012. Thanks Weldon for all you for the Children's Museum!

# Thanks to our March, April, May, and June Donors

Commerce Rotary Club  
Alton and Louse Biggs  
Richard and Jenna Hill  
Ruth Ann White  
Jim and Teena Ayers

Cypress Bank  
Dr. Jim and Claire Reynolds  
Commerce Lions Club  
Psychology Club  
Duncan Insurance

City of Commerce  
Dr. Keith and Nancy McFarland  
Joyce McCord  
Brookshire Grocery Co.  
Gordon Mendenhall

## Join Our Mailing List!

Join our mailing list to get the most up-to-date information about events and activities at the Children's Museum. You can join by clicking on the button below:



Lil' CRITTERS PARTY PONIES  
& PETTING ZOO  
Psalm 119  
CRITTERSTOYOU.com  
903-303-9711  
903-628-0500  
YEShayaHu662@email.com  
*Not Available on Saturdays*

## Donate to the Museum

Donations to the Northeast Texas Children's Museum can be made in multiple ways. Go to [www.netxcm.com](http://www.netxcm.com) to donate through PayPal. You can also come by the Museum to make a donation at any time. You may also mail your donation with the form below. Remember that every dollar helps keep our doors open!



### Donor Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

*If sponsoring a day, let us know the birthday, anniversary, or other date that you would like to sponsor.*

Send to: Northeast Texas Children's Museum  
P. O. Box 994  
Commerce, Texas 75429