

A message from Elizabeth Pierce regarding the re-opening of the Duke Energy Children's Museum

Dear Members,

I am writing to share exciting news with you. After an extended temporary closure, **we will be reopening the Duke Energy Children's Museum on Friday, May 4!** We are kicking off the reopening with special Member hours May 4 – 6, opening an hour early each day exclusively for Members.

Last November, we made the difficult decision to close the Children's Museum to accommodate construction activity on the mezzanine level above as part of the effort to restore Union Terminal. Initially we had intended to keep the Children's Museum open as much as possible throughout the restoration, but the required work on the mezzanine level was more extensive than anticipated and disrupted public access to large portions of the Children's Museum.

During this temporary closure **we have taken advantage of the opportunity to refresh the Children's Museum.** The entire museum is getting a fresh coat of paint and new flooring is being installed throughout.

Much-played with exhibits are also undergoing repairs. We are installing new netting around the Energy Zone, adding new animal specimens in Animal Spot, installing a new crane in Construction Zone, building a new Metro bus in Kids' Town, adding new stools in the Diner and installing a new slide in The Woods. All of your favorite animals from the aquarium and Nature's Trading Post will also be reintroduced when the Children's Museum reopens.

In November, we automatically extended your Membership 6 months. We understand a Membership is a commitment and a demonstration that you value your time and experience at Cincinnati Museum Center. **In addition, we are also giving Members one bonus month as a thank you for your support during this time.** This bonus month will be automatically added to your Membership.

We look forward to welcoming you back on May 4 so you can get your weekly Story Tree Time fix, rediscover your favorite exhibit and reconnect as you share these experiences together.

And **mark your calendars for May 25 when we open *Mission Aerospace***, an a-maze-ing special exhibition that explores the history of flight and the future of space exploration. *Mission Aerospace* is FREE for Members! Until then, remember to take advantage of additional discounts with reciprocal partners both locally and regionally. Visit cincymuseum.org/join for a full list of partners.

We deeply value your continued support as we complete this necessary step in the restoration of Union Terminal and thank you for your patience and understanding.

Elizabeth Pierce
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