

Children's Museum of Eau Claire, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

Endeavor Foundation Pledges \$50,000

The **Endeavor Foundation**, a family foundation funded by **Claire and Marjorie Johnson**, has pledged \$50,000 to CMEC over five years.

Claire and Marjorie have visited children's museums with their grandchildren, where they say, "It was fun to be a part of an environment where we felt perfectly comfortable interacting with our grandchildren through water play, puppetry and drama."

Involved in the funding and support of the Betty Brinn Children's Museum of Milwaukee, they were excited to become involved in CMEC. CMEC is thankful for their support!

New Volunteers Join Development Council

CMEC is excited to announce the addition of six new volunteers to our Development Council: **Steve Nick, Terry Weld, Mark Gilbertson, Steve Kristo, Jane Duren and Dr. Bill Bethke**. These volunteers will join the other 63 Development Council members working to raise the projected \$3.7 million needed for CMEC's capital project. The Development Council is still looking for new volunteers. If you would like to become involved contact CMEC at 832-KIDS.

A newly formed Professional Committee will be working to gain financial support of various professional groups in Eau Claire. The committee will be responsible for inviting different professional groups to become active in CMEC. Once involved with the museum, the professional community will have the opportunity to be recognized as a funding partner in the museum.

THANK YOU TO OUR INTERNS

CMEC would like to send a big thank you to our spring interns: **Angie LeCompte, Heather Solberg, Alicia Ness, Tina Nelson, Curt Bach and Rena Reisdorf**. Over the semester they contributed a combined total of 512 hours to CMEC.

CMEC has three senior UW-Eau Claire interns this summer: **Alyson Pilch** (graphic design), **Sadie O'Connor** (public relations) and **Alicia Ness** (fundraising). The knowledge, time and dedication they have all given are truly invaluable to making the museum a reality.

Premier Benefit Sale Raises Over \$68,000

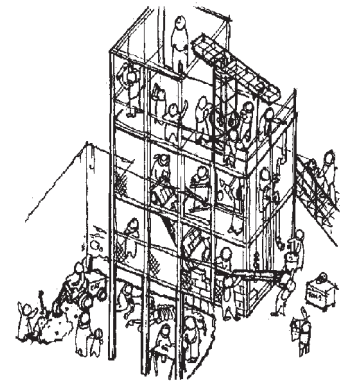
CMEC's premier benefit sale featuring American Girl merchandise was a huge success, raising over \$68,000 for the museum and other local children's charities! Months of planning and hard work paid off as over 1,200 people came to the museum for the great deals on American Girl clothing, dolls and doll accessories. The first customer arrived at 5:45 a.m. on Saturday and by the time the doors opened at 9 a.m. the line had grown to be three blocks long.

Proceeds from the sale will aid in the museum's ongoing efforts to open to the public in 2004. The sale will become an annual event and will be a key component in the museum's long-term sustainability.

The success of this sale would not have been possible without the overwhelming support of our volunteers. CMEC would like to send a big thank you to the more than 240 volunteers who worked in preparation for the sale or at the sale itself. CMEC would also like to thank WAXX 104.5, Kohl's and the other 30 local businesses that helped make this sale a success.

Wondercabinet Develops Exhibit Proposal

Wondercabinet Interpretive Design, Inc., an exhibit development firm from Massachusetts has been hired to help develop the exhibits for CMEC. Drawing from the ideas of community advisors, teachers, parents and board members in a series of visioning sessions, the exhibit design team formulated a draft proposal of seven main exhibit areas.



Construction Site, one exhibit under development, will consist of scaffolding that will span the museum's three floors. In hard hats, tool belts and work aprons, children will be able to build, climb and explore throughout the construction site. A kid-powered conveyer belt, giant crane, connecting PVC pipes, construction sounds, magnetic wall with rolling ball, and foam building bricks will keep children busy building while learning at the same time.

CMEC hopes to have a finalized conceptual plan of the exhibits within the next month. Stay tuned, as further details will be emerging!

Search for Architect Continues

CMEC is continuing the search for an architect to remodel and prepare the museum for the exhibits. CMEC has sent out various requests for proposals and are in the stages of finding the perfect fit for the job. Market and Johnson has been selected as project manager.



It takes special people to build a new organization. CMÆC thanks the following donors for their vision and faith in our idea and their willingness to help ensure that the Children's Museum of Eau Claire becomes a reality. There is no greater investment one can make than in the education of our children. Thank you!

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NEWSLETTER

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220 S. Barstow Street
Eau Claire, WI
54702-1074



Contact CMEC

If you have comments, questions or would like to get involved, please call 832-KIDS, email us at info@cmecc.com, visit our office at 220 S. Barstow St., or check out our website at www.cmecc.com.

CMEC Speakers Bureau

Working to promote CMEC, individuals from the Speakers Bureau are available upon request to speak with groups, service organizations and businesses in the Eau Claire area. If your service organization is looking for a speaker (even on short notice!), the Speakers Bureau can have someone available to speak with your organization.

If you would like to either request a speaker or would like to become involved with the Speakers Bureau, contact CMEC at 832-KIDS.

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Upcoming Events for Kids

CMEC will have free activities for kids at the following events:

September 13 - Community Television Open House (noon - 4 p.m., Banbury Place)

September 20 - International Fall Festival (10 a.m. - 2 p.m., CMEC)
Everyone is welcome!

Volunteers of the Month

Eileen Immerman and **Jen Cook** are the August Volunteers of the Month. As an active member of the Community Relations Committee, Eileen helps with the writing of news releases and design of publicity materials. Her talents really shone through during preparation for the benefit sale, as she designed posters, brochures and ads to help spread the word of the sale. Eileen is also involved with securing exhibit sponsorships.

Jen Cook is CMEC's new Volunteer Coordinator. In this volunteer position, Jen helps with the recruitment of volunteers to help with events and work around the museum. Finding available volunteers during the summer months can be a challenge and Jen has tackled that with great enthusiasm and success.

CMEC thanks Eileen & Jen for all their hard work!

Benefit Sale Committee Members Needed

Members are needed for the 2003 Benefit Sale Steering Committee. Members oversee publicity, advertising, volunteers, operations and inventory management. The committee will meet monthly from September through February. More regular meetings will be held as the sale approaches. For more information, call Suzie at 832-KIDS.

Thanks to DigiCopy for supporting this newsletter!