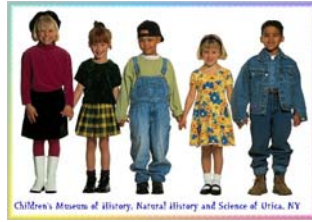


Founded in 1963, one of the oldest in the country; a NYS & Federal historic building, adopted by NASA & Office of Science. A 501 (c)(3) not for profit, chartered by the State of NY, members Assoc. Children's Museums (D. C.), MANY (Museum Assoc. NY), MV Chamber Commerce, OC Conv/Visitors Bureau, rotaryclubny1.com hdqtrts. *Creating an Enjoyable Educational Environment for Kids from 1-101, boldly going where no museum has gone before with our 4 floors of interactive exhibits*

Children's  
Museum



**The Children's Museum**  
*Anniversary Gala &  
Festival of Trees*  
311 Main St., Utica, NY 13501  
Tel: 315-724-6129  
Email: info@museum4kids.net  
Web: www.museum4kids.net

September 1, 2008

Dear Children's Museum Friends: We've got exciting news to share with you! This year, we're combining our *Annual Anniversary Gala* with a Community *Festival of Trees!* Planning is already in full swing.

The Preview Party will take place **Friday, November 21st, 2008** at the Children's Museum, 311 Main Street, Utica. This event, which kicks off the Festival, marks a celebration of our sponsors and designers and will be integrated into an evening of walkaround hors d'oeuvres and music, along with terrific raffles and auction items!

Event attendees will have the first opportunity to view and purchase holiday items in the following five categories: 1.) uniquely designed trees 7-1/2 feet tall, 2.) uniquely designed trees 3 feet tall, 3.) designer holiday wreaths, 4.) holiday centerpieces, 5.) holiday gift baskets.

The evening begins with a VIP Reception (invitation only) 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the museum; Cocktail Hour & Wandering Hors D'oeuvre 6:30-9:30pm; Dessert, Coffee & Announcement of Raffle & Auction Winners 9:30-10:30pm. In addition to this holiday wonderland adorning our four floors, we will be offering a limited-edition holiday commemorative ornament. Donation \$45 per person in advance or \$50 @ at the door. Tickets are available on our website's secure shopping cart.

Then **Saturday, November 22nd, 2008**, the Festival will be Open to the Public from 10:00am-4:00pm. Reduced General Admission of \$7.00 per person (members & children under 2 free). Visitors can view the Wonderland of Trees and Holiday Items, and bid on any that may be left over from the Gala the night before. Santa & Mrs. Claus and their elves will be there to hear children's wishes! Trees will be available for viewing up to November 29th's Holiday on Main Street.

Enclosed is the information regarding the five (5) areas of holiday item options, and the seven (7) sponsorship categories. **Please take a moment now to fill out the enclosed Form** and return it to us in the enclosed envelope by October 1st. We will then forward you additional information/guidelines you may need. If you have any questions about our Gala/Festival, please call or email us.

This benefit supports the museum's Future Vision for the children & families we serve. Working together we can continue to help improve the quality of life for our children, and for all the families in Central New York as we continue to make the Children's Museum one of the best in the nation!

We are excited to join museum's around the country who yearly put on Festival's of Trees. Once a year, we ask our neighbors for their support. We hope you'll join us & thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Dan Trevisani, Mike Pilawa, Art Rapp Jr., John Stephenson, Joanne Palumbo-Mozloom, Joe Ruggiero, Jeannette Swiderski; Matt Chmielewski, Ed Waszkiewicz, & CPA-Auditor Vin Gilroy Jr.*

Members of the Board of Directors & Committee Chairs

*Marlene B. Brown*

Marlene B. Brown, Executive Director

/enc.

**Board of Directors: Dan Trevisani, Art Rapp Jr., Mike Pilawa, John Stephenson, Joe Ruggiero, Joanne Palumbo-Mozloom, Jeannette Swiderski, Matt Chmielewski, Ed Waszkiewicz, CPA – Vin Gilroy Jr.**