

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  
311 Main Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
www.museum4kids.net



The Children's Museum  
*Holiday Gala & Festival of Trees & Lights*  
311 Main St., Utica, NY 13501  
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## SCHOOLS CAN CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Dear School Principals: We've got exciting news to share! This year, The Children's Museum is once again kicking off the holiday season with our *Holiday Gala / Festival of Trees & Lights* with an eco-savvy *Luau Theme!* Planning is in full swing, to benefit The Museum's exhibits, activities, programs.

***New This Year:*** a Mother/Son Dance, a Father/Daughter Tea, and a **School Community Contest!** *We're asking Utica elementary schools to participate by having their students decorate a tabletop tree, wreath or centerpiece* that reflects the culture and holiday celebrations of their class. **The 3 schools chosen by our judges will earn a free field trip to our museum for their class!** PLEASE let your teachers know & have those interested complete and return the attached form. It's a great opportunity for your school's children.

Enter the Children's Museum the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November and be enveloped in a winter wonderland! As the primary fundraiser for The Museum, the building never shines so bright. Our Gala/Festival Preview Party will take place **Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at the Children's Museum, 311 Main Street, Utica. Guests, Sponsors, and Designers will enjoy an evening of cocktails & scrumptious hors d'oeuvres set against the backdrop of the festive Holiday decor. They will also enjoy an exclusive preview of the Festival and be among the first visitors to purchase the original holiday items including trees, wreaths, centerpieces, and neat multi-holiday gift baskets! The evening will also feature live entertainment and terrific raffles. Festival attendees can admire and purchase for gifts or their own home or business these one-of-a-kind creations.

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, all in a holiday wonderland. Donation \$45 per person or \$80 couple pre-paid by Nov. 1st). (10% member discount). \$60 per person at the door. Tickets are available from board members, in the museum, or on our website's secure shopping cart, and can be mailed or kept at the door for the night of the event. Festival Sponsor Categories run from \$300 to \$5,000 and include Preview Party tickets.

Then **Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009**, the Festival will be Open to the Public from 10:00am-3:00pm. Reduced General Admission of \$5.00 for children 2 to 17; \$6.00 for seniors; \$7.00 for adults (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 will be there to hear children's wishes! Trees will be available for viewing through **Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>'s** Mother/Son & Father/Daughter Dance & **Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>'s** Holiday on Main Street, up to December 31<sup>st</sup>! Museum families and visitors will enjoy the extravaganza of fairyland forests complimented by holiday crafts and activities for kids of all ages, and a special line-up of entertainment for the whole family!

***Please take a moment now to fill out the enclosed Form*** and return it to us by October 1st. We'll then get back to you with additional info. If you have any questions, please call or email us. This benefit supports the museum's Future Vision exhibits & programs for the community's schools we serve. Working together we can continue to help improve the quality of life for our children, tourists, and all the families in Central New York as we continue to make the Children's Museum one of the best in the nation!

Once a year, we ask for your support. We hope you'll join us & we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, **Co-Chairs: Brad Zacek & John Nagas; Committee: Dr. Joanne Palumbo-Mozloom, Mike Pilawa, John Stephenson, Matt Chmielewski, Ed Waszkiewicz, Franca Armstrong, Sabina Bajic, w/ Marlene Brown**

/enc. Please also display our enclosed flyer to help us spread the word of our Holiday Extravaganza Events!