

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT for **The Children's Museum of History, Natural History,** **Science & Technology, 311 Main Street, Utica NY 13501**

The Children's Museum in Utica NY, founded in 1963, employs 3 community people and has 3 full-time/7 part-time volunteers. We currently receive no operations funding from the City, County, State, or Federal government, which we would use to hire additional staff. Our museum spends over \$50,000 yearly on community goods and services, plus the renovation projects which provide work for local contractors, and the local hospitality industry which benefits from visitors to our museum who stay overnight, eat locally, and visit other area venues. We are located in Central NYS, in the Baggs Square East location where the City of Utica began as old Fort Schuyler.

The Children's Museum in Utica NY serves 20,000 visitors each year, 20% come from our city, 20% come from our county, 60% come from other counties, states and nations. Schoolchildren, scouts, seniors and other groups book visits to the museum each year. One field trip we offer is in collaboration with the Adirondack Scenic Railroad, which is right next door to the museum. <http://www.museum4kids.net>

Admission fee: \$7. for children 3 to 17; \$8. for seniors & vets; \$9. for adults; children 2 & under and members Free. We also offer reduced Group Rates, and additional \$1 off coupons on our website.

We are unique in that we are housed in a NYS and Federal historic building, with 4 floors of interactive exhibits (each floor is 6,000 square feet with 60 pavilions). We continue growing the number of our exhibits and offerings, and in renovating the building while keeping its original charm and continuing its green sustainability. It serves as an educational resource, quality of life institution, and tourism attraction.

Popular attractions on each of our four floors are:

1st a unique life-size wooden train, two-tier Exploration Space, toddlers Play Space;
2nd history diorama, life-size Iroquois longhouse, dinorama, LED Play Dance Floor;
3rd living science center, history wall, radio/weather rooms, village w/musical liteshow
4th extensive HO & Lionel train exhibits; NASA & Science exhibits; real airplanes

On a national scale, museums are economic engines:

- Museums employ 400,000 Americans according to American Association Museums
- U.S. museums contribute \$21 billion to the American economy each year (2008 estimate), encouraging economic growth in their communities.
- Museums rank among the top three family vacation destinations.
- Trips including cultural & heritage activities comprise one of the most popular and significant segments of the travel industry, accounting for 23% of all domestic trips.
- Visitors to historic sites and cultural attractions, including museums, stay 53% longer and spend 36% more money than other kinds of tourists.
- Quality of life issues contribute significantly to decisions businesses make in choosing to relocate, including access to cultural resources that includes a dynamic museum community. According to research by the National Governors Association, "It has been shown nonprofit arts and culture industry generates over \$166 billion in economic activity annually, supports over 5.7 million full time jobs, returns over \$12 billion in federal income taxes annually. Governments which support them see a return on investment over \$7 in taxes for every \$1 the government appropriates".