Bug Squad

SUMMER EXHIBIT
OPENS MAY 23

ROYAL RETURN
FAIRYTALE LAND IS BACK THIS SUMMER

FAMILY FUN WEEKENDS
UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE A CANDY LAND THEME

SPRING 2020
Your link to Omaha Children’s Museum
When it comes to bugs, you are likely to fall into one of the following categories:

1) “Eew!” And you think it’s best to give it a “Kleenex hug and a toilet bath.”

or

2) “Wow!” And you capture it in your hand and show it to anyone who is brave enough to get close.

I’ve met many young children who are a part of the “Wow” category. At Omaha Children’s Museum, we observe kids and their obsessions on a regular basis. And we do our best to feed the many facets of those fascinations with engaging exhibits and programs.

This summer, our very own Bug Squad will be featured in an exciting, interactive exhibit. It will allow those “Wow” kids an up-close view of their favorite crawling creatures. And for those less curious and maybe a lot more timid around bugs, we’ll have an environment that engages the imagination in less creepy-crawly ways.

I encourage you, as the adult, to set aside your own feelings about bugs and become an amateur entomologist alongside your children this summer. Together, you will discover the super powers of some of our most common insect friends as well as learn about a very rare beetle found only in Nebraska. Its super powers are hidden and mysterious!

Plan a trip or two to interact with our very unique and engaging Bug Squad this summer.

Lindy’s
LETTER

New Summer Camps Offered

Learn and play all summer long

Omaha Children’s Museum offers week-long summer camps for children ages 4-5 and 6-8 led by trained educators. New camps this year include a Pokemon-themed camp called Professor Oak’s Training Camp and more Mash-Up camps combining the most popular camps into one week of fun!

For the Kids Benefit 2020

Largest fundraiser for the museum is set for May 2

The 41st annual For the Kids Benefit, Run For The Roses, Win For The Kids, will be held on May 2 at the museum. Please join us for a fun-filled evening to help support Omaha Children’s Museum and the families of our community. Special thanks to our honorary chairs, Susan and Mike Lebens and Emily and Cameron Young. Tickets are available at ocm.org.

Diggin’ Dinos

Winter exhibit ends April 11

Imagine a world where dinosaurs and humans work together to build a dinosaur research facility! Diggin’ Dinos includes a combination of life-sized animatronic dinosaurs and construction equipment as well as a digging and building area. Engineering challenges and interactive presentations also take place in the exhibit daily. The exhibit ends April 11.
America To Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near And Far

Travel the world in a single museum visit

Families still have time to visit special exhibit America to Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near And Far! Enjoy innovative hands-on experiences in the exhibit that explores art, architecture and design elements from across the globe. The exhibit ends April 19.

Bug Squad

Discover bugs' superpowers this summer

This summer, children can discover their own superpowers while exploring the unique abilities and traits of bugs. This immersive exhibit shares the science behind each bug's superpowers through hands-on play. Bug Squad is open May 23 through Sept. 6.

Fairytale Land

Princesses return for a summer of music

Join Thistle the Dragon, the OCM princesses, and other magical friends for another unforgettable summer! Blow bubbles in the Bubble Fountain, and care for baby unicorns in the nursery stable. Plus, enjoy a sing-along, the Whistle While You Work Bubble Parade, and an all-new program featuring Thistle the Dragon. Whether by car, carriage, or floating bubble, be sure to stop by for a dazzling adventure! Fairytale Land is open May 23 through Sept. 6.

The Fun Continues At Home

Museum Store Picks

Stop by the OCM store to bring the museum experience home. Enrich your child's creativity with a new art kit or dress-up set. It's more than simple play! Take a look at our brand new selection of souvenirs.

Remember, members get 10% off in the museum store every day!

Hungry? Thirsty?

When hunger strikes, head to the Rainbow Café! We offer a wide variety of snack and lunch foods, including pretzels, pizza, and new chicken strips and mozzarella sticks! Refreshing beverages are also available, including fountain soda drinks and low and no-calorie options.

Membership Perks

Discounts for members

Families receive a whole lot more with their memberships than free admission. Did you know members receive 10% off gift shop purchases every day, even on costumes and science kits? Plus, members receive a discount on birthday parties!

And if you're traveling soon, your membership may get you free admission to one of the more than 250 science and technology centers across the country who belong to the Association of Science and Technology Centers (some exclusions apply). Visit www.astc.org/passport for a list of museums and individual restrictions.
America to Zanzibar Program (Ends April 19)
America to Zanzibar exhibit, first floor
Tuesday - Saturday: 10:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Sunday: 1:30 & 4:30 p.m.
Join us each day to learn about other cultures around the world by exploring arts, textiles and spices.

Bug Buddies (Begins May 23)
Bug Squad exhibit, second floor
Monday - Saturday: 10:15 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.
Sunday: 2:15 p.m.
Take a closer look at our bug menagerie as we investigate the world of bugs. Find out cool facts about our creepy crawlies, how they help us, and how we can help them. You may even get the chance to show your bravery by holding one of our critters! Don’t let them bug you!

Bug Squad: Mission Possible (Begins May 23)
Bug Squad exhibit, second floor
Monday - Friday: 9:30 & 11:30 a.m., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:30 & 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, & 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, & 4:30 p.m.
Join the Bug Squad’s Agent Scout on a time sensitive mission. As you become an honorary Bug Squad member, you will see the world through a bug’s eye view. Learn about the diverse makeup of our environment and what you can do to help protect it. Will you accept Agent Scout’s mission?

Dino-Might Movers (Ends April 11)
Diggin’ Dinos exhibit, second floor
Saturday: 10:15 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.
Sunday: 11:15 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
Join Tiny the T-Rex as we learn about biomechanics and the different roles at our construction site.

Fairytale Feelings (Begins May 23)
Fairytale Land exhibit, first floor
Monday - Saturday: 10:45 a.m., 1:45 & 3:45 p.m.
Sunday: 1:45 & 3:45 p.m.
Be a part of the enchantment as Thistle the Dragon and the princesses return this season with an all-new program. You can help them to work together to overcome obstacles, diving into mythical moods and discovering the courage to be kind.

Fossil Finders (Ends April 11)
Diggin’ Dinos exhibit, second floor
Tuesday - Friday: 11:45 a.m.
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. & 1:15 p.m.
Sunday: 2:30 & 4:45 p.m.
Explore the different aspects of building structures by making your own, from dinosaur skeletons to dinosaur bridges!

Kitchen ABCs (Ends May 22)
Curiosity Room, first floor
Tuesday - Friday: 9:15 & 10:15 a.m.
Become a junior chef as you practice basic kitchen techniques such as cutting and measuring, and then eat your creations. Check with staff to see what we are making if allergies are a concern. For the safety of our guests, space is limited and adults must accompany their children at all times. Pick up a free ticket at the front desk.
Leader Reader Sponsored by Bellevue University
Family Discovery Room, first floor
First Wednesday of the month
Join us the first Wednesday of every month at 11:45 a.m. for Leader Reader, a program that invites local leaders into the museum to read their favorite stories to the museum’s youngest guests. Plus, one lucky child in attendance will get to take the book home.
Leader Readers: March - Luke Isaacson, reading his book “Kevin the Kiwi”; April - Alysa Choquette, from Brain Balance Centers; May - TBD

Sing-and-Dance Along (Begins May 23)
Fairytale Land exhibit, first floor
Monday - Friday: 9:45 & 11:45 a.m., 2:45 p.m.
Saturday: 9:45 & 11:45 a.m., 2:45 & 4:45 p.m.
Sunday: 11:45 a.m., 2:45 & 4:45 p.m.
Twist, twirl, and sing your heart out with a princess! She will lead you around Fairytale Land to familiar songs while you learn basic rhythm and dance moves.

S.T.E.A.M. POWER (Ends May 22)
S.T.E.A.M. Cave, first floor
Tuesday - Friday: 2:15 p.m. (After April 11: 11:45 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.)
Saturday: 11 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. (After April 11: 9:15 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.)
Sunday: 12 & 4 p.m. (After April 11: 11:15 a.m. & 4:15 p.m.)
It’s full S.T.E.A.M. ahead! Each day we will experiment and play with various hands on activities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. S.T.E.A.M. activities range from exploring sound by creating musical instruments, to experimenting with circuit boards. There may even be a special NASA-themed S.T.E.A.M. Power!

Science Shows
Streck Science Showplace, first floor
Tuesday - Friday: 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Saturday: 11 a.m., 12, 3, & 4 p.m. (April 11 - May 22: 10 & 11 a.m., 12, 2, 3, & 4 p.m.)
Sunday: 12, 1, 2, & 4 p.m. (April 11 - May 22: 12, 1, 2, 3, & 4 p.m.)
See ocm.org for show times starting on May 23.
Children of all ages love our engaging daily shows in the Streck Science Showplace where we share science concepts in an entertaining way for the whole family.

Tinker Shows (Ends May 22)
Streck Science Showplace, first floor
Tuesday - Friday: 1:30 p.m. (After April 11: 1 p.m.)
Saturday: 1:30 (After April 11: 1 p.m.)
Play with some terrific toys, goofy games, and radical robots made in the Tinker Lab! After the show, head to the Tinker Lab to build a creation of your very own.

Whistle While You Work Bubble Parade (Begins May 23)
Fairytale Land exhibit, first floor
Monday - Friday: 4:30 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday: 5:30 p.m.
Can you help the princess? She needs to complete her royal responsibilities and could use a hand. Join her and other fairytale friends as they complete their bubbly, magical mission while dancing their way through the museum, making activity stops along the way!
Let’s Start The Dialogue: Creating Communities of Understanding and Respect – Panel Discussion
March 5 | 5:30 to 7 p.m. at American Muslim Institute
Join us on March 5 at the American Muslim Institute, 13140 Faith Plaza, as we host a panel discussion inspired by the traveling exhibit America to Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near and Far. Moderated by Beverly Kracher, professor at Creighton University and CEO and Executive Director of the Business Ethics Alliance, this panel discussion will feature Lizzy Martin and Hussein Rashid, who worked to create the America to Zanzibar exhibit. We will also feature Anne Karabon, assistant professor of Early Childhood and STEM Education at University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Nuzhat Mahmood, board member of the Tri-Faith Initiative and the American Muslim Institute. Admission is free, but please register at ocmonline.org.

Epilepsy Night
March 6 | 5 to 8 p.m.
Meet other families impacted by an epilepsy diagnosis while enjoying the museum’s exhibits. Epilepsy Night, sponsored by Midwest YouCan Foundation, is complimentary for families with a child diagnosed with epilepsy.

Spring Break Mondays
March 9 and 16 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Member Hour from 9 to 10 a.m.
School’s out so we’ll be open on two Mondays in March! Special exhibits and permanent exhibits will be open, and families can enjoy weekday programming.

Candy Land Weekend
March 13-15
Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Play your way around the museum on our life-size Candy Land board! You’ll find sweet attractions along the way like building Mr. Mint’s Candy-Mobiles and a Sweet Tooth Science Show. As an added treat, Candy Land characters will be stopping by to say hello, so be sure to bring your cameras!

America to Zanzibar Guest Artists
March 21 and April 11 | 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Join us throughout the run of America to Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near and Far as we feature local Muslim artists. Upcoming artists include Mohammad Shafiq Seddiqi, who will be at the museum on March 21 to display handmade Afghan rugs and discuss the tools and techniques needed to create them, and Aisha al Saleh, who will be here on April 11 to create delicious Syrian cuisine and share the recipes and spices that are used in the dishes.

Autism Night
March 22 | 5:30 to 8 p.m.
This evening event sponsored by Autism Action Partnership is for children with autism and their families. The museum has worked with the University of Nebraska Medical Center to create an appropriate and sensory-friendly environment. Sensory-friendly kits will be available for use. Admission is complimentary for families with children on the spectrum. Please register to attend at AutismAction.org. Note: The museum will close early to the public on March 22.

Multi-Cultural Family Festival Weekend
April 17-19
Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Come celebrate the many cultures represented in our local communities. Each day will feature different cultures and countries in collaboration with Omaha Sister Cities Association. Enjoy dance performances and hands on activities that will be fun for all families!

‘Lil Scientist Day
April 21 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Join us for a special day devoted to all you little scientists. Don a child-sized lab coat and safety glasses, and use the tools of a scientist to investigate our world. Erupt a volcano, explore parts of a tree, and observe different kinds of rocks and minerals. You can decorate your own science kit and notebook so you can continue your explorations at home! ‘Lil Scientist Day is held in conjunction with the Nebraska Science Festival.

Summer Kick Off
May 23 | 9 a.m.
We are starting the summer with bubbles, bugs and a fun run! Festivities begin at 9 a.m. with the Bug Squad Scramble, a short dash down 20th Street. Families are encouraged to run together, and each child finishing the fun run will receive a prize. Registration is free for the fun run! Go to ocmonline.org for details. There will be a ribbon cutting marking the grand opening of Bug Squad at 10 a.m., and the first 200 children to visit the new exhibit will receive a goodie bag.
Save the date!

**Fairytale Ball**
July 25 | 6 - 9 p.m.
Hear ye, hear ye! All are cordially invited to attend the Fairytale Ball. This annual event features magical encounters with princes and princesses, horse-drawn carriage rides, and enchanting activities. Mark thy calendar - you won't want to miss it! Members can purchase their tickets starting April 13, prior to the public on-sale on April 17.

The museum will be closed on the following dates:

- **April 12**
  - Easter
- **May 1**
  - Preparation for The Kids Benefit
- **May 25**
  - Memorial Day

**thank you to our DONORS**

- Emily and Trent Allen
- Autism Action Partnership
- Joyce and Steven Black
- Colleen and Brian Bock
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- Jennifer and Tony Buda
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If we missed your name, please contact us at 402-342-6164 Ext. 430 so that we can include you in our next issue.
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**Free!**

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**Bug Squad**
Coming soon!
OPENS MAY 23

These insects don't just have super abilities... they are real superheroes!

Presented by:
Mutual of Omaha