

Perot Museum of Nature and Science Transforming Beloved Moody Family Children’s Museum

Early Education Advancements Inspire and Engage Young Minds in STEM

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DALLAS (November 20, 2024) - The Perot Museum of Nature and Science announced today a major transformation of the Moody Family Children’s Museum, enhancing one of its most treasured spaces for families and children. Incorporating the latest in early-educational research, the reimagined Children’s Museum will feature interactive exhibitions and experiences to foster creativity, curiosity, and critical thinking in children while empowering young minds to reimagine the future.

“The redesign continues the Perot Museum’s founding vision to deliver cutting-edge science education to children and families in our community,” said Dr. Linda Silver, Eugene McDermott Chief Executive Officer of the Perot Museum. “For more than a decade, we have been inspired by the children and families who have grown with us. The renovation to the Moody Family Children’s Museum ensures our visitors will never outgrow the Perot.”

The expansion will nearly double the size of the Children’s Museum, growing from 6,259 square feet to nearly 11,000 square feet, to foster an even greater impact on developing young learners. Key advancements include:

- **Expanded Toddler Area:** An enlarged, specially-designed space where younger children can engage in age-appropriate activities while exploring freely and safely.
- **Creative Makery:** An innovation hub for aspiring problem-solvers to unleash their creativity and foster skills in design and engineering.
- **Immersive Imaginarium:** A fully interactive, multi-sensory experience that encourages exploration, immersing children in a world of discovery. This is central to the “Nurture Imagination” theme throughout the redesign.
- **Larger Outdoor Area:** An enhanced outdoor space featuring a programmable waterfall and natural play elements, encouraging exploration.
- **Toshiko MacAdam Designed Climbing Structure:** A vibrant installation by renowned artist Toshiko MacAdam, blending art with physical play through a one-of-a-kind and iconic playscape.

The expansion bolsters the Museum’s position as the preeminent children’s museum of the region, extending programming to serve children up to age 7, offering an enriching experience from toddlers to early elementary students. The world-class concept incorporates state-of-the-art technology and international design principles to enhance STEM learning, connecting children to the wonders of science and discovery through learn-by-play.

“We believe in the power of exploration and discovery, especially in the formative years,” said Drex Owusu, Chief Learning Officer of the Perot Museum. “This expansion increases the way we give kids agency to learn, explore, and grow. The reimagined Moody Family Children’s Museum will ignite the imagination of every child through the awe and wonder of nature and science.”

Following an international search, the Perot Museum partnered with the world-renowned NorthernLight and Bruns as the design-build contractors for the project, specializing in interactive early-education exhibits for museums and public spaces. This will be the first US-based project for NorthernLight.

“The Perot Museum’s collaboration with NorthernLight and Bruns reflects our dedication to creating a transformative experience that inspires curiosity and discovery,” said Mike

Spiewak, Vice President of Exhibitions and Operations of the Perot Museum. “The new space will engage children and parents by encouraging exploration and sparking fascination for the world around them.”

Building on this commitment to innovative learning, Children’s Health, the leading pediatric health care system in North Texas, has partnered with the Perot Museum to present the Imaginarium exhibit within the redesign, aligning with the vision to integrate expert insights into how children learn through play.

“Children’s Health is proud to partner with the Perot Museum as we aim to inspire and educate young minds by fostering imagination, curiosity and a love of exploration – all foundational to nurturing the next generation of health care leaders and medical professionals,” said Fernand Fernandez, EVP and Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Children’s Health. “This collaboration reflects a unified vision to create a space where education and creativity converge through meaningful, hands-on experiences, exemplifying our mission to make life better for children and supporting the growth and development of the youngest members of our community.”

The current Children’s Museum will close in early January 2025 during renovations. Popular activities from the existing Children’s Museum will remain available starting in mid-January 2025, ensuring enriching experiences continue during this exciting transformation.

During the closure, visitors will continue to enjoy a range of engaging exhibits at the Perot Museum, including the new interactive exhibit, *Glow Lab*. Opening on November 22, *Glow Lab* invites visitors to explore, create, and build in a vibrant, illuminated space filled with modular inflatable units that encourage playful experimentation and collaboration.

Families, educators, and community members are invited to join the Perot Museum in celebrating this evolution of the Children’s Museum, set to reopen in May 2025.

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About the Perot Museum of Nature and Science

Located in the heart of Dallas, Texas, the Perot Museum of Nature and Science is a nonprofit educational and research organization dedicated to inspiring minds through nature and science. Visitors will find everything from dinosaurs to diamonds and space to sports, packed into five levels of hands-on discovery and adventure. Through its state-of-the-art exhibits, educational programming, and community outreach, the Museum offers exciting and innovative experiences for learners of all ages. For more information, visit perotmuseum.org.

Media Contacts

Dandy Killeen, Tony Fay PR | 817.307.4645 | dandy@tonyfaypr.com
Kate Okiomah, Tony Fay PR | 602.550.2969 | kate@tonyfaypr.com



Tony Fay PR | 2626 Cole Ave, Ste 300 | Dallas, TX 75074 US

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