



Wonder Works

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008 NEWS

A Children's Museum in Oak Park

6445 West North Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302

tel: 708.383.4815 fax: 708.383.5730 www.wonder-works.org

Wonder Works is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

WONDER WORKS SESSION 2 CLASSES

November 17 to January 31

Fifty percent of your child's learning takes place in the first four years of his or her life; most occurs within the first eighteen months. All later classroom learning is dependent on the concepts a child learns through play before even starting school. Studies on infant development have demonstrated that exercise and sensory stimulation will improve your child's learning potential, as well as enhance his or her feelings of physical coordination and self-worth.

The Wonder Works Classes program is designed to give your child opportunities to fully exercise each unfolding capacity in a safe, challenging, supportive play environment. As an added bonus, the program allows children and parents to spend focused, quality time together without distractions.

Session 2 classes include creative play for babies and toddlers, music, arts and crafts and our Super Saturday class with a little something for everyone.

Session 2 classes run from November 17 through January 31, 2009, with no classes November 24 through 29 and December 22 through January 3.

To see a complete schedule of classes or to sign up, visit www.wonder-works.org.

DINO WORKS RETURNS!

Saturday, November 8

11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Learn more about the land before time. Dig for fossils, build your own dinosaur and much more. Reptile expert Jim Nesci will drop by at 3:00 pm with a live alligator and other dinosaur relatives.

JOIN WONDER WORKS FOR MUSICAL FUN AT THE SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

The Sunday Concert Series is a chance for children and families to experience a delightful lineup of performers. The series is made possible thanks to a grant from Mattel, Inc. on behalf of Eugene P. Beard and the Nancy Jones Beard Foundation and the Oak Park Area Arts Council.

Jim Gill

November 16

Tickets available now

Always a crowd pleaser, Jim Gill kicks off the concert series this year.

Gill is a child development specialist who has been entertaining and inspiring children for over 20 years. Tickets are \$6 for members, \$9 for non-members and free for children under age one.



Sandy Lucas

December 14

Tickets go on sale November 21

Sandy Lucas returns to Wonder Works for our December show. Lucas, who has been performing at family events around Chicagoland for more than 10 years and has been a part of the Wiggleworms program since 1991, will perform lively, interactive children's music. Tickets are \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members and free for children under age one.

Concerts begin at 4:00 pm with special hours on concert days: the museum closes at 3:30 pm for non-ticket holders but remains open to concert goers. Check our web site, www.wonder-works.org, for announcements about additional concerts in 2009.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AT WONDER WORKS

Wednesday, December 31

12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Ring in the New Year with games and activities for the whole family. Count down each hour with other countries around the world. Event is free with regular museum admission.

NEVIN HEDLUND HONORED AT WONDER WORKS GALA FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, October 25, more than 150 people gathered at Wonder Works to celebrate the museum's fifth birthday. Wonder Works thanks the gala attendees for their support and for helping make the event a success.

This year, we honored architect Nevin Hedlund with the Kids First Award. Nevin led the Wonder Works board for five years and was the principal mover behind the museum's opening in May 2003. In addition to his leadership, Nevin specified a number of environmentally friendly features for the museum, including low-flush toilets, spray foam insulation and low-VOC paint. Thanks to Nevin for his continuous support of Wonder Works and commitment to children.

Wonder Works would also like to recognize the following businesses for generously providing food and beverages for the event: *Winberie's Restaurant & Bar, Bar Louie, Marion Street Cheese Market, Trattoria 225, Starbucks Coffee, Pompei Bakery, Reuters Bakery and Domino's Bakery.*

Many more individuals and businesses supported the gala through sponsorships and by providing items for the live and silent auctions. We thank each of you for your generous donations and continued support.



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WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Wonder Works welcomes Kim Bryant and Dawn Glossa to the Board of Directors. The board works tirelessly to advance the museum's mission of helping children learn through creative play, and we are happy to have the support of Kim and Dawn.

WONDER WORKS SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

The museum will have special hours on select days from November through January. We will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Date	Time
November 27	closed
November 28	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 22 & 23	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 24	open 10 am to 3 pm
December 25	closed
December 26 & 27	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 28	open 12 pm to 5 pm
December 29 & 30	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 31	open 12 pm to 5 pm
January 1	closed
January 2 & 3	open 10 am to 5 pm
January 4	open 12 pm to 5 pm
January 19	open 12 pm to 5 pm

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following organizations for funding Wonder Works:

Wonder Works received a grant from the Illinois Arts Council for Black History Month in February of 2008. This grant funded a weekly story hour and craft, as well as performances from Atiba Jali, I'm Your Puppet Productions and Ella Jenkins.

The Oak Park Area Arts Council (OPAAC) has awarded Wonder Works a general operating grant for 2008. We are proud to say that this is the fifth year that we have received a grant from OPAAC.

Wonder Works has established a \$20,000 endowment fund with the help of a matching grant from the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation. Twenty-two individual donors donated the \$10,000 that Wonder Works raised for this fund. We will continue to grow the endowment over time to ensure that future generations of children will have access to the museum.



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Coupon expires 12-15-2008.
Limit one coupon per customer per visit.

\$20 OFF YOUR NEXT WONDER WORKS PARTY

Bring this coupon to Wonder Works and receive \$20 off any party booked by November 15 for parties scheduled for December 1, 2008 through February 1, 2009.