



2010 April
 May
 June



NEW EXHIBIT: SMART ART

Exhibit Opening

(members & volunteers only)

Thursday, May 20 from 5:30-7pm

Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine members and volunteers are invited to celebrate the opening of our newest exhibit, *Smart Art*. A traveling EEC exhibit, *Smart Art* explores the connections between art and science. Enjoy light refreshments, music and the company of other members, volunteers, and staff. We'll even make a piece of smart art to take home! If you'd like to be among the first to enjoy *Smart Art*, RSVP to kathryn@kitetails.org.

Where Science Meets Art: Cloud Collages

Saturdays May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 12:30pm

Cumulus and stratus and cirrus, oh my! Join us to learn about cloud types and make your own cloud collage.

Where Science Meets Art: Art Forms in Nature

Saturdays, June 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 12:30pm

In honor of our new exhibit, *Smart Art*, let's celebrate the beautiful shapes and patterns found in nature by learning about Ernst Haeckel, a famous biologist and artist!

Perfect Perspective Drawings

Thursday, June 17 & Tuesday, June 29 at 2pm

See a 360 degree view of Portland from our *Camera Obscura*. Then we'll discover where science and art meet by tracing a scene to create a perfect perspective drawing.

Camera Obscura Special

Tuesday, June 29 at 11am

Celebrate Camera Day and our *Smart Art* exhibit! Join us for a guided tour of our *Camera Obscura* and learn about photography and the human eye. Feel free to bring your camera!

Notice our new look?

You may have noticed that Kitetails got a makeover! Our more colorful look is courtesy of Maddy Corson, a longtime friend of the Museum & Theatre. We're excited to present the latest news in dazzling full color – thanks, Maddy!

Science, Art and Dancing Robots:

Smart Art will transform the Big Gallery with sculpture, sound and movement.

Since June 2006, the Museum & Theatre's Big Gallery has been home to a diverse series of science exhibits. From super-sized ticks to dino-sized tracks, we've thoroughly explored the scaly, slimy, sticky side of science. With the arrival of *Smart Art*, the fifth exhibit produced by the Environmental Exhibits Collaborative, visitors will be able to acquaint themselves with something new: science's artistic side.

The exhibit, opening to the public on May 21st, features five interactive "pods" in which science and art intersect to create unique results that are visible to a child's eye. Each experiment can be conducted by a child to bring about a tangible outcome: playing an instrument made of found objects creates vibrations that make a nearby robot dance, and altering the frequency at which a metal plate vibrates changes the shape of the grains of sand sprinkled across the plate.

Colorful and dynamic, *Smart Art* is the perfect place to explore the limitless possibilities that arise when science and art collide.

Meet the Artist: Randy Regier

The four museums collaborating on Smart Art each selected a local artist to create an exhibit component. Portland's own Randy Regier collaborated with the Museum & Theatre to create the "Sound to Motion" components, *Automata Dancers* and *Wake up! 1, 2, 3*.

Q: At what age did you first get interested in art?

A: I've been interested in making things since I can remember. I made a lot of my own toys as a child – we lived on a farm in Oregon, and there were no toy stores. I didn't think of what I was doing as "art," though. That didn't happen until I was in college, and by then I was 35 years old.

Q: How do you describe the art you make now?

A: I imagine stories that I wished had happened in the past and the objects that are part of those stories, and then I make them come "true" by building the objects. Often in my work the objects are toys.

Q: What was your favorite toy growing up?

A: A candy-apple red Rolls Royce Matchbox car with a white interior and opening doors and trunk. I always kept it in the little blue and yellow box it came in.

Q: What is your favorite part of being an artist?

A: Being an artist makes me feel like a complete person and like I am being honest with myself.



For more information on programs and events, please visit www.kitetails.org

Together We Made Dreams Come True - Thank You!

Our Annual Auction was held on Friday, March 26th at the Holiday Inn by the Bay. To all of our amazing volunteers, donors, and our wonderful guests: thank you for helping make the 2010 Auction a HUGE success! **We would like to extend a special thanks to our Auction lead sponsors: Spectrum Medical Group and White Rock Distilleries.**

Support the Museum & Theatre

Communities thrive when the people within them are committed to ensuring their success. Our children could not succeed without the resources and support from many businesses, individuals and foundations. **Thank you for your continued support.** When you give a gift, you are supplying resources for exhibit enhancements and for exceptional educational programming.

If you would like to make a donation, visit our website at

www.kitetails.org/support/make-a-donation. You may also make gift by calling Alicia in the Development Department at 828-1234 x242.

Summer 2010 Camps!

This summer we are offering 11 unique camps for curious and creative children ages 4-10. Explore science, theatre, music, art - or all of the above!

Visit www.kitetails.org/camps for more information and to register.

Ready, Set, Play: Rock & Romp!

June 28 – July 2, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Magical Myths: Fairies, Gnomes & Creatures

July 12-16, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Under the Deep Blue Sea

July 19-23, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Around the World

July 26-30, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Slimy, Squishy, Slick and Slippery

August 2-6, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Creative Kids

August 9-13, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Amazing Animal Journeys

August 23-27, 9am-12pm (ages 4-5)

Science Safari

June 21-25, 9am-12pm (ages 6-8)

Puppets and More!

June 28 - July 2, 1-4pm (ages 6-8)

That's Comedy!

August 16-20, 9am-12pm (ages 6-8)

The Play's the Thing!

July 12-16, 19-23, 26-30, 1pm-4pm (ages 8-10)

Early Bird Discount through May 1st!
Buy one camp, get a second at half price!
Second camp of equal or lesser value.
Applies to one camper or siblings.

April School Vacation Week

Saturday, April 17

10am Pets & More

11:30am Cool Science: Spread Your Wings

12:30pm Where Science Meets Art: Galaxy Painting

1pm *Kids on the Block* puppet show

3pm Cool Science: Spread Your Wings

3:30pm Shadow Fun

Sunday, April 18

12:30pm Winged Things

2pm Papermaking Workshop (R\$)

Monday, April 19

10:30am-12pm Act it out: *Who's In Rabbit's House?* (R)

11am Rabbit Ears!

1pm *Kids on the Block* puppet show

2pm Ready, Set, Play: Bunny, Bunny, Rabbit!

Tuesday, April 20

10:30am Shadow Fun

11am Story by Heart: The Little Rabbit

1pm We Are Maine: India

3:30pm Art Through the Ages: Paul Cezanne

Wednesday, April 21

10:30am Little Kids' Morning Out: Earth Ball!

11:30am Cultural Creations: Greek Feast

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM & THEATRE OF MAINE

142 Free Street, Portland
207-828-1234 www.kitetails.org

Fall/Winter Hours:

Labor Day through Memorial Day
Monday: Closed to the general public
9-11 am MEMBERS ONLY

Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm,

Sun: Noon-5pm

Open 1st Friday of each month 5-8pm

Summer Hours:

Memorial Day through Labor Day

Mon-Sat: 10am-5pm, Sun: Noon-5pm

Open 1st Friday of each month 5-8pm

1pm *Kids on the Block* puppet show

2pm Cultural Creations: Greek Feast

3:30pm Cup Towers

Thursday, April 22

10:30am Little Kids' Morning Out: Earth Ball!

11:30am Songs of Spring: More Than Just a Mud Puddle

2-4pm Earth Day Celebration

3pm Sowing Seeds: Seed Tapes

4pm *The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings* (\$)

Friday, April 23

10:30am Shadow Fun

11am Dog Bite Prevention Workshop with Lona Ham of the Animal Welfare Society

11:30am Cultural Creations: Greek Feast

3:30pm Birthday on a Budget

4pm *The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings* (\$)

Saturday, April 24

11am Sparks' Ark Special Show (\$2/member, \$11/non-member includes \$8 admission)

12:30pm Where Science Meets Art: Galaxy Painting

1 & 4pm *The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings* (\$)

2pm All About Rabbits

12:30pm Sowing Seeds: Sprouts & Sun

1 & 4pm *The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings* (\$)

2pm Celebrate Australia: Anzac Day!

American Girls Club

Meet Samantha (R)

Sunday, May 2 at 3pm & Tuesday, May 4 at 4pm

Join us this month as we explore the world of Samantha and her Victorian lifestyle. Bring your favorite doll, hear one of Samantha's stories, and create a special craft. New club members encouraged! To register call 828-1234 x227 or email louisa@kitetails.org.

Animal Programs

Animal Friends with David Sparks
May 21 at 11am

Sparks' Ark Special Shows

April 24 & June 24 at 11am (\$2/members, \$11/non-members includes \$8 admission)

Pets & More

April 17, May 15 & June 19 at 10am

Animal Fun

April 15, May 20 & June 17 at 11:30am

National Autism Awareness Art Show

Opens Thursday, April 1

In honor of National Autism Awareness Month we're opening a new art show in the front stairwell. This collection of work highlights art created by Maine children on the autism spectrum. The art show runs throughout April.

\$1 Friday

Fridays, April 2, May 7 & June 4 from 5-8pm

We strive to share the Museum & Theatre experience with families who cannot afford our regular admission or who cannot visit during our regular business hours. To serve our community, we are open the first Friday of every month from 5-8pm for only \$1 per person. As always, members and children under age one are admitted free.

Kids on the Block Puppet Show

Saturday, April 3 at 2pm
Saturdays, April 17, May 8 & 22, June 5 & 19 at 1pm
Monday, April 19 at 1pm
Wednesday, April 21 at 1pm

Don't miss our life-size puppets with real stories, just like real kids! This spring we will be introducing Mandy Puccini, Ellen Jane Peterson, and Joanne Spinoza! Presented through a generous donation from Unum, the Sam L. Cohen Foundation and the Hartford Foundation. FMI call 828-1234 x247 or email reba@kitetails.org.

Custard the Dragon Puppet Show (\$)

Saturday, April 3 at 1pm

Back by popular demand! Watch a realio, trulio little pet dragon defend the girl he loves against a pirate! This puppet show is designed for our very young audiences. \$5/members, \$13/non-members (includes \$8 admission). For tickets call 828-1234 x231, visit www.kitetails.org, email box-office@kitetails.org, or stop by our front desk!

Maine African Film Festival

Saturday, April 10 & Sunday, April 11 at 1pm & 2pm

We're honored to once again be a host site for the 2nd annual Maine African Film Festival. Join us to screen a selection of children's films.



Little Hands, Big Art:

Papermaking Workshop (R\$)

Sundays, April 18 & May 23 from 2-3pm

Join us for this special hands-on workshop as we turn old newspapers, wrapping paper, and even leaves and flowers into paper! \$5/members, \$14/non-members (includes \$8 admission). Pre-registration required. To register call 828-1234 x241 or email jamie@kitetails.org.

Earth Day Celebration

Thursday, April 22 from 2-4pm

Let's go green together! We will have an animal puppet parade and an earthy dance party, play recycling basketball, plant seeds and decorate pots, enjoy healthy treats, and more!

Dog Bite Prevention Workshop with Lona Ham of the Animal Welfare Society

Friday, April 23 at 11am

Lona will teach the appropriate way to behave around dogs. Studies show that most childhood dog bites are from a dog the child knows - her own pet, a neighbor's or a friend's. It's never too early to learn dog bite prevention!

May Day Party

Saturday, May 1 at 3pm

Dance around the maypole and make a May basket to deliver to a friend as we celebrate the first day of May!

Cheese Making Workshop (R\$)

Saturday, June 5 from 2-3pm

Making cheese at home is easier than you ever might have imagined! Get started with this hands-on workshop as we make and taste some simple cheeses and add herbs to spice them up. \$8/members,



\$18/non-members (includes \$8 admission). Pre-registration deadline is Thursday, June 3rd. To register call 828-1234 x229 or email hannah@kitetails.org.

Private Playtime for Children with Autism

Sunday, June 13 from 10am-12pm
 The Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine invites all families of children with autism to a private playtime. We will be open FREE to families who have children with autism from 10am until noon. Siblings are welcome. FMI call 828-1234 x241 or email jamie@kitetails.org.



Calling All Scouts!

Did you know that Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine hosts evening

workshops and sleepovers

for Scouts? Boy and Girl Scouts of all ages and ranks can earn badges while exploring the Museum after hours with their troop or pack. For more information check out our website at <http://www.kitetails.org/educators-and-groups/onsite-programs>, email louisa@kitetails.org or call 828-1234 x227.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMMING

Members' Monday

Mondays (Sept-May) 9-11am

April 5 Egg-cellent Eggs

April 12 Rain Paintings

April 19 Open to the Public

April 26 Cottontail Bunny Finger Puppets

May 3 Whale Time!

May 10 Animated Animals

May 17 Silly Sunglasses

May 24 Blowing Bubbles!

Little Kids' Morning Out (ages 1-5)

Wednesdays & Thursdays (Sept-May) 10:30am

April 1 Movin' and Groovin' with Irene Jeffers

April 7 & 8 Squeeze Painting

April 14 & 15 Color Factory

April 21 & 22 Earth Ball!

April 28 & 29 Hop like a Rabbit

May 5 Children's Day!

May 6 Movin' and Groovin' with Irene Jeffers

May 12 & 13 Creative Counting

May 19 & 20 What about Fish?

May 26 & 27 Animal Yoga

June 2 Puppet Story Time

June 3 Movin' and Groovin' with Irene Jeffers

June 9 & 10 Billions of Bubbles

June 16 & 17 Sunny Story time

June 23 & 24 Swedish Midsommar

June 30 Superhero Party!





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Theatre Programs and Performances Theatre Programs and Performances Theatre Programs and Performances

Act it out: *Who's In Rabbit's House?* (R)

Monday, April 19 from 10:30am-12pm

We will rehearse and present this classic Masai tale, *Who's In Rabbit's House?* The animals of Kenya help Rabbit discover who is hiding in her burrow. Learn how to act like an animal and solve this African animal mystery! Pre-registration required and space is limited. To register call 828-1234 x247 or email reba@kitetails.org.

The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings (\$) (R)

Thursdays, April 22 & 29 at 4pm

Fridays, April 23 & 30 at 4pm

Saturdays, April 24 & May 1 at 1pm & 4pm

Sundays, April 25 & May 2 at 1pm & 4pm

Based on a Southern folktale, this play tells the story of Little Rabbit, who wishes he were more like the other creatures of the forest. When a fairy grants his wish for wings like a bird, he learns that even winged bunnies do not fly! Will Little Rabbit discover that he likes being a regular bunny after all?

\$8/non-members, \$7/members. See the play and stay to play for \$14. Special Sneak Preview Thursday performances are \$4! If you'd like to purchase more than 5 tickets, ask about our Flex Passes! Reservations recommended. For tickets call 828-1234 x231, visit www.kitetails.org, email boxoffice@kitetails.org or stop by our front desk.

Pinocchio Auditions

Saturday, June 5 from 10am-12pm

Join our summer production of *Pinocchio* based on the story by Carlo Collodi!

Pinocchio is a living puppet who must prove himself worthy of being a real boy! We're looking for young actors ages 10-16 to play the major parts in *Pinocchio* and help out with some of our summer camps! If you'd like to be part of this production, prepare a short monologue for the audition. FMI call 828-1234 x247 or email reba@kitetails.org.

Teensy Weensy Production Class: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar!* (R\$)

Tuesdays, June 8, 15, 22, 29 from 10:30-11:30am

Let's work together to turn into butterflies by acting out *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. This class is designed for ages 3-5. \$60/members, \$75/non-members. Participants must register for the entire month. To register call 828-1234

x247, email reba@kitetails.org or visit www.kitetails.org.

Dancing with Books

This innovative literacy program, unique to the Museum & Theatre, combines reading with music and movement. Professional dancers, musicians and storytellers will lead children in singing and dancing their way through a story. No registration required, come to one session or all of them! Funding for this program was provided by the Phineas W. Sprague Memorial Foundation and the Davis Family Foundation.

We'll be reading, dancing and singing at **11am** on the below dates:

April 8 & 9 *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle

April 14 & 15 *A Tree is Nice* by Janice May Udry

April 29 & 30 *Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa* by Jeanette Winter

The Classroom Beyond (R\$)

Join the Museum & Theatre for the next series of hands-on workshops designed for students that learn at home. Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members (does not include admission). All workshops are from 1-3pm. Pre-registration is required; registration deadline is 2 days before the program date. To register call 828-1234 x241, email jamie@kitetails.org or visit www.kitetails.org.

Oh, How We Love Oceans! Friday, April 9 • **The Art of Math:** Thursday, April 29

Cabbage Chemistry: Friday, May 14 • **Egg-stravaganza:** Friday, May 28