Fall 2022



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New at the gift shop

Bubble magician to bring magic and science to Discovery Center

Enjoy a sudsy day of fusing art and science with a touch of joyful magic! Bubble celebrity Ben Jimenez will amaze people of all ages with his amazing interactive exploration of what can be done with the

Bubble

humble soap bubble! During his shows, Ben demonstrates bubble stunts, shares cool bubble science facts and gets the audience involved in creating amazing feats

with the soapy spheres!

After his show, pop over to the Bubble-Palooza
Playground to practice your own bubbly tricks
as you test your soapy skills with bubble

art and science activities. Shows are approximately 30 minutes. Morning shows (10:00 and 11:00 am) are geared toward all ages, with more science content in the 1:00 and 2:00 pm afternoon shows.

\$3 Members; \$5 Public (Museum admission extra); free to children ages 1 and younger.

Purchase tickets online at
DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org or call
815-963-6769.





Exhibit news

As you explore Discovery Center, you will see lots of changes with more to come! Coming up this fall and winter:

- New fun matching activity in Discovery Park
- New nutrition and genetics exhibits in the Body Shop
- New exhibit on our first floor that features a fun way to learn about the viscosity of liquids

... and coming in early 2023:

• New, permanent Makerspace in the museum!

New art exploration for young children

Encourage your young child's interest in art with special projects in the Art Studio each month. Our new "Mini Monets" drop in program will explore a different art medium each month - watercolors, tempera paint, clay, and more. The program is for children ages 2-6, along with their grownups, and will occur from 10-11:30 am on the following dates: Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 7. No registration needed, and cost is included with museum admission.



discoverycentermuseum.org

We have birthday parties down to a science!

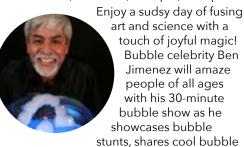
Our fun-filled hassle-free parties are \$350 (\$100 deposit) for up to 20 people. This includes admission into the museum as well as use of our private Discovery Room. We're currently offering parties on Saturdays and Sundays from 10-Noon or 1-3:00 pm. Members receive a 10% discount. Please check our website for more details.

Fall Events

All events included with museum admission unless otherwise noted: \$10 Public and free to Members and children age 1 and younger.

Saturday, September 10 **Bubble Festival**

10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm



science facts and gets the audience involved. After his show, pop over to the Bubble-Palooza Playground to practice your own bubbly tricks as you test your soapy skills with bubble art and science activities. Morning shows are geared more toward preschoolers, with more science content in the afternoon shows.

\$3 Members; \$5 Public (Museum admission extra)

Sunday, September 11 Grandparents' Day 9:30 am-4:30 pm

Celebrate and honor grandma and grandpa on their special day. Roll up your sleeves and get to work creating a keepsake in our Art Studio your grandparents will adore!

FREE Grandparent with each paid grandchild; Members and children ages 1 and younger are free.

Sunday, September 25

Astronomy Day

12:00-4:00 pm

Science is looking up as Discovery Center celebrates National Astronomy Day. Enjoy a free planetarium show, design a Mars rover, create Moon art,

learn about telescopes with the Rockford Amateur Astronomers Club, and enjoy space-related demonstrations as well as a short presentation by local NASA ambassador "Space Case Sarah" as she discusses NASA's plans to send humans to the Moon and Mars.

Sponsored by Aetna.

Saturday, October 8

Junior Scientists 10:00-2:00 pm

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math take center stage on this day devoted to connecting the next generation of potential and aspiring scientists to

the science and stories of local STEM professionals. Solve STEM challenges, enjoy science demonstrations, and catch a planetarium show at this event dedicated to inspiring young people to consider where their curiosities might take them!

Sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific.

Friday, October 28

Spooky Science 6:00-9:00 pm (5-6 pm Fun for Everyone)

Come in dressed in your Halloween best for this not-so-scary day of spooktacular hijinks at Discovery Center! Explore the museum and follow the map to find goodies galore from one exhibit to the next! Concoct gooey, glowing, globs of slime, create themed make-and-take projects, and engage in science activities

> that look like mystifying magic! It will be skeletons of fun! Don't forget, all you daddies and mummies, you can come dressed up too! Sponsored by Aetna and Sjostrom & Sons.

\$11 Public; \$3 Members; free to children ages 1 and younger.

Sunday, November 6

Smashing Pumpkins

11:00 am-2:00 pm Bring your jack-o-lantern for pumpkin-smashing hijinks at Discovery Center.

Explore ways to launch, crack, split and smash your pumpkin using the power of simple machine science like levers and pulleys. Used jack-o-lanterns will become parking lot projectiles when catapulted from our giant trebuchet. When the launching ends, pumpkin pieces will be collected and fed to local livestock. For extra fun, build your own mini catapult, play pumpkin games and craft fall creations.

Sponsored by Sjostrom & Sons.

December 17-23 & 26-31

Winter Wonderland

10:00 am-3:00 pm Enjoy winter adventures without the cold! Test your skating skills at our new indoor Sock Skating Rink! No ice, no shoes, just slipsliding fun with friends on this high-tech synthetic polymer surface. After a few spins around the rink, enjoy creating holiday crafts based on



Friday, December 31

Countdown to Fun

12:00-4:00 pm

Can't stay up 'til midnight? We've got you covered! It's midnight somewhere, and **Discovery Center** has all the fun and excitement of midnight with countdowns and Times Square -style ball and confetti drops every

hour! Fabricate a party hat, create a noisemaker, and more.

Don't miss this family tradition as you ring in the New Year!







Tot Spot Classes

Cost: \$12 public/ \$10 members (per child, per class). Financial assistance is available (50% rate with EBT, WIC or SNAP and ID).

In our classes for 2-year-olds, children must be accompanied by an adult. At this time, we are limiting the number of people in the room for Tot Spot classes (ages 3 - 6) so parents are requested to wait outside and not accompany their child into the Tot Spot classroom.

Registration: Preregistration required; payment must accompany registration. Register online at www.discoverycentermuseum.org/education/classes or call (815) 963-6769.



Buggin' Out

Buzz on in to explore different types of insects! Go on a bug hunt, sing some bug songs, learn how bugs eat, and create your own insect to fly home with you.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Sept. 6; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Sept. 7; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Sept. 7; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Sept. 7; I 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Sept. 8; I 1:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Sept. 9; I 1:00 a.m. - Noon Session 7 Sat., Sept 10; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Sept. 6; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Sept. 8; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Sept 9; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Be a Maker

Join us for a day of imagination and creation as we discover what it takes to make! Create messy art as a group, practice using real tools, read a story about making, and construct something that can roll. What will you make?

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Sept. 20; I I:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Sept. 21; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Sept. 21; I I:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Sept. 21; I I:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Sept. 22; I I:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Sept. 23; I I:00 a.m. – Noon Session 7 Sat., Sept 24; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Sept. 20; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Sept. 22; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Sept 23; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Math, Math Everywhere

Math is all around us! Discover the ways we use math as we practice counting, measure as we scoop and pour, create patterns, and build pizzas to sell in our pretend play pizza shop.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Oct. 4; I I:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Oct. 5; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Oct. 5; I I:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Oct. 5; I:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Oct. 6; I I:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Oct. 7; I I:00 a.m.- Noon Session 7 Sat., Oct. 8; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Oct. 4; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Oct. 6; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Oct. 7; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Not So Spooky Chemistry

Join us for skele-tons of messy fun as we explore Halloween chemistry! Mix up glowing slime, make a pumpkin erupt, and construct your own monster to take home.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Oct. 18; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Oct. 19; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Oct. 19; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Oct. 19; I 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Oct. 20; I 1:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Oct. 21; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 7 Sat., Oct. 22; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Oct. 18; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Oct. 20; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Oct. 21; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Ready, Set, Go

Rev those engines and zoom in to explore all things that go! Learn about different types of transportation as we explore cars and ramps, construct something that can fly, and race boats across water.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Nov. 1; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Nov. 2; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Nov. 2; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Nov. 2; 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Nov. 3; 11:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Nov. 4; 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 7 Tues., Nov. 1; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 8 Thurs., Nov. 3; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Fri., Nov. 4; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Build It

How high can you stack a cup tower? How strong can you build a bridge? Explore engineering and learn about the building process as we use lots of different materials to construct and create towers, castles, and more.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Nov. 15; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Nov. 16; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Session 3 Wed., Nov. 16; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Nov. 16; 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Nov. 17; 11:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Nov. 18; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 7 Sat., Nov. 19; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NO siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Nov. 15; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Nov. 17; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Nov. 18; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Under the Sea

Dive in and splash around as we discover what lives under the sea! Catch fish hiding in the water, learn about the ocean, see how you measure up to a shark, and create your own sea creatures to take home.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Nov. 29; Í 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Nov. 30; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Nov. 30; I 1:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Nov. 30; I:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Dec. I; I 1:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Dec. 2; I 9:00 a.m. - Noon Session 7 Sat., Dec. 3; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Nov. 29; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Dec. 1; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Dec. 2; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Pajama Party

It's party time! Come in your jammies to hear cozy stories, explore light and dark with flashlights, and design your own paper pajamas to take home.

Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:

Session I Tues., Dec. 13; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 2 Wed., Dec. 14; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 3 Wed., Dec. 14; 11:00 a.m. – Noon Session 4 Wed., Dec. 14; 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. Session 5 Thurs., Dec. 15; 11:00 - Noon Session 6 Fri., Dec. 16; 11:00 a.m. - Noon Session 7 Sat., Dec. 17; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

(With an adult, NÓ siblings, please.) Session 8 Tues., Dec. 13; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9 Thurs., Dec. 15; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Session 10 Fri., Dec. 16; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Toddler Time

Being one is FUN! Take advantage of this playgroup designed for children ages 12 months to 24 months as we sing songs, read stories and explore interesting materials while meeting new friends! Toddler Time

is held from 9:30 – 10:30 am this fall/
winter on one Tuesday and Thursday
each month. Choose from these
dates: Sept. 13, Sept. 15, Oct. 11, Oct.
13, Nov. 8, Nov. 10, Dec. 6, and Dec. 8.
Enrollment is limited to 6 families.
The class costs \$6.00 per child for
members and \$8.00 child for the
public, and advance registration is
required. To register, follow the link under

the Education button or call 815-963-6769. Toddler Time meets in the Tot Spot classroom (main floor, east end of the building).

Homeschool Classes

Ages: 7 and older

Dates/Times: Choose a date that works for you!

Tuesday from 10:00-11:30 or Thursday from either 10:00-11:30 or 12:30-2:00 pm.

Cost: \$12 Members / \$14 Non-members per child per class.

Financial assistance is available (50% rate with EBT, WIC or SNAP and ID). Advance registration required. Payment must accompany registration. Registration deadline for Homeschool Classes is the Monday prior to the week of class. Register for classes on our website or by calling 815-963-6769.



Eye'm Loving It

September 6 or 8

I spy with my little eye... a class all about the eyeball! How do our eyes work? Do animals see the same as people? What does an eye look like on the inside? This class will explore these questions and more as we take a look at one of our most amazing organs, the eyeball! This class will involve dissection of animal eyeballs. Not for the squeamish.

Roller Coaster Physics September 20 or 22

Strap in and hold on to your seats... it's about to be a bumpy ride! Learn the difference between kinetic and potential energy as we design and create roller coasters. Why don't roller coasters fall off during a loop-the-loop? How fast is too fast? Does the weather affect roller coasters? Answer these questions and more in this thrilling class.

Algorithm Magic Tricks October 4 or 6

Alakazam! Use the power of algorithms to amaze and astound just like a magician! Learn how a few simple math tricks can make you unbeatable at tic-tac-toe, read your friends' minds with a special algorithm game, and discover where algorithms are used everyday in the world around us.

Ghostly Goo and Spooky Stuff

October 18 or 20

Bubble, bubble, squish and squeeze, this chemistry class is sure to please! Listen to screaming dry ice, make glow in the dark goo, and create spooky flying ghosts. It's no tricks and all treats with this exciting class!

Let's Put a Spin on It

November I or 3

Why does a bike stay upright? What keeps a spinning top from falling down? How does a spinning ice skater keep themselves from losing their lunch? Don't get dizzy in this class all about the science of spinning!

Robo-Engineering

Have you ever wondered what makes a robot work? Have you ever wanted to design your own robot? If the answer is "yes," then we've got the droids you're looking for! Come join us for an

November 15 or 17

introduction to robotics.

Energized World

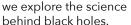
November 29 or December I

From bugs, to people, to cars, to trees, it all starts with one thing... energy! Learn where energy comes from and how we use it as we take a look at the energy cycle. Learn about different types of energy and see it in action.

Black Holes

December 13 or 15

Blast off with Discovery Center Museum as we launch into space and investigate black holes! What does a black hole look like? How heavy is a black hole? What is spaghettification? Learn the answers to these questions and more as









Scout badge workshops at Discovery Center

At Discovery Center, scouts play, learn ... and earn badges! A range of hands-on badge workshops, led by Museum educators, has been created specifically for scouts. Every one of our programs incorporates hands-on, experiential learning activities with real life skills. Join us for joyful learning while working toward badge requirements!

Workshop topics for girl scouts and boy scouts include: Forensics, Space, Robotics, Engineering, Climate and Weather, Chemistry and Air and Flight. In addition, Spa Science is available for girl scouts. For more details, go to our website or email LeeAnn Gill at leeanng@discoverycentermuseum.org.



Karna



Summer interns provide great support!

Thanks to a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and its Youth Employment in the Arts project, Discovery Center was fortunate to hire three local youth to be interns this summer. These recent high school graduates helped plan, prepare and execute all our Family Fridays. They also assisted in our Art Studio and special activities in our Discovery Outdoor Park. You may also have seen them at community events in the region. Our sincere thanks to Olivia Dencker, Tashawn Harmon, and Finch Rathbun.

We were also fortunate to have a college intern this summer. Karna Patel served as a marketing assistant producing social media posts, taking photos, and compiling Google analytics reports.

All the interns did a fantastic job and we are grateful for their enthusiasm and hard work this summer. We wish them luck in their future endeavors!

Beyond museum walls

Discovery Center staffers were on the road

all summer bringing science play to people all over the region. We provided hands-on science activities to local venues including Rockford City Market, the City of Rockford's Neighborhood Improvement block parties, and National Night Out. We

also racked up the miles bringing

interactive science activities to libraries, camps, and daycares all over northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin to highlight National summer reading programs.

Rockford

City

Market



Mobile Makerspace on the move this summer!

This summer, Discovery Center's new Mobile Makerspace put lots of miles on its tires! The Mobile Makerspace provides children the opportunity to explore engineering ideas and then design, tinker and invent something using supplied tools and materials. Discovery Center took the Mobile Makerspace to a variety of places including the Boys & Girls Club (see photos). We also were a daily fixture at area Rockford Park District playgrounds thanks to support from the RPS 205's Live,

Fun for Everyone

Fun for Everyone is a fantastic opportunity for children with developmental differences and their immediate families to get Discovery Center all to themselves FREE of charge! These special sessions include expanded museum exploration time as well as hands-on science fun in a sensory-friendly environment. Reservations required. To register and be added to the Fun for Everyone email list, email amandago@discoverycentermuseum.org

Fall dates:

Saturday, September 10; 9:00 am

Enjoy a special bubble show at 9:00 am by bubble-celebrity Ben Jimenez! Following the show enjoy the Bubble-Palooza Playground or stay and play in the museum during public hours.

Friday, October 28; 5-6:00 pm

Come in costume and participate in Spooky Science activities! The museum will be open to the public from 6:00-9:00 pm, so feel free to stay and play!

Wednesday, November 16; 5:30–7:30 pm Enjoy open play in the museum.

Fun for Everyone events made possible thanks to support from:



Donations needed!

In order to have a steady supply of materials for use in our Mobile Makerspace and upcoming new permanent Makerspace in 2023, we need your help! Please consider donating any of the items below:

- Used, small plastic toys: action figures, dolls, cars, trucks (no electronics, large toys, metal toys)
- Wood- soft pine, not treated (no treated lumber plywood or hardwood)
- Buttons
- Thread or wire spools
- Dice
- Game pieces

- Prescription drug containers (clean, labels removed)
- Screw-on beverage caps (no bottles, just caps)
- Film canisters
- Artificial Christmas trees

Please ensure all items are washed, rinsed and safe for children. Donations can be dropped off at our admission desk Tuesday - Sunday from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. This will be a ongoing need, so please keep saving and donating!

INFORMATION:

Summer Hours

Tuesday-Sunday:

9:30 am-4:30 pm

Admission

Adult/Child: \$10

Children age 1 and

younger and Members: FREE!

Contact Us

Phone: (815) 963-6769

Website:

discoverycentermuseum.org

Membership

CLIMB SuperPass: \$190/year

Family SuperPass: \$135/year

Family Membership:

\$100/year; \$190/2 years

Grandparent Membership:

\$100/year; \$190/2 years

Caregiver Membership:

\$30/year

Group Rates

Discounted group rates are available for tours, classes, museum rentals, and birthday parties. Reservations required.

Our Mission

Create opportunities for playful learning and discovery through hands-on experiences in the sciences and arts.

Staff

Sarah Wolf	
Tori Davidson	
Chase Fischer	Education Specialist
Lee Ann Gill	Education Specialist/Scout Coordinator
Amanda Gray-Or	landoVolunteer & Special Projects Coordinator
Kyler Hartje	Exhibits Technician/Planetarium Technician
Michele Larson	Gift Shop Manager/Birthday Party Coordinator
Renee Linstead	Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Maggio	
Lana Paris	Development Director
Bruce Quast	Exhibits Director
Mike Rathbun	
Heidi Vasel	Guest Services Manager
Andrea Vesecky.	Early Childhood Educator
Ann Marie Walke	er
Jessica Williams	Education Specialist

COVID Policies

Masks are encouraged but not required.

We respect and ask others to respect the choice of guests who choose to continue wearing a mask.



W. RIVERSIDE BLVD.

AUBURN
SCHOOL - WHITM
W. STATE
E. STATE
BUSINESS
20
BUSINE

At Riverfront Museum Park
711 North Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103
815.963.6769
www.discoverycentermuseum.org

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Rockford, IL Permit No. 1011

New items always being added to gift shop



ROSIE

Make sure to stop by our *Discoveries* to Go gift shop on your next visit. We feature unique toys, games and

educational items for all ages. We carry unique items from Ty, Klutz, Melissa & Doug, Jelly Cat, and Green Toys. Be sure to check out our fun at-home science experiments and our STEM

challenge toys! Members receive 10% off any gift shop purchase. The gift shop is open Tuesdays - Sundays from

9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Pin with us! Discovery Center has lots of great ideas on Pinterest on subjects such as STEM activities; science activities for kids; holiday crafts and experiments; **Discovery Center** science books is on Facebook for kids, and Check us out and more. "like" us today! We're on Instagram! @DiscoveryCenterMuseum We tweet! Follow @DiscovCenMuseum now! #Discovery Center Museum

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