

INSIDE:

- 2** Information
Discover Careers
Forest City Queen Rides
- 3** Special Events
- 4** Tot Spot Classes & Camps
Birthday Parties
- 5** Summer Camps
- 6** Messy Mondays
Secret Garden Story Time
How Does your Garden Grow
- 7** Grants & Gifts
Save The Date
Give the Gift of Time
- 8** Solar Eclipse Event
Blue Star Museums

June 10–September 3

Experience Japan at Discovery Center this summer



Discovery Center will open a new temporary exhibit this summer—*Hello from Japan!* The interactive exhibition will transport families to a present-day setting in Tokyo.

The exhibition invites families to explore an immersive, child-sized Tokyo streetscape and Shinto park. Visitors will learn how time-honored Japanese traditions coexist with the contemporary culture of kawaii-inspired graphics and products, characterized by round figures, vibrant colors and a whimsical aesthetic.

Based upon the colorful and bustling streets in the modern Harajuku district, Kawaii Central explores contemporary Japanese culture by evoking the friendly feel of Japanese kawaii. Families are introduced to Japan's unique kawaii culture – the basis of many familiar icons and products, like Hello Kitty and Pokémon, that are popular in America today. Visitors can create kawaii outfits, design playful mascots, explore seasonal cuisines, practice writing Japanese characters, and sing along to Japanese children's songs in a karaoke booth.

A bridge at the end of the streetscape leads from the contemporary urban setting into a more tranquil Shinto shrine park environment. The park explores the traditional, nature-based practices and beliefs of Shinto, an indigenous Japanese religion. Families will learn about the appreciation of diverse and powerful elements of nature. They will also be encouraged to appreciate their own local parks, trees and natural environments after they explore the shrine area's crawl-through forest, make a wish at a large Wishing Tree, get their fortune told and encounter a few of Japan's kami spirits.

Hello from Japan! is funded by The Freeman Foundation.

About The Freeman Foundation



Hello from Japan! is part of the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series. The exhibit series is funded by The Freeman Foundation and administered by Association of Children's Museums to bring outstanding interactive exhibits about Asian cultures to children, their families and school groups at children's museums across the United States.

Local Sponsors

Hello from Japan! is sponsored locally by presenting sponsor The Kjellstrom Family Foundation, as well as All World Machinery Supply, Aqua-Aerobic Systems, RBC Wealth Management, and the Steven & Andrea Jensen Family.



Members Only Preview
June 9 from 6–8 pm. RSVP to adminassistant@discoverycenter-museum.org or call 815-963-6769
Join us for snacks and special activities!

INFORMATION:

Hours

Monday - Sunday: 10 am - 5 pm

Admission

Adult/Child: \$8

Children age 1 and younger and Members: FREE!

Membership

CLIMB SuperPass: \$135/year; \$250/2 years

Family SuperPass: \$125/year; \$250/2 years

Family Membership: \$85/year; \$160/2 years

Grandparent Membership: \$85/year; \$160/2 years

Individual Membership: \$55/year; \$100/2 years

Group Rates

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

Contact Us

Phone: (815) 963-6769

Website: www.discoverycentermuseum.org

Staff

Sarah Wolf..... Executive Director

Lisa Coen Office Manager

Kyler Hartje Exhibits Technician/
Planetarium Technician

Michele Larson... Birthday Party Coordinator

Cheryl Maggio..... Accountant

Joyce Mazzola..... Gift Shop Manager

Sara McKeivitt..... Development Director

Hillary Parks..... Guest Services Manager

Bruce Quast..... Exhibits Director

Mike Rathbun Associate Director

Meghan Richards..... Education Specialist/
Scout Coordinator

Jenny Rossol..... Early Childhood Educator

Maggie Ruggerio..... Education Specialist

Corinne Sosso Director of Education

Sue Stevens Volunteer & Special
Projects Coordinator

Jim Taylor..... Member Relations Manager

Ann Marie Walker Marketing Director

Jessica Williams Education Specialist

Our Mission

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

Discover Careers project launched at Discovery Center



Research shows students need more exposure to career opportunities starting at the elementary level. Waiting until high school to excite students about future careers limits choices that students may have. Because of this, Discovery Center is introducing *Discover Careers* - a comprehensive career-focused project. Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, we developed a four-phase program to stimulate and excite children about future careers.

This four-phase project includes:

- Developing career-focused kiosks for the museum highlighting local people at work. These career kiosks feature 71 careers and 34 videos of people in a variety of careers such as scientist, welder, doctor, engineer, chef, machine operator, baker, artist, graphic designer and many more. They talk about what their job entails and what kind of training or schooling is required to do the job. Kiosks were installed May 11 on both the first and second floors of the museum.
- Developing career graphic panels in exhibit galleries which illustrate the kinds of jobs people have in specific fields that relate to the exhibits in those galleries.
- Offering special programs for families that spark interest and explore career choices such as *When I Grow Up* slated for July 21.
- Targeting career learning opportunities for students in three afterschool programs operated by Discovery Center at Conklin, Nelson and Lathrop elementary schools. Discovery Center has taken students on field trips to both Thermo Fisher Scientific and Bergstrom this year. Students were able to tour the facilities and speak with employees about their jobs.

We thank the many the local individuals and companies that participated in this project!

Bengt & Mary Kuller Endowment Fund of the



Ride the Rock Tuesdays



Want to do something fun and unique for your family? Or how about for your child's birthday, or a moms group, church group, neighborhood association or work retreat?

This summer, the Rockford Park District is partnering with Discovery Center to offer riverboat excursions. The Forest City Queen will make port at the dock behind Discovery Center on select Tuesdays including June 13 and 20; July 11 and 25; August 1 and 8. Rides depart at 11 am, 12 pm and 1 pm.

The riverboat can seat up to 49 passengers and will provide a 45-minute cruise on the Rock River. Tickets are \$4/person in addition to general admission to Discovery Center and no advance reservation is required. For groups of 15 or more, discounted pricing is available with advance reservations. Contact HillaryP@discoverycentermuseum.org or call 815-972-2826 for more information.

Kids ID and safety seat event

The Illinois Tollway and Illinois State Police District 15 are hosting a Kids' Identification and Safety Seat (K.I.S.S.) event on Saturday, July 8 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Discovery Center parking lot. Have experts check your car seats to make sure they are installed properly. You can also have photo identification cards made of your children age 3 and older for free.

Hey Teachers!

Earn graduate credit or professional development credits by taking one of our Teacher Workshops this summer. Topics include Properties of Matter, Astronomy-Eclipse Day, STEM, Weather, and StarLab Basics. You'll even get materials to share with your students! To learn more, visit our website at DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/education.

Summer Family Events

All activities included with museum admission, unless otherwise noted

Hello From Japan Opening Weekend

Saturday, June 10; 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Sunday, June 11; 10:00 am-5:00 pm



Visit our newest temporary exhibit and explore the many aspects of both contemporary and traditional culture expressed in today's Japan. This immersive exhibition allows visitors to stroll through a peaceful Shinto shrine or experiment with the cutest new look in a bustling Tokyo streetscape. The exhibition will be here through September 3. Special activities during opening weekend include creating a cute mascot, using chopsticks, and testing your skill at writing Japanese characters. You can sample some Japanese candy, and even become a karaoke star! Special activities run from 1:00-4:00 pm each day.

Hello from Japan! is part of the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series, funded by The Freeman Foundation and administered by the Association of Children's Museums.

Thanks to our local presenting sponsor **The Kjellstrom Family Foundation**, as well as **All World Machinery Supply, Aqua-Aerobic Systems, RBC Wealth Management and The Steven & Andrea Jensen Family.**

EIEIO

Friday, June 16; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Put on your overalls, don your boots, and get ready to frolic on the farm! Live goats, sheep, ducks, and bunnies will be on hand for you to pet. Then horse around with hands-on science and art as we get into grains, turn cream into butter, make the cutest crafts, and more!



Sponsored by OSF HealthCare

Konnichiwa Means Hello

Friday, June 23; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Pokemon, anime, Hello Kitty and a love of drums are just a few of the things we share with our friends in Japan! Explore how kawaii, the Japanese word for "cute", is a driving force in fashion and art. Try your pen at calligraphy and learn to draw like an anime artist while exploring our exhibit *Hello from Japan!* Then enjoy free exciting Japanese drumming performances by the group **Tsuasa Taiko Community Ensemble** at 11 am and 1 pm.

Swashbuckling Science

Friday, June 30; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Avast, there, me hearties! Sharpen your pirate skills and dress for wet! Design a doubloon, test the boat that floats your swag, and craft a sail to catch the wind. Put on a pirate hat, add a hook for your hand, sample hardtack, and more! Landlubbers are welcome, eye patches and peg legs optional. Yar.

Sponsored by Dolphin Swim Club

Kaboom!

Tuesday, July 4; 12:00-4:30 pm

Discover the secret ingredients that put the oohs and ahhs in fireworks during this family fun event! Enjoy live science demos, launch a rocket, paint a fireworks display, and make a red white and blue masterpiece! Get ready for the evening celebration with a make-and-take noise-maker and a light-up hat. Dress to get wet: if the weather is nice, we'll have an old-fashioned water balloon toss!



Care of Magical Creatures

Friday, July 7; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Explore a world of fantastic beasts as we turn Discovery Center spaces into something out of a book! Hogwarts professors will be on hand to give you a guide to griffins, hype about hippogriffs and basilisk basics. Get sorted into your house before you decorate a dragon, take part in a potions class, eat a chocolate frog, or sit in on herbology lessons. Hogwarts attire encouraged. Muggles are welcome.



Super Heroes Assemble

Friday, July 14; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Decorate a cape and ignite your powers for incredible feats and amazing heroics! Dodge danger and evade evil in an obstacle course certain to test your super skills! Defy gravity like Superman, use a special mask to turn everything Green Lantern's color, and more! Come in costume (your super identity is safe with us).



When I Grow Up

Friday, July 21; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

What will you be when you grow up? Talk to the real women and men who work in our town and find out what they do! Solve problems like an engineer, frost like a baker, tinker like a technician, and study like a scientist. Enjoy hands-on activities related to different fields as you deliver mail, harvest eggs, fly planes, build rockets, turn screws, and more!



Sponsored by the **Bengt and Mary Kuller Endowment Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and SwedishAmerican—a Division of UW Health**

Tanabata Japanese Star Festival!

Friday, July 28; 11:00 am-3:30 pm



Immerse yourself in this time-honored matsuri and make a wish, create traditional decorations, or put together a kite. Enjoy Japanese star stories and explore the night sky in the planetarium, then explore more in our temporary exhibition, *Hello From Japan!*

Maker Mania

Friday, August 4; 11:00 am-3:30 pm
Saturday, August 5; 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Join us for invention, construction and innovation! Use real tools and real materials to create amazing projects in our *Make It Workshop*, where you can build things and take them home! Make a musical instrument, design a boat that floats, learn to solder, make a toy car or invent your own creation!



2017 Eclipse Across America

Sunday, August 20; 1:00-4:00 pm Get ready!
Monday, August 21; 10:00 am-2:00 pm Eclipse day!

Sponsored by Astro-Physics

Sayonara Means Farewell

Sunday, September 3;
Special Activities 11:00 am-3:30 pm

Bubble Festival

Saturday, September 9

Tickets in advance: \$5 Public; \$4 Members;
At the Door: \$6 Public; \$5 Members;
Reserve seats at
discoverycentermuseum.org;
Museum admission is extra

Sponsored by Alpine Bank



Tot Spot Classes & Camps



Classes

Cost: \$12 public; \$10 members

Ships Ahoy

Discover what makes things sink and float as we play with boats and investigate water's buoyant force.

Sessions for 3 to 6-year-olds:

- Session 1 Tues., June 27; 11:00 am-Noon
- Session 2 Wed., June 28; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 3 Wed., June 28; 11:00-Noon
- Session 4 Wed., June 28; 1:00 pm-2:00
- Session 5 Thurs., June 29; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 6 Fri., June 30; 9:30-10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

- (With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
- Session 7 Tues., June 27; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 8 Thurs., June 29; 11:00 am-Noon

Special Saturday Session (Ages 2-6):

- Session 9 Sat., July 1; 10:00-11:00 am

A' Camping We Will Go

Crawl into your tent, pretend to fish, sit around the "campfire", learn about forest plants and animals, and discover the wonder of the outdoors!

Sessions for 3 to 6-year-olds:

- Session 1 Tues., July 25; 11:00 am-Noon
- Session 2 Wed., July 26; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 3 Wed., July 26; 11:00-Noon
- Session 4 Wed., July 26; 1:00 pm-2:00
- Session 5 Thurs., July 27; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 6 Fri., July 28; 9:30-10:30 am

Sessions for 2-year-olds:

- (With an adult, NO siblings, please.)
- Session 7 Tues., July 25; 9:30-10:30 am
- Session 8 Thurs., July 27; 11:00 am-Noon

Special Saturday Session (Ages 2-6):

- Session 9 Sat., July 29; 10:00-11:00 am

Mini Camps

3-day cost:

\$45 public, \$40 members

Saturday cost:

\$25 public, \$20 members

Gravity Mini Camp

Explore the science of falling down as we stack it high and knock it over, roll and slide things down ramps, and engineer a roller coaster to send a ball down the track. We'll dive into great books, and create art from drips and squirts!

Sessions for 3 to 6-year-olds ONLY

3 day Mini-Camp Class:

- Session 1 Tu. **FULL** Thurs., June 13, 14, 15; 10:00-11:30 am
- Session 2 Tues-Thurs., June 13, 14, 15; 1:00-2:30 pm

Saturday Mini-Camp:

- (2 hour session)
- Session 3 Sat., June 17; 9:30-11:30 am

Bugs and Slugs Mini Camp

Bugs are great! Explore the secret garden and learn about helpful bugs as we play in the dirt and find out who lives under our feet. Hold a slug, take an up-close look at metamorphosis, and use art to make a bug! We'll even mess with technology using hex bugs, bee bots and more.

Sessions for 3 to 6-year-olds ONLY

3 day Mini-Camp Class:

- Session 1 Tu. **FULL** Thurs., July 11, 12, 13; 10:00-11:30 am
- Session 2 Tues-Thurs., July 11, 12, 13; 1:00-2:30 pm

Saturday Mini-Camp:

- Session 3 Sat., July 15; 9:30-11:30 am

Please register online at discoverycentermuseum.org, call 815-963-6769, or come to our office Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm.

In our classes for 2-year-olds, children must be accompanied by an adult. We require that siblings (including babies) not be in attendance. Your child needs your undivided attention.

Adults are not required to attend classes for 3 to 6-year-olds but are welcome to come in to observe the class.

Cancellation Policy: refunds (less 10%) are available for classes when cancelled at least 10 days in advance.

Scholarships for camps are available. Call 815-963-6769 for details.

Sun and Moon-Light and Dark Mini Camp

Get ready for the upcoming solar eclipse as we explore the lights in the sky. Find out about moon phases in the planetarium, study a sun dial, and explore shadows that move and change. Make a rainbow, paint a sunset, and experiment with prisms!

Sessions for 3 to 6-year-olds ONLY

3 day Mini-Camp Class:

- Session 1 Tu. **FULL** Thurs., Aug 8, 9, 10; 10:00-11:30 am
- Session 2 Tues-Thurs., Aug 8, 9, 10; 1:00-2:30 pm

Saturday Mini-Camp:

- (2 hour session)
- Session 3 Sat., August 12; 9:30-11:30 am



We have birthday parties down to a science!

Our fun-filled, hassle-free parties begin at just \$125 for Non-Members and \$113 for Members and include invitations, cupcakes, punch, exploration time in the Museum and more! Special activity and pizza parties are available for additional fees.

New Japanese birthday party theme!

Join us on a birthday party adventure! For a limited time only, June 10th - September 3rd, we will offer a Hello From Japan! themed birthday party package. The package includes entrance to our Hello From Japan! exhibit and time to play in the museum. Each child at the party will be able to decorate a fun Japanese fish mobile and they will receive Japanese-themed party favors to take home. We will also supply a colorful tablecloth, plates, napkins, beverages and a cupcake for each child attending. This package is \$160 for non-members and \$144 for our members.

Please check our website for more details and call 815/963-6769 to book your party!

Summer Camps



The science-based camps provide fun, informal ways to keep children learning throughout the summer.

Please register online at discoverycentermuseum.org, call 815-963-6769, or come to our office Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm.

Cancellation policy: Registration closes 5:00 pm on Monday the week before class. Refunds are available through the close of registration, minus 10%. Discovery Center reserves the right to cancel events; in which case, a full refund will be issued. No discount for partial attendance.

Camp sessions all run Monday through Thursday from 9 am to Noon.

Summer Camp Scholarships

Discovery Center is offering scholarships to our summer camps. Scholarships are based on financial need. For more information, call 815-963-6769.



Camps for kids entering 1st & 2nd grade:

Fees: \$75 public / \$65 members

Session 1A: Castles and Chemistry

June 12-15

Design and build a miniature fortress; use your ingenuity and skill to assemble siege engines to storm the castle; and use chemistry to concoct treasures in this camp that lets you wander through the Middle Ages.

Session 2A: Make it GLOW FULL DAY OPTION

June 19-22

Light bounces and bends in this illuminating camp that uses ultraviolet light, lasers and polarizing filters. Find out what fireflies and glow sticks have in common and examine the science behind bike reflectors and highlighters.

Session 3A: Konnichiwa: Hello from Japan!

June 26-29

Travel to Japan without leaving Rockford! Play with anime, build kites and more as we immerse ourselves in the culture and tradition across the sea. Use chopsticks, explore the music scene, and play in a traditional Japanese field day—Undokai.

Session 4A: Can You Dig It?

July 10-13

Roll up your sleeves and get ready for mess in this muddy camp as we dig for worms and explore other critters that live beneath. Unearth ancient artifacts, examine real dinosaur bones, pan for "gold," and more as we explore the earth's crust.

Session 5A: Science Outside

July 17-20

Sun + Air + Water = wacky weather in Discovery Center's science park. Make your own cloud and build weather tools as you examine the sun and use a solar oven to heat up s'mores. Play with water, create a rain shower, and investigate what happens when you apply the giant lens of doom!

Session 6A: Frozen

July 24-27

Do you want to build a snowman... in the summer? Create your own indoor snow, paint crystal snowflakes, and put Olaf in his own snow globe. Bring your winter gloves to experiment with melting and freezing. We'll also apply liquid nitrogen to make instant ice cream and see what happens in the super-cold!

Session 7A: Grossology FULL DAY OPTION

July 31-August 3

Sneezes and vomit and farts are just the beginning as we explore the impolite science of the human body. Touch an intestine, poke a heart, and take apart a cow eye! Future doctors will have fun getting into guts and finding out what really happens when someone is sick.



Camps for kids entering 3rd & 4th grade

Fees: \$90 public / \$80 members

Session 1B: Tech Savvy

June 12-15

Play with circuitry and design a light-up card. Program a robot to go here or there. Monkey around with LittleBits to see how they perform, and then assemble them into a contraption that will sense, think, and do. Use Drawdio to scribble a song and more in this high tech camp!

Session 2B: Hypothe-spies FULL DAY OPTION

June 19-22

Hone your powers of observation and master spycraft. Decrypt secret codes, read signposts, and build alarms and spy equipment to use in your room. Polish your observation skills and find hidden clues that you can spy with your little eye in this brain-boosting camp.

Session 3B: Magician's Apprentice

June 26-29

Take an in depth look at the science behind magic through hands-on instruction and fun exploration! Examine stage, parlor, and close-up magic- while learning as many tricks, techniques, and illusions as possible. Finally, perform disappearing acts, escapes, levitation and the ever popular sawing people in half for family and friends in a special showcase on Friday.

Session 4B: Go Fish!

July 10-13

Learn about lures and explore the biome of the Rock River. Pick up your pole and go fish as you practice techniques of catch and release. Become an ichthio-expert and examine different species, check out scales, and even make some fish-print art in this slippery class of outdoor fun.

Session 5B: Sugar-coated Science

July 17-20

From glucose to sucrose- investigate the sources of sweetness. Explore the history of candy and its ingredients. Mix up some tangy treats and calculate probability using your favorite flavors of Skittles. Design, construct, and market a candy bar creation of your own. *Not recommended for children with food allergies.

Session 6B: Amusement Park Science

July 24-27

Find out why it's easier to stay upright on a speeding bike as we explore rotational inertia and make things spin. Invent your own top, use Legos and manipulate gears to construct a working model of an amusement park ride, and discover the connection between centripetal and centrifugal force.

Session 7B: Blood, Bones, and Body Bits FULL DAY OPTION

July 31-August 3

How strong are bones? What causes hiccups? Uncover the answers to these questions and many more while exploring the human body inside and out. Use microscopes, models and more to discover what makes your body tick!

Camps for kids entering 5th & 6th grade

Fees: \$90 public / \$80 members

Session 1C: Maker Maker

June 12-15

Create your own simple interactive animations, learn the basics of computer programming, and design a simple computer game using newly developed Scratch Junior. Create your own smart tool to "draw" music as you discover basic programming principles and soldering. (Additional Fee)

Session 2C: Mystery Masters FULL DAY OPTION

June 19-22

Get a modern-day sleuth's perspective on crime-solving techniques as you explore the mysteries of Sherlock Holmes. Call on your powers of deductive reasoning and sift through clues to crack the case!

Session 3C: Camp Ichy

June 26-29

Dive into the science of our fine-finned friends! Become an agile angler as you study the ancient Japanese method of Tenkara and work on your fly fishing method on the mighty Rock River. Adventure awaits in this fun filled week of Japanese culture, fishing, and mythology!

Session 4C: Laugh Factory

July 10-13

In this brand new camp, kids workout their sense of play through basic performance games and exercises that are the foundation of Improv Comedy. Campers become more confident, work on public speaking, and learn to be a member of an ensemble. This camp is taught by former Second City Instructor and seasoned stage performer Jim Taylor.

Session 5C: Pikachu, I Choose you!

July 17-20

Come and explore the world of Pokémon, and learn to become a Pokémon Master using science and navigation skills. Plot your map in the world of Pikachu, delve into anime, design your own Pokémon mascot, and more!

Session 6C: Roller Coaster Tycoon

July 24-27

Master the forces of potential and kinetic energy! Design and build your own roller coaster. Harness elastic and gravitational potential energy as you invent and experiment with toys that move!

Session 7C: Getting into Guts FULL DAY OPTION

July 31-August 3

Biology nuts will go bananas for this camp! Dissect a real eyeball, examine actual lungs, and study the "ins" and "outs" of digestion. Then test what you've learned as you grab a scalpel to dissect a preserved shark on the last day!

NEW FULL DAY OPTION

Add on the Rockford Art Museum afternoon session:

Session 2: ABC's of ART

Session 7: 3D Discovery Camp

Call RAM at 815-968-2787 for details.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Wednesdays; 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Explore hands-on gardening activities each Wednesday in the Secret Garden.

June 7..... Wind Spinners

Decorate any outdoor space with an awesome wind spinner crafted from a plastic bottle, markers and string.

June 14..... Bean Mosaics

Use paper, glue and lots of beans to create a mosaic of your very own.

June 21..... Bird Nest Pictures

Create a bird's nest using a paper plate, shredded paper, paint and your imagination.

June 28..... Leaf Prints

Explore a variety of leaves and use your imagination to make a colorful leaf print.

July 5..... Natural Paint Brushes

Use a variety of leaves, grasses, twigs and petals to create a colorful painting to take home.

July 12..... Butterflies

Fly into the garden to see our butterfly house and play with a zip line butterfly that you create.

July 19..... Scavenger Hunt

Can you find all the hidden surprises in the Secret Garden? Find all the objects to win a prize.

July 26..... Sunflowers

Put your flower power to work as you create a giant sunflower to take home.

August 2..... Bird Bracelets

Create a wrist parakeet or owl to wear home.

August 9..... Smells

Only your nose knows! Use it to identify a variety of plants that grow in a garden.



Secret Garden Story Times

Thursdays; 11:30 am to 12:00 pm

Join us in the Secret Garden for a morning of stories, songs and activities. Take home a special craft each week based on the weekly theme.

June 8..... Blast Off! Out of This World Stories

June 15..... Our Feathered Friends

June 22..... Wacky Weather

June 29..... Aargh... Pirate Tales!

July 6..... Delightful Dragons

July 13..... Life's a Beach

July 20..... What's Bugging You? Insect Stories

July 27..... Under the Sea

August 3..... Stop and Smell the Roses

August 10..... Wonderful Worms

Messy Mondays

Mondays; 11:00 am-3:00 pm

MESSY MONDAY



Messy Mondays feature special theme-focused art projects with professional artists. Messy Mondays are in the Art Studio from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and are included with museum admission.

June 5..... Koinobori (Japanese Flying Carp)* Michele Larson

June 12..... Pop Bottle Painting Eileen Morrissey

June 19..... Geometric Printmaking Bethany Austin

June 26..... Throw Painting Brittany Heath

July 3..... Japanese Woodblock Printing* IAC Interns

July 10..... Balloon Painting Brittany Heath

July 17..... Bubble Blowing Painting Pam Peterson

July 24..... Japanese Cherry Blossoms April Graves

July 31..... Aboriginal Bracelets Pam Peterson

August 7..... Manga Drawing* Bruce Quast

* events are sponsored by: **SWEDISHAMERICAN**
A DIVISION OF UW HEALTH

Mornings of Fun

We invite children with disabilities and their immediate families to experience Discovery Center's multi-sensory exhibits and activities free of charge before the museum opens to the general public.

Join us from 9-10:00 am on Saturday, June 10 and Saturday, August 12.

A healthy snack will be served at 10:00 am and families are welcome to stay and play after the museum opens to the public that day.

Advanced registration is required. To receive free admission call 815-972-2839 or email sues@discoverycentermuseum.org

Sponsored by:



Grants & Gifts News

December 3, 2016 through May 9, 2017

We thank the following donors for their generous support of Discovery Center exhibits, events, educational programs and operations.

Grants, Sponsorships & Corporate Donations

- PNC Foundation - \$25,000 - Early Childhood Education Program
- Illinois Space Grant Consortium - \$20,700 - Discover Engineering, Teacher Workshops & Yes Volunteer Program
- ComEd - \$20,000 - Power of Electricity Gallery
- Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois - \$11,958 - Freeport Field Trips
- The Kjellstrom Family Foundation - \$10,000 - *Hello from Japan!* exhibit
- Bengt & Mary Kuller Endowment Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois - \$7,650 - Career Discovery for Children and their Families
- Illinois Arts Council - \$6,000 - Summer Interns
- Rockford ProAm - \$6,000 - Handicapped Accessible Picnic Area Project
- Blazer Foundation - \$5,600 - Mornings of Fun
- UTC - \$5,100 - Permanent Air & Flight Exhibit & Employee Matching Program
- Associated Bank - \$5,000 - ASAP Focused Field Trips
- Bergstrom - \$5,000
- All World Machinery Supply - \$5,000 - *Hello from Japan!* exhibit
- Gloyd Family Foundation - \$3,000
- BMO - \$2,500 - Tot Spot BMO Mini Bank
- Meijer - \$2,500 - Spooky Science
- RBC Wealth Management - \$2,500 - *Hello from Japan!* exhibit
- Woodman's - \$2,500 - Tot Spot Woodman's Grocery Store
- Rock Valley Credit Union - \$2,000 - Star Wars, Egg Hunt & Discover the Spirits
- Illinois Bank & Trust - \$2,000 - ASAP Family Memberships
- Field Fastener - \$2,000 - Family Fun Nights/ Early Childhood Program
- Pepsi - \$1,500 - Contract Agreement
- Northwest Bank - \$1,500 - Spring Into Science
- Alpine Bank - \$1,500 - Bubble Fest
- Astro-Physics - \$1,400 - Astronomy Day & Eclipse Across America
- Thermo Fisher Scientific - \$1,000 - Discover Engineering & Nano Day
- OSF College of Nursing - \$1,000 - Future Nurses Academy
- Greater Rockford Veterinary Medical Association - \$1,000 - Tot Spot Veterinary Clinic
- Cosmopolitan Charities - \$1,000 - Scout Days
- Advanced Machine & Engineering Co. and Hennig Inc. - \$1,000 - Discover the Spirits
- Viking Chemical Company - \$1,000
- Kohl's - \$1,000 - Volunteer Program
- The Ben Harding Family Foundation - \$1,000
- Rockford Area Arts Council - \$800 - Japanese Drum Event
- Dolphin Swim Club - \$500 - Swashbuckling Science
- OSF HealthCare - \$500 - EIEIO
- Illinois Society of Professional Engineers - \$500 - Discover Engineering
- A&P Grain Systems - \$500
- Casler Foundation - \$500
- Powmet - \$300
- Rock Road Companies & Kennedy Family Foundation - \$250
- Savant Capital Management - \$250 - Volunteer Service Program
- DBS Accounting & Management Services - \$200
- AmazonSmile
- Schnucks
- Thrivent Financial
- American Astronomical Society - In-Kind - Solar Eclipse Glasses
- Pepper Creek - In-Kind - Potting Soil for New Garden Space

If you are interested in partnering with Discovery Center to support an event, program or exhibit, please contact Sara McKeivitt at 815-972-2834 or saram@discoverycenter-museum.org.

You can also donate online to support Discovery Center Museum exhibits, programs, classes and outreach at www.discoverycentermuseum.org. Click on the DONATE button on the home page. Thank you for your support!

New Outdoor Park additions!

We have been busy this spring making some fun new additions to our outdoor space. We created an adorable small space for preschoolers called "Mott Spot" in memory of long-time Discovery Center friend, Merritt Mott. The space will feature rotating activities including a water table, ball ramps, easel with water and brushes and flower chalkboards. We thank local artist Lisa Frost for her creative ideas and adorable painted bunnies in this space!

Our other new addition in our outdoor space are raised garden beds. The beds, built by volunteers, are beautiful and will soon be filled with delicious vegetables for visitors to see, touch and eventually eat!

We thank Lowe's for the donation of plants and compost, Pepper Creek for the soil and Yvette DeWispelaere from the U of I Extension for her expertise in choosing the vegetables and planting them!



▲ Volunteers from Associated Bank help spruce up our outdoor park for summer.

Field Fastener volunteers ▲ helped in our museum during a special evening event for children in the RPS #205 Early Learning program and their families.

Save the Date



Discover the Spirits: Sip Sample Support will return on Friday, October 13, 2017 at the museum. This 21 and over event will help raise funds to support the mission of Discovery Center. Highlights of the evening are tastings from local restaurants with an array of spirits from around the world. Guests will experience an immersive, interactive evening filled with food, drinks, live music and science demonstrations.

Give the Gift of Time

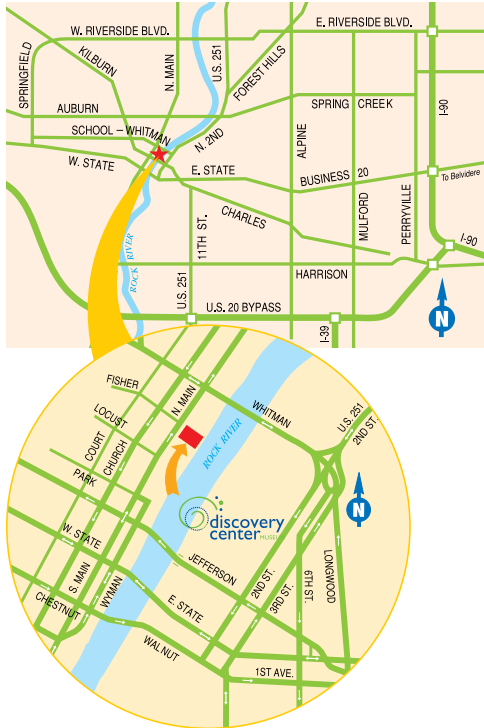


We are seeking members for our Auxiliary Planning Committee to help orchestrate the museum's annual fundraiser, *Discover the Spirits*. The planning committee meets one hour per month and helps the night of the event. If interested in joining this fun and energetic group, please contact Sara McKeivitt at 815-972-2834 or saram@discoverycentermuseum.org.



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

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



Address Service Requested



Seeing a solar eclipse safely



There is a total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017 for all of North America. An eclipse from coast to coast such as this hasn't occurred since 1918!

With proper equipment, those in the Rockford area will be able to see a "crescent sun" as the new moon comes between Earth and Sun. As the moon slides in front of the sun, it will block all but 10-15% of the sun's light, depending on how far south you live. An eclipse takes almost three hours from start to finish. The time when most of the sun will be covered for our area is 1:16 pm.

At NO time will it be safe to look at the sun during this eclipse because we in the Rockford area are outside of the path of totality. But safe viewing devices are easily constructed. **On Sunday, August 20 from 1 to 4 pm and Eclipse Day, August 21 from 10 am to 2 pm**, visitors are invited to Discovery Center's eclipse event to make their own no-cost eclipse viewers. Visitors will get hands-on with the "hows" and "whys" of eclipses, check out solar projections from Discovery Center's telescopes, and explore space science. Plus, thanks to American Astronomical Society and Astro-Physics, Discovery Center has a limited number of eclipse glasses to give away on Sunday!

Sponsored in part by:



Blue Star Museums



Discovery Center is one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families this summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card and up to five family members.

We tweet!
 Follow
 @DiscovCenMuseum
 now!

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; science books for kids; and more.

Discovery Center is on Facebook
 Check us out and "like" us today!