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March 29, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—PLEASE DISREGARD PREVIOUS CALENDARS!

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The National Museum of Play® at The Strong® Exhibits and Events Calendar Through December 2012

Current Exhibit

The Wizard of Oz (Through May 13, 2012) Embark on an interactive family journey from Dorothy Gale's farm to the colorful Land of Oz. Along the way, experience the tornado in Dorothy's bedroom, speak like a Munchkin, build Scarecrow, oil Tin Man, and groom Cowardly Lion. See holographs in Emerald City, gaze at the witch's crystal ball, and build a rainbow. Created by the Miami Children's Museum in conjunction with Warner Bros. Consumer Products.



Upcoming Exhibits

DESIGN ZONE

Design Zone (June 2–September 3, 2012) Hands-on interactives and computer-based activities reveal how video game developers, music producers, roller coaster designers, and others use math to do amazing things. Feel the beat in a DJ recording studio, pedal to victory in a full-body bike race, create on-screen action in a video game design studio, design and test a virtual roller coaster, and more. Produced and toured by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. The exhibit was made possible by a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant.

Doodle 4 Google (June 15–September 30, 2012)

View a display of the 2012 Doodle 4 Google New York State contest finalists' art. These playful and innovative doodles submitted by students in grades K through 12 are based on the theme, "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..."



Dora & Diego: Let's Explore! (September 22, 2012–January 6, 2013) Ready? *Vámonos!* Join beloved characters Dora and Diego from Nickelodeon's hit preschool series *Dora the Explorer* and *Go, Diego, Go!* along with their friends Boots, Map, Backpack, Isa, Tico, and of course Swiper, in a new exhibit for preschoolers to explore as they learn and play along. Explore Isa's flowery garden, help Tico gather nuts, join the Pirate Piggie's crew to divide up pirate treasure, and help baby animals in the Rainforest Maze. Produced by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis in cooperation with Nickelodeon, the *Dora and Diego: Let's Explore!* exhibit is presented by the WellPoint Foundation.



Permanent Exhibits

American Comic Book Heroes: The Battle of Good vs. Evil Meet Superman, Iron Man, Batman, and other comic book heroes in an exhibit that explores the history of superhero comic books in America. Climb up the side of a "building," test your skills at Super Powers School, pose for a picture with statues of famous superheroes, and more. Kids will enjoy superhero dress up and role-playing. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

The Berenstain Bears®: Down a Sunny Dirt Road An original exhibit straight from the pages of the beloved books. Step into the playful world of the Berenstain Bears including Main Street, Bear Country School, Farmer Ben's Farm, and Brother and Sister Bear's Club Houses. Produced by the National Museum of Play in partnership with the Berenstain Family.

Can You Tell Me How to Get to Sesame Street? Step onto *Sesame Street* and go hands-on with activities you see on television. Enter Elmo's crayon-colored television world. Experience the famous brownstone facade of 123 Sesame Street. See yourself on television with the Muppets, "drive" around Sesame Street in a big yellow taxicab, sell movie tickets at the Circle in the Square Cinema ticket booth, and more. Produced by the National Museum of Play in collaboration with Sesame Workshop.

Dancing Wings Butterfly Garden® Enjoy tropical weather year-round when you visit this glass-enclosed butterfly garden filled with live foliage, a cascading waterfall, birds and other wildlife, and approximately 800 colorful, free-flying North American and tropical butterflies. (Additional admission charge of \$4 for the butterfly garden for nonmembers and \$2 for members.)

eGameRevolution® This highly interactive exhibit explores the history of video games and their impact on the way we play, learn, and relate to each other. Experience this amazing revolution for yourself—from pioneer Ralph Baer's first Brown Box game to today's high-tech Xbox 360. Enter a recreated, old-fashioned video arcade featuring more than two dozen operating historic video games, or visit one of several emulator stations around the gallery and challenge yourself to more than 40 classic and contemporary PC and console games. You can also play *Giant Tetris*, *Pac-Man Battle Royale*, *Boom Blox* on Wii, and step lively on an LED Lightspace floor. Young children will especially enjoy creating artwork with oversized translucent pegs on a gigantic Lite Brite-like wall. Produced by the National Museum of Play in collaboration with The Strong's International Center for the History of Electronic Games.

Field of Play Discover the power of play in human learning and development at a multimedia theater presentation. Then, unleash your playful side: walk through a giant kaleidoscope and create and view your own kaleidoscope patterns, use pulleys to power balls through a gigantic overhead ball machine, "drive" a drag racer, try to maintain your equilibrium in the slanted room, lose all perspective in the exaggerated perspective room, climb a rock wall, relax in the Jellyfish Jungle, and so much more. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

Kid to Kid Let your imagination roam freely through the world of communication. Climb aboard a giant helicopter and pilot the controls; prepare, stamp, weigh, and sort mail in the *Kid to Kid* post office; board

a whaling ship; and so much more. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

Monopoly: An American Icon Discover the surprising story of one of America’s favorite games in *Monopoly: An American Icon*, a display of rare and historic versions of Monopoly never before gathered in one place. On view are significant landmark games including The Landlord’s Game (1904), a precursor to today’s Monopoly sets; a 1913 John Heap Monopoly set, which was a key piece of evidence in a Monopoly copyright dispute; and two hand-made Monopoly sets by Charles Darrow (1933), who is credited with marketing and popularizing the game fans have come to know and love. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

National Toy Hall of Fame® Each November, the National Toy Hall of Fame at The Strong inducts toys that have achieved longevity and national significance in the world of play and imagination. The prestigious hall features historic examples of current toy inductees and play stations where you can race a Slinky, build with LEGO bricks, swivel a hula hoop, and play with blocks and puzzles. Entrance to the National Toy Hall of Fame is included with general museum admission fees.

One History Place Amid original artifacts and reproductions, children explore mini-environments and get a taste of life as it was a century ago. Play dress up in the attic, plink piano keys in the parlor, “pump” water in the kitchen, and pretend to travel across the country at the train station. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

Rainbow Reef aquarium A 1,700-gallon coral reef tank displays a dazzling array of brilliantly colored fish, corals, anemones, shrimp, crabs, and other invertebrates. Come face-to-face with living creatures of the reef and observe their fascinating behaviors and marvelous survival adaptations. Additional aquarium tanks feature salt and fresh water fish environments.

Reading Adventureland Step into a life-sized pop-up book and follow the Yellow Brick Road into five literary landscapes from children’s books: **Adventure Island** (explore a pirate shipwreck, scale a cliff, and crawl through cave tunnels); **Mystery Mansion** (discover what lies behind the secret bookcase, decipher secret codes, and scour for clues like Nancy Drew or Encyclopedia Brown); **Fairy Tale Forest** (cross the Troll Bridge, step into Cinderella’s pumpkin coach, visit the Fairy Tale Cottage, climb a Beanstalk to the Giant’s Castle, and sit at King Arthur’s Round Table); the **Upside-Down Nonsense House** (a topsy-turvy house filled with ridiculous rhymes, silly food—green eggs and ham anyone?—tongue twisters, and mirror illusions); and the **Wizard’s Workshop** (mix up a magic potion and sit between a giant dragon’s paws). Produced by the National Museum of Play.

Super Kids Market Here kids run the store. Cruise the aisles and fill your cart with a selection of colorful produce that looks so real, you can almost taste it. Deli, meat, seafood, and bakery departments are filled with highly interactive stations for dramatic role-playing. Make a “brick oven” pizza, run the bakery, scan bar-coded products at six working check-out counters, and much more! Kids produce their own commercials and cooking shows in the WKID-TV station. Produced by the National Museum of Play in collaboration with Wegmans Food Markets.

TimeLab Travel through time as you explore changing American trends in food, fashion, music, and more. This learning laboratory brims with playful objects from America’s past and present including sports gear, photographs, shoes, and clothing. Enter *TimeLab* on the only operating time-travel machine in North America. Visit *DanceLab* where you can cast shadow patterns as you dance to music through the decades. Produced by the National Museum of Play.

DAILY EVENTS
through December 2012

APRIL 2012

1	Sunday—Literature Live: Sister Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Sister Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
2, 16, 23 & 30	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Outer Space. Included with general museum admission fees.
6–15	Friday through Sunday—School-Break Week in Munchkinland. Create your own Munchkinland or Emerald City using a variety of building materials. Travel down the Yellow Brick Road to the Tent of 10,000 Tales and play dress up, recreating the story of <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> . In conjunction with <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> exhibit. Included with general museum admission fees.
11	Wednesday—Making American Music: New York State of Mind. 7:30 p.m. Celebrate music with New York roots—from selections by jazz giants Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, and Chuck Mangione to showtunes by Cole Porter and Johnny Mercer. Sit back and revel in the musical empire built in the Empire State with songs such as “Four,” “Ballavia,” “Summertime,” “I Could Have Danced All Night,” and more. Tickets: \$19 nonmember, \$16 member.
16	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See April 2 listing.)
20	Friday—Eastman School of Music Family Concert. 6 p.m. The whole family will enjoy this 30-minute concert that includes a Q&A session with Eastman School of Music students. Included with general museum admission fees.
21 & 22	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Geronimo Stilton. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Geronimo Stilton, the mouse journalist. On Saturday morning only, from 10 a.m. to noon: TYKES actors present a costumed reading of the classic children’s book <i>Go, Dog. Go!</i> Also, artist Chris Pallace, creator of the Numbers League Superheroes, teases your brain with original games and mazes. Included with general museum admission fees.
23	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: Out of This World. Included with general museum admission fees.
23	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See April 2 listing.)
28 & 29	Saturday & Sunday—In Another Galaxy Weekend. Become part of the saga as actors from the 510st Legion (Vader’s Fist) and Rebel Legion stroll through the museum in full <i>Star Wars</i> regalia to mingle with guests and pose for pictures. See robots built by the R2-D2 Builders Club and FIRST Robotics Team #578 from Fairport High School. Play vintage <i>Star Wars</i> video games and see <i>Star Wars</i> artifacts from the museum’s collections. Try out cool science gadgets, get a temporary tattoo, and pose for pictures in the dress-up area. This program is not sponsored or endorsed by Lucasfilm Ltd. Included with general museum admission fees.
30	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See April 2 listing.)

MAY 2012

5	Saturday—Allendale Columbia Performances. See theatrical performances of <i>Goldilocks and The Three Bears</i> and <i>Little Red Riding Hood</i> by students from Allendale Columbia School. Included with general museum admission fees.
7, 14 & 21	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Sing a Song. Included with general museum admission fees.
12 & 13	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Pippi Longstocking. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Pippi Longstocking, the unconventional eight-year-old. Included with general museum admission fees.
13	Sunday—Exhibit Closing, <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>. Last chance to join an interactive journey from Dorothy Gale’s farm to the colorful Land of Oz and experience the tornado in Dorothy’s bedroom, speak like a Munchkin, build Scarecrow, oil Tin Man, and groom Cowardly Lion. Included with general museum admission fees.
14	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See May 7 listing.)
16	Wednesday—Making American Music. 1940s Radio Show. 7:30 p.m. Celebrate the can-do attitude, faith, and perseverance of the American people during World War II. Performed in the style of a 1940’s weekly radio broadcast, this show features skits, “commercials,” and popular patriotic songs including “The Star Spangled Banner” and timeless tunes such as “Huggin’ and a Chalkin’” and “Deep Purple.” Tickets: \$19 nonmember, \$16 member.
19 & 20	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Corduroy. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Corduroy, the department store teddy bear. Included with general museum admission fees.
20	Sunday—Display Closing, Whimsical Art Trail. Last chance to take a walk on the whimsical side and see imaginative creations by contemporary artists. Included with general museum admission fees.
20	Sunday—Display Closing, Numbers League. Last chance to discover Heroic Hot Dog, Curious Cool Cat, Digital Diva, and a host of colorful superheroes brought to life by Rochester artist Chris Pallace in a display of superhero illustrations based on the Numbers League game. Included with general museum admission fees.
21	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: Sing and Dance! Included with general museum admission fees.
21	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See May 7 listing.)
26 & 27	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Papa Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Papa Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.

JUNE 2012	
2 & 3	Saturday & Sunday—Exhibit Opening, <i>Design Zone</i>. Hands-on interactives and computer-based activities reveal how video game developers, music producers, roller coaster designers, and others use math to do amazing things. During opening weekend , prepare to be blown away by Tim Fort, the Kinetic King, who reached celebrity status with five appearances on “America’s Got Talent” for his kinetic, chain-reaction, exploding Popsicle stick creations. Included with general museum admission fees.
4 & 11	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Summertime Stories. Included with general museum admission fees.
9 & 10	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: <i>Amelia Bedelia</i>. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Amelia Bedelia, the literal-minded housekeeper. Included with general museum admission fees.
10	Sunday—Empire State Lyric Theatre Children’s Choir Performance. 2 p.m. Included with general museum admission fees.
11	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: Sunshiny Day. Included with general museum admission fees.
11	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See June 4 listing.)
15	Friday—Exhibit Opening, <i>Doodle 4 Google</i>. View a display of the 2012 Doodle 4 Google New York State contest finalists’ art. These playful and innovative doodles submitted by students in grades K through 12 are based on the theme, “If I could travel in time, I’d visit...” Included with general museum admission fees.
16	Saturday—Buggy Bonanza. Inspect creepy crawlers up close. Meet a museum entomologist and a museum horticulturist and learn fascinating facts about insects and plants. Make a bug craft and have your picture taken with Marti the Monarch, the museum’s strolling butterfly mascot. Included with general museum admission fees.
30 & July 1	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: <i>The Cat in the Hat</i>. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Dr. Seuss’s <i>The Cat in the Hat</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
JULY 2012	
1	Sunday—Literature Live: <i>The Cat in the Hat</i>. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books at this weekend series featuring storybook character appearances. Meet Dr. Seuss’s <i>The Cat in the Hat</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
6, 7 & 8	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: <i>Brother Bear</i>. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Brother Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
13, 14 & 15	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: <i>Skippyjon Jones</i>. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Skippyjon Jones, the adventurous Siamese cat. Included with general museum admission fees.

July—Continued	
20, 21 & 22	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Lulu the Ladybug Girl. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Lulu the Ladybug Girl. Included with general museum admission fees.
27, 28 & 29	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Mama Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Mama Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
AUGUST 2012	
3, 4 & 5	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: The Lorax. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Dr. Seuss’s Lorax. Included with general museum admission fees.
10, 11 & 12	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Lyle Lyle Crocodile. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Lyle Lyle Crocodile, a city-dwelling croc. Included with general museum admission fees.
17, 18 & 19	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Sister Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Sister Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
24, 25 & 26	Friday, Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Peter Rabbit. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Beatrix Potter’s Peter Rabbit. Included with general museum admission fees.
31 & September 1 & 2	Friday—Literature Live: Papa Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Papa Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
SEPTEMBER 2012	
1 & 2	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Papa Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Papa Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
3	Monday—Exhibit Closing, Design Zone. Last chance to explore hands-on interactives and computer-based activities that reveal how video game developers, music producers, roller coaster designers, and others use math to do amazing things. Included with general museum admission fees.
8 & 9	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Nutbrown Hare. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Nutbrown Hare, the lovable rabbit. Included with general museum admission fees.
15 & 16	Saturday & Sunday—Trains Weekend. All aboard for an action-packed trains weekend. Model train displays, train crafts, and more. Included with general museum admission fees.
17 & 24	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: All Aboard! Included with general museum admission fees.

September—Continued	
22 & 23	Saturday & Sunday, Exhibit Opening, <i>Dora and Diego: Let's Explore!</i> Join beloved characters Dora and Diego from Nickelodeon's hit preschool series <i>Dora the Explorer</i> and <i>Go, Diego, Go!</i> along with their friends Boots, Map, Backpack, Isa, Tico, and of course Swiper, in a new exhibit for preschoolers to explore as they learn and play along. During opening weekend , meet Dora and pose for pictures. Included with general museum admission fees.
24	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See September 17 listing.)
29 & 30	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Lilly. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Lilly with the purple purse. Included with general museum admission fees.
30	Sunday—Exhibit Closing, <i>Doodle 4 Google</i>. Last chance to view a display of the 2012 Doodle 4 Google New York State contest finalists' art. These playful and innovative doodles submitted by students in grades K through 12 are based on the theme, "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..." Included with general museum admission fees.
OCTOBER 2012	
1, 15, 22 & 29	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children's tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Around the World with Dora. Included with general museum admission fees.
3	Wednesday—Balloons Around the World. Watch as local balloon artists, including Larry Moss and Don Cheatele of <i>Airigami</i> , create a large balloon sculpture to help celebrate the 13th annual Balloons Around the World event. Included with general museum admission fees.
8	Monday (Columbus Day)—eGameRevolution Day. Celebrate the history of video games in conjunction with the <i>eGameRevolution</i> exhibit. Play a wide-range of modern and classic video games throughout the museum. Included with general museum admission fees.
13 & 14	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Stلالuna. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Stلالuna, the baby fruit bat. Included with general museum admission fees.
15	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: World Travels with Dora! Included with general museum admission fees.
15	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See October 1 listing.)
22	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See October 1 listing.)
27 & 28	Saturday & Sunday—Family Halloween Party, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Come in costume and trick-or-treat with favorite storybook characters, dance to Halloween tunes, play games, and more. Included with general museum admission fees.
29	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See October 1 listing.)
31	Wednesday—Toddler Halloween Party, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Halloween activities and goodies for the littlest trick-or-treaters. Meet favorite storybook characters, dance to Halloween tunes, and play games. Included with general museum admission fees.

NOVEMBER 2012	
5, 19 & 26	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Animal Tales with Diego. Included with general museum admission fees.
5	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: Diego’s Animal Adventures. Included with general museum admission fees.
10 & 11	Saturday & Sunday—Dora and Diego Meet and Greet. Meet Dora and Diego and pose for pictures. Then join them in the <i>Dora and Diego: Let’s Explore</i> exhibit and explore Isa’s flowery garden, help Tico gather nuts, join the Pirate Piggie’s crew to divide up pirate treasure, and help baby animals in the Rainforest Maze. Included with general museum admission fees.
12	Monday (Veteran’s Day)—Get Ready for <i>The Nutcracker</i> and <i>A Christmas Carol</i>. Storytelling, dance, and live music presented in conjunction with upcoming performances of <i>The Nutcracker</i> , featuring members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Rochester City Ballet. Also, enjoy scenes from <i>A Christmas Carol</i> by actors from Geva Theatre Center. Included with general museum admission fees.
15	Thursday—National Toy Hall of Fame® Induction Ceremony. 10:30 a.m. The 2012 toy honorees are revealed at a public ceremony that takes place in the National Toy Hall of Fame. Included with regular museum admission fees.
17 & 18	Saturday & Sunday—National Toy Hall of Fame Celebration. A weekend of toy-filled revelry in conjunction with the induction of the 2012 class into the hall. Join in the Hula Hoopla, play with past toy hall winners, and change a tire in the Pit Stop Challenge. Included with general museum admission fees.
19	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See November 5 listing.)
24 & 25	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: Brother Bear. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Brother Bear from the <i>Berenstain Bears</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.
26	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See November 5 listing.)
DECEMBER 2012	
1	Saturday—News10 NBC Pirate Toy Fund Drive Celebration. Gary the Happy Pirate performs. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for children in need. News10 will tape a special segment with Gary to celebrate the toy fund to be aired later that evening. Included with general museum admission fees.
1 & 2	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. (Details TBD.) Included with general museum admission fees.
3, 10 & 17	Monday—Toddler Book Club. Readings of classic children’s tales at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. followed by music and movement activities. This month: Wintery Stories. Included with general museum admission fees.
8 & 9	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live: The Grinch. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. Meet Dr. Seuss’s <i>The Grinch</i> . Included with general museum admission fees.

December—Continued	
10	Monday—Monday Kicks for Ages 2 to 6. Playful learning activities designed for 2- to 6-year-olds, one Monday a month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month: Winter Wonder. Included with general museum admission fees.
10	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See December 3 listing.)
15 & 16	Saturday & Sunday—Literature Live. Beloved literary characters jump off the pages of favorite books and into the National Museum of Play. (Details TBD.) Included with general museum admission fees.
17	Monday—Toddler Book Club. (See December 3 listing.)
22–31	Sunday through Friday—School-Break Week. In conjunction with the <i>Dora and Diego: Let's Explore!</i> exhibit and the national Let's Move! museums and gardens initiative. Included with general museum admission fees.

About the National Museum of Play®

Come out and play. It's good for you! If you don't believe it, visit the National Museum of Play at The Strong®, the only collections-based museum in the world devoted solely to play! The museum blends the best features of both history museums (extensive collections) and children's museums (high interactivity).

The museum takes play very seriously. Its philosophy—that play is essential to learning and human development—is reflected everywhere you look, beginning with its uniquely whimsical architecture (including a butterfly house built to look like the world's largest butterfly, an undulating two-story caterpillar-shaped atrium, and a structure resembling a pile of gigantic children's building blocks).

The National Museum of Play is known for:

- Engaging, hands-on exhibits, plus fascinating displays of artifacts of play
- The prestigious National Toy Hall of Fame®
- Fun-filled educational programs
- Quality guest services, museum shops, and a food court
- A working carousel from 1918 and the Strong Express passenger train
- Upstate New York's only year-round, indoor butterfly garden

Situated at The Strong

The National Museum of Play is situated at The Strong, a highly interactive, collections-based educational institution devoted to the study and exploration of play. Through the National Museum of Play and its other Play Partners—the International Center for the History of Electronic Games®, the National Toy Hall of Fame®, the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play®, and the *American Journal of Play*®—The Strong explores play and the ways in which it encourages learning, creativity, and discovery and illuminates cultural history.

For more information about the museum, please visit www.museumofplay.org.

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Museum Hours:

Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Admission Fees

General admission (does not include admission to *Dancing Wings Butterfly Garden*®):

Adults \$13, Seniors \$12, Children (2–15) \$11, Children younger than two free, Museum members free.

Admission to *Dancing Wings Butterfly Garden*:

General admission fee plus \$2 for members, \$4 for nonmembers; children under 2 free. Entry is by timed ticket only.

Parking: Free parking is available at the museum for all guests on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that, on high visitation days, the museum lot may reach capacity early in the day. If space is not available on site at the time of your visit, additional parking is available at neighboring municipal garages for a fee. The Strong is not responsible for fees incurred at off-site locations.