

Explorium News

December 2009 / January 2010



The Explorium Goes Clubbing

Don't worry, the Explorium has not left its family friendly mission, but instead is expanding its reach through the addition of two clubs to its Clubs and Camps opportunities.



Students of the Colorbot Team have fun building a robot during Explorium Robotics Club.

Explorium recently partnered with Picadome Elementary School in Fayette County to

begin an after school art club. The club meets each week for an hour during which the 28 enrolled students engage in a variety of art projects led by an Explorium staff member and

volunteer. "The club, a new extension of the Open Art Studio, is yet another avenue to bring art experiences to the children in our community," says Mike Gilmore, executive director. "We are proud to work with Fayette County Public Schools

on this venture."

Harrison Elementary School is

the first local school to form its Robotics Team as part of the Explorium's Robotics Club. The team of 12 travels each week accompanied by Harrison Elementary science teacher Kim Binzer, to the Explorium where they meet Katherine Shaw, educational coordinator, to design, create and program a robot. The club is a means for the team to work together, make decisions and problem solve as it creates the robot designed to accomplish robotics competition guidelines. Competitions are held regional and nationally.

Need an end of the year tax deduction?

Consider a contribution to the Explorium of Lexington. While the Explorium of Lexington receives funding from admissions and support of the Lexington-Fayette County Urban County Government, Kentucky Arts Council and the state of Kentucky, the quality of its programs and exhibits is dependent on your financial support. Individual, corporate and foundation gifts have made programs, such as the Art Club and Robotics Club, a reality this past year. Donations allow the Explorium to expand such opportunities to other area schools, including Title

I schools, as well as the addition of other clubs and camps throughout the upcoming year.

Explorium of Lexington is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and contributions are tax deductible. To make a contribution or to discuss giving opportunities, please contact Mike Gilmore, executive director, at (859) 258-3253 ext. 15 or by mail at Mike Gilmore, Explorium of Lexington, 440 W. Main Street, Lexington, KY 40507.

Explorium Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 - 5 p.m.

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Holidays Around the World

One of the exciting dynamics of children's museums is the emphasis on the celebration of cultural diversity. In Lexington, home to the University of Kentucky and host to world renown events such as the Alltech World Equestrian Games, children are exposed to many diverse cultures in our community. With this understanding, the Explorium of Lexington Education Department proudly presents Holidays



Around the World from December 7 - 11. During Holidays Around the World school groups are educated on holiday traditions

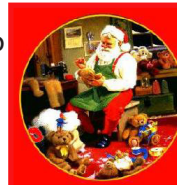
around the world as representatives from Russia, South American and Africa share the meaning of holiday experiences from their culture through food, dress and play.

To reserve this field trip experience for your class, organization or home school group, contact Heather Martin in the Sales Department at (859) 258-3253, ext. 22.

Stop by Santa's Workshop

Join us at Victorian Square's Christmas Open House, as the Explorium of Lexington hosts Santa's Workshop. The workshop will be open to the public on November 27 from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the atrium of Victorian

Square. Elves, both big and small, can stop by the workshop and make a toy or craft to take home.



Santa's Workshop

What's New?

- **Red, Yellow, Blue**

Preschoolers learn the primary colors with the Kaleidoscope Room's new *Color Storm*. This computer game learning experience was developed in cooperation with UK Department of Visualization and will be operational on December 1.

- **Safer than ever**

Compliments of a grant from the Kentucky Colonels the Explorium has installed a new security system allowing enhanced door security and the most up-to-date technology to provide the safest and most enjoyable experience for parents and children.

- **Special Holiday Hours**

The Explorium will be open on Monday, December 21 and Monday, December 28 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- **Welcome**

The Explorium welcomes Heather Martin to the staff

as Sales Manager. Heather will be coordinating Field Trips To Go, group reservations and facility rentals. She can be reached at (859) 258-3253 ext. 22.

- **Check out the Explorium on Facebook and Twitter**

Be a friend or a follower of the Explorium and keep current on happenings and events.

- **Planning a birthday party?**

Let the Explorium help. Our featured party is the Space themed party. A new overnight birthday package is also now available. Birthday package information is listed on the website at www.explorium.com. To reserve a party, call the Information Desk at 859-258-3253.

- **Host your next event at the Explorium**

Whether a sports banquet, a church event, or a "creative" work meeting, contact the Explorium for rates and space availability.

Members Have a Blast at Living in Space Preview



More than 100 Explorium members attended the Living in Space Preview Party on October 2 to blast off the Explorium's current traveling exhibit.

The interactive exhibit, inspired by the International Space Station (ISS), allows visitors to become ISS crewmembers for a day. Children and parents can plan their space day by piecing together parts of the 24-hour pie, work together using air pressure knobs to safely land their space craft on the designated spot and even try on a space suit or space gloves.

On December 7, WLEX will broadcast live from the Explorium's Living in Space Exhibit.



Don't Miss Out of Membership

Memberships at the Explorium will be discounted during the month of December as parents, grandparents and teachers are planning ahead for those chilling winter months. Purchase a membership and visit the Explorium for a full year free of charge! In addition, Explorium members receive special invitations to preview parties, like the Living in Space premier, and a discount for Holiday shopping in the gift shop.

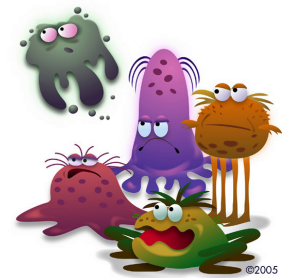
December Membership Prices:

Plus Membership	\$100
(includes reciprocal privileges at other children's museums throughout the country)	
Family membership	\$65
Grandparent	\$45
Teacher/Educator	\$25

New Destination Discovery Classes Coming to the Explorium

Preschoolers explore an unseen world in Germs, Germs, Everywhere! during the February session of Destination Discovery. In this class, preschoolers explore the world not seen with the naked eye. The importance of hand-washing along with the answer to why bread turns green and much more are just a few of the things discovered during this 4-week session.

Class session: February 10 - March 3
 Wednesdays 10 - 11 a.m. and 2 - 3 p.m.
 Cost: Members \$32 Non-members \$40



Space is limited to six children per session. Destination Discovery classes provide exciting and educational learning experiences designed specifically for preschoolers, ages 3-5. Destination Discovery sessions run throughout the year. For more information or to register your child, contact Kristi Barrowman, education specialist, at 859-258-3253 ext. 19 or email barrowman@explorium.com.



Volunteers Welcome

Are you retired?
Find yourself with extra time?
Love working with children?

The Explorium is always seeking individuals who would like to volunteer and support the museum with their time, talents and special skills. Currently,

volunteer positions are available for gallery assistants, administrative tasks, and Open Art Gallery attendants. To volunteer, call Margaret Trafton at 859-258-3253, extension 12 or by email at trafton@explorium.com

Job Openings at the Explorium

The Explorium of Lexington currently has Visitor Specialist positions open. The Visitor Specialist (VS) role is essential in ensuring a welcoming, safe, and enjoyable visit for the museum's visitors. The VS staffs exhibits, activities, and admissions, focusing on customer service, visitor engagement, and operations. The VS is the front line for services such as greeting visitors, answering questions, acknowledging visitor comments and concerns, and providing a quality experience for all visitors. This position is dependent upon the ability to learn and communicate efficiently, cash register skills, strong multi-tasking, the ability to work and think quickly under pressure, and the ability to engage visitors of all ages. The VS contributes to the museum's customer service mission, ensuring a quality experience in a polite, engaging, and professional manner.

To apply for the position or for more information, email Mike Gilmore, executive director, at executive@explorium.com. Include Visitor Specialist position in the subject line.



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