

CMOST CHRONICLES

The Children's Museum of Science and Technology

Summer 2006



John Graydon Smith Named CMOST's New President & CEO

The Children's Museum of Science and Technology (CMOST) has announced the appointment of John Graydon Smith as its new President and Chief Executive Officer.

The appointment follows the departure of Robert Carreau, who was the Interim Executive Director, as the museum transitioned from the Junior Museum to The Children's Museum of Science and Technology (CMOST), located in the Rensselaer Technology Park.

Smith has worked at the American Lung Association since 1997 and joined the American Lung Association of New York in 2005 as the organization's Vice President and Chief Mission Officer. Prior to coming to New York, Smith worked at the American Lung Association of Indiana, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer.

A native of Indiana, Smith graduated from the University of Indianapolis with degrees in Marketing and Political Science and then completed his Masters in Business Administration from Butler University in Indianapolis. In addition to his work with the American Lung Association, he has worked for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and Indiana Business for Responsive Government, as well as several non-profit and political clients as a consultant.

Smith, when asked about the challenges ahead said, "I am excited about working to make CMOST *the* regional resource for educating and exciting children about science and technology. This is a thrilling time to join CMOST and I can see the time when we will be a world-class, state-of-the-art museum offering innovative programming and services to the capital region."

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *CMOST Chronicles*, the newsletter for members, friends, and supporters of The Children's Museum of Science and Technology (CMOST). Despite our 50-plus year history as the Capital Region's Children's Museum, in so many ways we are at a time of new beginnings. From our relocation from our old site in Troy to our wonderful new facility in the Rensselaer Tech Park, and from our days as the Junior Museum to our new identity as CMOST, it has been YOU, our friends and members, who have continued to guide and support The Museum through our decades of growth and transition.

As the newest member of the CMOST family, perhaps I see The Museum through a different lens than do some of you who have been supporting us since the early days. While I can appreciate what we are and have been, I also see a time when CMOST is recognized across the country as a leader in educating and entertaining children simultaneously, all while instilling a lifelong sense of wonder and interest in science and technology. Our location in the heart of Tech Valley, our decades of experience in working with our community, and the continued support from partners like you will help make this vision a reality – and soon!

Here at CMOST we are making a commitment to our supporters to engage you in the ever-changing happenings and activities at The Museum. This newsletter is one step in that process, and you'll be hearing from us on a regular basis from now on, with updates on everything from new exhibits to member-only events. In this first issue there is plenty about me and my new role here, but there are also many interesting articles too! Inside, you'll read about our partnership with the Tri-City ValleyCats on our "Physics of Baseball" program, the re-launch of our new website, www.CMOST.org and our new birthday party programs designed for kids ages 3-10. There is also a recap of our recent Gala Celebration "Faces of the Future," as well as some fun activities for the kids in your life, so be sure to pass this along to them when you're finished reading.

Now in our 52nd year of serving the Capital Region, The Children's Museum of Science and Technology is committed to using everything we've learned over that time to continually retool and rethink how we educate, entertain, and communicate with all of you who have supported us through the years. *CMOST Chronicles* is just one piece of that plan, but I'm sure you'll find the news we have to share very exciting.

The next time you're at CMOST, please stop by and say hello to the "new guy" and if you haven't been back in awhile, now is the time. The Children's Museum of Science and Technology...we are inspiring young minds daily!

Sincerely,

John Graydon Smith
President & CEO



**CMOST
Board of Trustees**

Lynn Bradley, President
 Nancy F. Schultz, Vice President
 Todd McDonald, Treasurer
 Ruth A. Johnson, Secretary
 Bonnie S. Baker, Esq.
 Silvia R. Edmunds
 Sheila H. Fontenot
 James E. Prout
 Dustin Roller
 William Schwarz
 Florence Huban Suraci
 Lisa Trahan
 Maggie Vinciguerra

CMOST Staff

John Graydon Smith
President & CEO

Laurie Miedema
Director of Member & Guest Relations

Sarah Smith
Director of Education & Museum Experience

Cherril Young
Director of Development & External Relations

Dawn Baldwin
Animal Care/Educator

Susan Bradshaw
Executive Assistant

Katie DeRusso
Reservation Specialist/Educator

Derek Sweeney-Kesler
Dome & Technology Coordinator

Meagan Pearce
Member & Guest Relations Specialist

Sara Schmidt
Member & Guest Relations Specialist



The Physics of Baseball

On August 19th

Join CMOST for a day of Baseball fun & Science!



So you may think that baseball is as simple as see the ball, hit the ball and run! But have you really thought about how much science is involved in hitting that homerun. Join us, on Saturday, August 19th, as we reveal the scientific secrets of what baseball is all about!

Putting Something on The Ball - A science lesson on momentum and a hands-on demonstration of pitching.

The Bounciness of Balls - Children will use the scientific method to determine "the bounciness of balls." We will discover which sports balls bounce the best and the science behind it.

Pitching 101 - Working with a real pitcher and pitching coach, children will have the opportunity to throw a few pitches including a fastball, curveball, screwball and slider.

Following a day of presentations at CMOST watch the Tri-City ValleyCats make physics work when they take on the Hudson Valley Renegades, at 7:00 PM, at Hudson Valley Community College.



**"Faces of the Future" Gala
Raises over \$30,000**

On May 4th, The Children's Museum of Science and Technology hosted the 2006 Anniversary Gala, "Faces of the Future," at The Museum. This incredible evening honored the Robison

Family Foundation, whose commitment and support to CMOST and the capital region community has spanned decades.

Thanks to the generosity of the evening's sponsors and guests, over \$30,000 was raised for new exhibits and programming. Guests of the gala enjoyed being the first to see our newest exhibit piece - the electron microscope - and view items from our exhibit wish list - the Spin Browser and the original Pinscreen. Thanks to our guests and donors, some of our wishes "came true" that evening, like feeding Suzie, our Barred Owl for one year, and expanding our weather exhibit (stay tuned for details)!

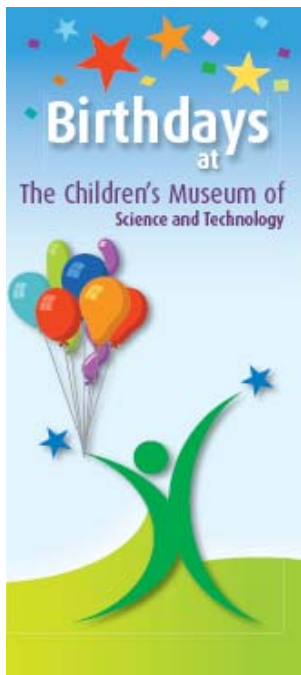
The evening's Guest Speaker Mark Little, from GE Global Research, tied it all together voicing the importance of the museum's goals and how they align with those of our region and our country; "let's get our kids excited about science and technology!"

A special thank you goes to John J. Nigro, for serving as this year's Honorary Gala Committee Chairperson, and the Robison Family Foundation, RPI and Nigro Companies for sponsoring the Gala.

Thank you to all who support CMOST and share our mission of exciting children about science and technology. Let's continue to Explore, Discover and Imagine the possibilities for the "Faces of the Future!"



New Birthday Parties Added at CMOST!



Why not celebrate your birthday at CMOST? Especially now that you can choose from...

A **Bubbology Party**, where you experiment with the magic, science and art of bubbles during this wild and crazy birthday party!

or

How about **Unfolding Mysteries: The Origami Paper Party**, where you try your hand at folding and inventing with nothing other than a flat piece of paper!

We of course are still offering our famous **Animals Abound Party**, where you learn about the animal world through a hands-on presentation,

&

The **Molecularium Party**, when you take a magical animated adventure with Oxy, Hydro and Hydra on the Molecularium ship during our award winning Dome Show and workshop.

All parties include: Exclusive use of birthday party room for 2¹/₂ hours for 16+ children, a museum self-tour, a souvenir t-shirt, a small gift for each party guest, an educator led program, a Dome show and passes for all attendees to visit CMOST again!

For more information on our Birthday Party packages or to reserve your date call the CMOST Reservations line at 518-235-2120, extension 206.

We Have Launched A New Website!

If you haven't visited www.CMOST.org then you are in for a big surprise! Many people have been working hard to design CMOST's new website so that it's streamlined for easier use by our members and guests; and provides all the information you need to have an incredible experience at the museum.

In keeping with our mission of instilling a sense of wonder and in discovery in young minds, inspiring a lifelong exploration of science and technology, we have added sections of the website for kids to explore and discover the world of science.

We also have included resources and activities for teachers, parents and group leaders to use at schools, home and meetings to reinforce what the kids have learned at CMOST.

For membership information and to see the latest happenings at CMOST visit www.CMOST.org

Friends of The Children's Museum of Science and Technology

Imagination Sponsors:

Bender Scientific Fund
Community Foundation for the Capital Region, John J. Nigro Donor Advised Fund
Harvey and Margaret Schadler
Kenneth Lally
Massry Charitable Foundation
MetLife Foundation
Picotte Family Foundation
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Robert Carreau
Robison Family Foundation
The Hogarty Family Foundation
The Times Union
The Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation
Tim and Maggie Vinciguerra

Discovery Sponsors:

Bank of America
Capital Bank
Capital District YMCA
First Niagara Bank Foundation
Home FundingFinders
John Kolb
Joseph Champagne
Lynn Bradley
Map Info
Mohawk Fine Papers, Inc.
Nancy Schultz
New York State Zoos and Botanicals Gardens
Salvatore R. & Anna E. Beltrone Family Foundation
Samuel Heffner
Sara Huntington Catlin Memorial Fund
Stewart's Shops
Todd J. and Lisa M. McDonald
Val and Bud Peterson
Walmart Foundation
Woodward, Connor, Gillies & Seleman Architects

Fun Science Fact

Fleas can jump 130 times higher than their own height. In human terms this is equal to a 6ft. person jumping 780 ft. into the air.

Kid's Corner

Did you know my name is
See-more CMOST?



Be sure to find me on your
scavenger hunt
when you visit CMOST.....

See-more's Word Find Puzzle

M E H S A I D O E A J I
T S N V T U C K O R A L
V N H B O S A R I M W P
O E H L M N S N F O E T
M Z C C S F R P Y L I M
A Z S D B C U T A E V A
M L E W J Z I U H C W H
I X I E V V S E L U E A
K A P L A N E T N L C S
T H E R M O M E T E R S
H T G E C C R A B S O N
I F F G F C E L H Q R O

Find these hidden words:

ATOMS	OWL
CLOUD	PLANET
CRAB	SNAKE
GRAVITY	SPACE
MOLECULES	THERMOMETER

This summer our hours are
Monday - Saturday
10 AM to 5 PM

We will be showing the Dome
show BIG
for Free
at 3:00 PM
every weekday!

