

CMOST CHRONICLES

The Children's Museum of Science and Technology

Summer 2008

Operation W.I.L.D. -- Working in the Living Domain



CMOST's new *Operation: W.I.L.D.* experience will house our impressive living collection of exotic animal species in an interactive and sensory stimulating environment that represents their appropriate habitats from the desert to the tropic. Through visits to *Operation W.I.L.D.* kids and families learn not only about the animals, but also their lifestyles, eating habits, means of survival, and common threats.

**Coming
this Fall!**

Visitor interactions with *Operation W.I.L.D.* also will serve to inspire children to explore animal related careers, and prepare and educate them for these types of careers

through hands-on, practical training. An expanded mentoring program, CMOSTeen, has been designed and will afford interested children the opportunity to not only become engaged in the care and feeding of the animal collection, but will also train and mentor them in the use of the collection for educating other children. The *Operation W.I.L.D.* experience is made possible by the support of the Troy Savings Bank Foundation.

New Electron Microscope Exhibit Unveiled at Anniversary Gala



RPI Professor Ray Dove and CMOSTeen Volunteer Bryant Abuhl discover the world on a nanoscale during the Anniversary Gala. Photo courtesy of Mia Ertas, CNSE

CMOST's new Electron Microscope exhibit went on-line on June 12th, at The Museum's 2008 Anniversary Gala. This new exhibit, which is part of the new Junior Science Lab, enables kids and their families to explore, discover and imagine our world on the nanoscale level.

The Junior Science Lab and the Electron Microscope exhibit were made possible by Senator Joseph Bruno, who has championed the funding of this project at CMOST, as well as Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute who donated the electron microscope and Evex, whose maintenance sponsorship of the electron microscope will make it available to children for years to come.

"It is fitting that we unveiled the electron microscope in our new Junior Science Lab the same evening that we honored one of the leaders in nanoscience. Dr. Alain E. Kaloyeros, Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Professor of Nanoscience at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) of the University at Albany," said John Graydon Smith, President of CMOST. The dedication of the leaders of Tech Valley to supporting CMOST's mission of instilling a sense of wonder and discovery in children that inspires their lifelong exploration of science and technology, is how is CMOST is able to continue to offer our children cutting edge scientific educational opportunities."

**CMOST
Summer Hours:**

June 30th - Aug. 29th

**Open
Monday – Saturday
10 AM to 5 PM**

**Parking
at CMOST**

Free Parking is available at CMOST, but due to current construction in the Rensselaer Technology Park please use the entrance at 200 Jordan Road when visiting The Museum.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

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A Letter from CMOST's President & CEO

Dear Friends,

Summer is here and at CMOST we are kicking it off with a bang!

On June 12th, we held our Anniversary Gala which honored Dr. Alain Kaloyeros, from the University at Albany. Dr. Kaloyeros was presented with our highest honor, the "Explore*Discover*Imagine" award, in recognition of his tireless work in helping inspire children to explore science and technology. A fantastic evening was had by all, topped off by a surprise gift from Dr. Kaloyeros who presented us with a personal check for \$5,000 to help CMOST continue our work in developing the next generation of scientists!

At the Gala we also unveiled the Electron Microscope Experience, the new highlight of the Junior Science Lab. Scientists from RPI and EVEX were on-hand to demonstrate the power of our microscope, and party guests were treated to up – *very close*- views of bugs and other tiny bits of matter magnified hundreds of times their size. CMOST's staff is working hard to develop new programming for our guests using the microscope, so stay tuned for special workshops in the Lab coming soon!

Of course, with the arrival of summer comes Summer camps and our Summer hours. Starting June 30, we'll be open Monday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm which will give every family the opportunity to come experience all the new and wonderful exhibits and programs CMOST offers. If you plan on attending one of our great camps and haven't already signed up, spots are going fast so call today to reserve your space.

Finally, we are making preparations for our new fall exhibits which will include improvements to the Go Power! area featuring solar and wind energy supported by GE and the new Operation W.I.L.D. live animal experience funded by the Troy Savings Bank Foundation. These new exhibits will be the most ambitious projects we've ever undertaken, so be sure to check in with us in the coming months to be the first to experience everything CMOST can offer. We're proud to be the only science center in the area specifically designed for children and their families to explore, discover, and imagine the worlds of science together, but we're even more proud that you've chosen to be a member of the CMOST family and we thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,

John Graydon Smith
President and Chief Executive Officer

"My Parent & Me"

A 5-week pre-school Science
Program for kids and their
Parents!

Wednesday or Saturday mornings
9:00 to 10:00 AM

Classes available for
kids ages 2 & 3 and 4 & 5

Classes begin
Wed. July 9th and Sat. July 12th

Pricing for this 5 week session:
(for one adult & one child)

CMOST Members:	\$50.00
Non-Members:	\$75.00
Each additional child:	\$25.00

Visit www.CMOST.org
for more information or
call 518-235-2120 to register!

CMOST Joins National Study of Family Science Exploration

CMOST is excited to be one of fifteen museums from around the country selected to study the family learning habits of children ages 3 to 5 and their adult care givers while exploring science. This study is funded by the National Science Foundation and is being coordinated by the Boston Children's Museum and Evergreene Research and Evaluation in an attempt to learn more about how to most effectively encourage positive collaborative science investigations between young children and their adult caregivers.



"We are very excited to be chosen to participate with such an elite group in this research project," said John Graydon Smith, President of CMOST. "The results of our work will allow us to develop our exhibits and pre-school programming in new and exciting ways. We have seen a dramatic demand at CMOST for additional pre-school programming and this research project will allow us to continue to be the cutting edge science center in Tech Valley."

Other partners in the project include the Children's Museum of Pittsburg, the Providence Children's Museum, Imagine It! Children's Museum of Atlanta, the St. Louis Science Center, and the Lawrence Hall of Science in Berkeley, California, in studying family learning during science exploration.

Kids Brainstorming Returns to CMOST this Summer!

This summer The Children's Museum of Science and Technology is once again participating in The By Kids For Kids (BKFK) Brainstorm Challenge Workshops. The BKFK workshops let kids bang, bend, and brainstorm allowing them to get their creative and inventive juices bubbling, giving them a shot at designing, creating and inventing their own toy!



Each workshop is a fun, fast 45 minutes of hands-on building that starts with your child's ideas and ends with their invention. Every participant will be given the tools to maximize their creative potential – and have fun doing it.

BKFK workshops are being held throughout the summer at CMOST, check our Summer Program Schedule included with the CMOST Chronicles, or visit our website at www.CMOST.org. To register for the "BKFK Brainstorm Challenge" at CMOST call 518-235-2120. Pre-registration is suggested as each session is limited to 25 participants. This program is free with admission to CMOST.

CMOST Celebrates Anniversary Gala

More than 200 leaders in government, business, technology and education were on hand on June 12th when The Children's Museum of Science and Technology (CMOST) honored Dr. Alain E. Kaloyeros, Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Professor of Nanoscience at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) of the University at Albany, with the "Explore ★ Discover ★ Imagine" Award at CMOST's 2008 Anniversary Gala. Dr. Kaloyeros was selected for his commitment to instilling a sense of wonder and discovery in children that inspires their lifelong exploration of science and technology. John Nigro, of the Nigro Companies and John Cavalier, formerly of MapInfo, were the 2008 Honorary Committee co-chairs.



Gala Guests enjoyed CMOST as kids do everyday during the cocktail hour!



John Cavalier and John Graydon Smith present Dr. Alain Kaloyeros with the "Explore ★ Discover ★ Imagine" Award



Bryant Abbuhi, a CMOST Teen Volunteer spoke at the Gala about how his CMOST experience led to his decision to enter Davidson College next fall to study Herpetology.



Dr. Alain Kaloyeros presents John Graydon Smith with a donation to The Children's Museum of Science and Technology



Maryann Morgan a teacher in Tech Valley spoke at the Gala about how invaluable CMOST is in educating and turning her students onto science and technology.



Gala Photos

Mia Ertas, CNSE

courtesy of

Friends of CMOST

As of the last twelve months



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 Times Union
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 Troy German Hall Association
 Troy Savings Bank Foundation
 F. Michael Tucker
 University at Albany
 Verizon
 Tim and Maggie Vinciguerra
 Wright Family Foundation
 Zone 5



**CMOST is the Place to be
this summer!**

- ☆ Summer Science Day Camps!
- ☆ A Great Family Day Trips!
- ☆ Special Programs and Workshops!
- ☆ Summer Birthday Parties!

A CMOST Membership – It’s a full year of fun!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
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1. _____ 2. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Member Benefits:

- Unlimited free admission for one year
- 10% discount in museum gift shop
- 10% discount on birthday parties
- Discounts on camps and workshops
- Guest passes (Family Explorer and above)
- \$1 off admission for member guests
- Quarterly Newsletters and e-news alerts
- Invitations to members-only events
- CMOST open seven days a week for members
- Free admission to over 300 other science centers around the world (*Family Explorer and above*)
- Free admission to participating museums of the Empire State Museums Reciprocal Program

FAMILY EXPLORER \$120

All member benefits for two parents, two grandparents and all children under 18. FREE and unlimited admission to dome shows for one year, and six free guest passes

FAMILY \$80

All member benefits for two adults and all children in the household under 18

GRANDPARENT \$75

All member benefits for two grandparents and all grandchildren under 18

FAMILIES SPONSOR \$250

All the benefits of the Family Explorer Membership PLUS one sponsorship of educational programs for disadvantaged children in the Capital Region.

GALAXY MEMBERSHIP CLUB

\$500, \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000

(please circle desired level)
All the benefits of the Family Sponsor membership for two adults, two grandparents, all children and two additional guests, invitations to special museum events, discount on museum rental, invitations to private tours, and free guest passes.

This membership is: New Renewal Gift

Yes, I'd like to add the Dome Pass for \$30 to my membership.

Memberships are non-transferable and non-refundable. Group and school tours include special museum activities and services; therefore, members visiting as part of a group must pay the group rate. Membership terms and conditions are subject to change.

Please return form to:

CMOST, 250 Jordan Road, Troy, New York 12180
or renew your membership online at www.CMOST.org