

CMOST Chronicles

The Children's Museum of Science and Technology

Winter 2009

IBM Partners with CMOST in Expansion of Pre-School Offerings!

CMOST is pleased to be partnering with IBM to bring the new *Young Explorer Computer Lab* to our youngest future scientists at The Museum. This multi-station exhibit is utilized in CMOST's continued efforts to expand science and technology opportunities to young children aged three to seven. IBM's cutting-edge KidSmart Early Learning program also includes a grant of math and language software that will build the basic skills of our youngest future scientists.

"IBM is pleased to partner with the Children's Museum to provide interactive technology that gives kids a jumpstart on their education," said Bob Samson, IBM's Senior Location Executive for the Capital Region. "Tech Valley has a strong future in technology and we need to prepare our young people from the earliest age to benefit from careers in technology."



"CMOST is thrilled to be able to continue to expand our offerings at The Museum for younger children. During the past year we have expanded our pre-school "My Parent and Me" program and now we are able to expand our exhibits to offer even more hands on opportunities for younger children," said John Graydon Smith, CMOST President. "Our mission is to instill a sense of wonder and discovery in young minds, inspiring a lifelong exploration of science and technology, and with IBM's help we are able to do so at a very young age."

The centerpiece of IBM's KidSmart program is the Young Explorer, a "kid-proof" computer equipped with early learning educational software and housed in colorful children's desk furniture. KidSmart also offers a Web site, www.kidsmartearlylearning.org, which includes teacher training and parent information.

Newest Exhibit Celebrates Tech Valley's History!

This January CMOST unveils its newest exhibit "*Horseshoes and Waterwheels - New York's Tech Valley in the 1800's*" as part of the Hudson River Interpretive Center. This exhibit will be utilized to educate children and their families about the many inventions and innovations throughout history that were developed right here in New York's Tech Valley. CMOST is proud to be partnering with the Burden Iron Works Museum and the Rensselaer County Historical Society in developing this new exhibit, that runs in conjunction with the 2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial celebration.

"It's an exciting time at CMOST as we are able to show families that Tech Valley is not a recent phenomenon but has been the livelihood of the Hudson Valley for hundreds of years," said John Graydon Smith, CMOST President. "This exhibit will expose thousands of children to the importance of the Hudson River in technological advancements that have been made through history."

This exhibit is made possible with funding from the New York Council for the Humanities and the Hudson River Improvement Fund.



CMOST Joins Global Celebration of International Year of Astronomy 2009

CMOST shoots for the stars as The Museum becomes part of the global celebration of International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA2009). IYA2009 marks the 400th anniversary of Galileo Galilei's first observations of the universe through a telescope in 1609, an event that changed astronomy forever. In honor of this early event, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the United Nations have proclaimed 2009 as the International Year of Astronomy to spread awareness of astronomy's contributions to society and culture, stimulate young people's interest in science, portray astronomy as a global peaceful endeavor, and nourish a scientific outlook in society. CMOST is excited to will be part of this global celebration as we incorporate new astronomy related activities in Museum workshops, camps, programming and our new science cart demonstrations that happen daily at CMOST.

"We are eager to be expanding our educational offerings here at CMOST to include additional astronomy," said Sarah Fisk, CMOST Director of Education and Museum Experience. "Astronomy is a great gateway to expand our program offerings to older children and tweens and instill in them a sense of wonder and discovery that inspires their lifelong exploration of science and technology."

For a complete listing of CMOST programs, including our astronomy programs visit www.CMOST.org, and for more information on the International Year of Astronomy 2009 go to www.astronomy2009.us



CMOST Board of Trustees



Letter from CMOST's President

Dear Friends,

Though the snow and freezing rain have already made this one seem like a long winter, I'm afraid we still have plenty more to look forward to. No matter what the weather is doing outside, however, it is always warm and sunny inside at CMOST – unless you're here for a "Night at The Museum" Camp-In, in which case it's just warm!

Our expanded Camp-In program is just one of the highlights of this issue of CMOST Chronicles, so be sure to look through the schedule of upcoming Camp-In programs to see when your family, scout troop, youth sports team, or school group can come spend a "Night at The Museum" and have a blast learning about all kinds of science topics. Our Camp-In programs are designed to meet badge requirements for your troopers too, so bring the entire group, or schedule a private event and have CMOST all to yourselves!

Whether you visit overnight or during the day, as most of our guests do, you'll want to check out our newest exhibit, the Young Explorer Computer Lab which is made possible through a new partnership with IBM. These computer stations and the games your kids can play on them have been incredibly popular, especially for children in the three to seven age range. You'll find the computers on The Museum floor, near Playmotion.

We're also pleased to announce a new exhibit coming to the Hudson River Interpretive Center in January, called "Horseshoes and Waterwheels – New York's Tech Valley in the 1800's" as well as a new crop of programming related to astronomy, which we'll be featuring throughout The Museum during 2009 in our planetarium, Make It-Take It activities, Camp-In programs, and special workshops. If you're not already a CMOST member, be sure to sign up now to get first notice for these programs, as well as invitations to our members-only special events.

You may also notice that we're coming up quickly on registration for the 2009 CMOST Summer Camps, with member registration beginning in February and general public sign-ups in March. Even with all the snow and cold weather, summer *is* coming (I promise) and camps will fill up fast. You don't have to wait until then to get out of the cold and warm up though – remember it is always warm and sunny here at CMOST!

Sincerely,

John Graydon Smith
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School Vacation Science Camps at CMOST For ages 5 to 10

January 19th & February 16-20, 2008
from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sign up for one day, two days or all five depending on your schedule.

Pricing for February Break Science Camp:

CMOST Members: \$45/day Non-Members: \$55/day Call CMOST for multiple Day Rates



Summer Science Camp Registration

For ages 5 to 14

Monday, February 16th - Opens for CMOST Members Only

Saturday, March 2nd - Opens to the General Public

- ★ New Tween Scientist camps for ages 11-14!
- ★ GIST- Girls in Science and Technology camps return!
- ★ Co-ed camps for Junior Discovers and Senior Explorer!

For more information on all CMOST Science Camps visit www.CMOST.org or call 518-235-2120

"My Parent & Me"

Pre-Schoolers

Science Class

5 week sessions
for ages 2 – 4

Next session begins

Wednesday, January 21st

Saturday, January 24th

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

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

*For more information please visit
www.CMOST.org
or call CMOST at 518-235-2120.*



Spend a "Night at The Museum"

Join us for a CMOST Camp-In!

As night falls and the stars come out, the adventures at CMOST are just beginning! Bring your group to CMOST to enjoy a night in the wild indoors as they explore, discover and imagine the world of science and technology through one of our fun and hands-on Camp-In programs!

Your Overnight Camp-In includes:

- ★ A variety of hands-on workshops and demonstrations
- ★ Planetarium show in the Lally Digital Dome and Planetarium
- ★ Explore time in The Museum
- ★ Evening snack and light breakfast

Choose to Camp-In with us on one of our scheduled dates or give us a call to arrange a date and theme that fits your group's schedule. We require a minimum of 25 participants (maximum of 100) to run Camp-Ins, so invite your friends and families to come along with you to explore, discover and imagine the world of science and technology together.

Date and Themes

January 10th – 11th: Investigating the Wonders of Science!

Explore the world of science in hands-on workshops while sleuthing your way to answering scientific questions. This camp-in meets Girl Scout requirements for the Science Wonders Try-It and the Science Sleuths Badge, and the Cub Scout Science Belt Loop.



February 7th – 8th: Exploring Earth and Sky

Spend the night discovering the earth's sky and what makes up the universe. This camp-in meets Girl Scout requirements for the Earth and Sky Try-It and the Sky Search Badge, and the Cub Scout Astronomy Belt Loop.

March 14th – 15th: Animals and their Environment

Do you ever wonder how animals live and why they live where they do? Join us as we explore and learn about animals and how their environment affects them. This camp-in meets Girl Scout requirements for the Animals Try-It and Plants and Animals Badge, and the Cub Scout Wildlife Conservation Belt Loop.



April 4th – 5th: Investigating Operation W.I.L.D.

Meet the animals of the Operation W.I.L.D. exhibit and investigate their habitats to see how their physical and behavioral adaptations help the animals survive. This camp-in meets Girl Scout requirements for the Watching Wildlife Try-It and the Wildlife Badge, and the Cub Scout Wildlife Conservation Belt Loop.

May 2nd – 3rd: Water Wonders Everywhere!

Imagine living in a world of water, meet CMOST's animals and explore how behaviors on land affect the water world. This camp-in meets the Girl Scout requirements for the Water Everywhere Try-It and the Water Wonders Badge.

June 6th – 7th: Special CMOST members Family Camp-In!

Don't miss this special treat for CMOST parents and children ages 5 and up!

Looking for a unique family vacation? Join us for a night at CMOST as we explore, discover and imagine the world of science and technology together!

Camp-In Fees for children are \$25.00 per child, and we require one adult chaperone per every eight children and they are admitted for free. Each additional adult chaperone is \$10.00. A 50% deposit is required to secure your spot and full payment is due at least two weeks prior to the Camp-In.



To register for your Camp-In call 518-235-2120. Registration is open to individuals, scouts and youth groups. Due to limited space, Camp-Ins need to be booked at least two weeks in advance.

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Is your Child included in CMOST's "Faces of The Future Gallery!"?

CMOST members bring in a picture of your future scientist exploring, discovering and imaging the world of science at CMOST and let us hang it in our "Faces of the Future Gallery!"

