

CMOST Chronicles

The Children's Museum of Science and Technology

Winter 2008

CMOST Partners with Target in Offering Free Visits to The Museum

CMOST is proud to be making The Museum more accessible to kids across the Tech Valley through Target's sponsorship of Free Fridays at The Museum during the holiday season and the funding of Discover Science field trips in 2008. From the first Free Friday the day after Thanksgiving to the Friday before New Year's CMOST saw a dramatic increase in families coming into The Museum to explore, discover and imagine the world of science together.

The Discover Science program, was piloted by CMOST in 2006 as teachers and school administrators faced cuts in funding for school field trips and the rising cost

of transportation. In response to the needs expressed by teachers and school administrators in the Tech Valley, CMOST will continue to offer free admission to school groups with the assistance of Target and other generous funders.

"The striking cost of transportation alone can be the sole factor preventing field trips. In partnering with Target we are now able to continue to offer more than 1,000 students the opportunity to visit The Children's Museum of Science and Technology who otherwise would not be able to experience our unique educational resource," said John Graydon Smith, CMOST President.

This grant is part of ongoing efforts by Target to strengthen families and communities throughout the country. Since opening its doors, Target has given 5% of its income to organizations that support education, the arts and safe families and communities. Today that translates to \$3 million every week.

"At Target, we are making a real difference every day through our grant-making program," said Laysha Ward, vice president, community relations, at Target. "We're proud to partner with The Children's Museum of Science and Technology as part of our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities where our guests and team members live and work."



Pictured are Rich Bailey, Target District Team Leader, John Graydon Smith, CMOST President, Jenn White, Target District Administrator and Heather Lingren, East Greenbush Store Team Leader

Save the Date!

Thursday, June 12, 2008

CMOST's

**2008 Anniversary
Gala
at CMOST!**

*Honoring Dr. Alain
Kaloyeros
of CNSE of the
University of Albany
with the
Explore ★ Discover ★ Imagine
Award*

Saturday Morning Pre-School Program added at The Museum!

Members asked for it and we are happy to expand the "My Parent and Me" pre-school science program to include classes on Saturday mornings, as well as our regular Wednesday morning classes, starting in January!

"My Parent and Me" is a five week program with classes for kids ages 2&3 and 4 & 5. Both age groups will have classes that run on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00 at CMOST.

"My Parent and Me program is a chance for kids and parents to interact, explore, imagine and discover the world of science together. All sessions include arts & crafts and a pre-school educational program," said Sarah Fisk, *Director of Education & Museum Experience*

Pricing for this five-week session for one adult & one child is \$50.00 for CMOST members, \$75.00 for non-members and \$25.00 for each additional child. Full payment required to register for the "My Parent & Me" program.

For more information or to register for "My Parent and Me" call 518-235-2120 ext. 206 or visit www.CMOST.org.



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A Letter from CMOST's President & CEO

Dear Friends,

As we enter 2008, it seems like a good time to revisit all that happened here at CMOST during 2007, as well as to preview what we have planned for the coming year...

2007 brought several exciting new reasons to visit The Museum on a regular basis, and many of you were so encouraged by what you saw that our membership rolls skyrocketed during the year. New exhibits like our Hudson River Interpretive Center provided children with even more hands-on opportunities to explore the world around them, and we even expanded to the great outdoors through our Kline Plantasies Killitie interpretive nature trail - (have you found our Mohican wigwam in its natural settings yet?)

Our new digital dome shows "Astronaut" and "The Zula Patrol" were huge hits with the kids, and the new programs we introduced like "All About Air" and "Wonderful World of Weather" keep audiences entertained and educated - that's "*edutainment!*"

Of course, all of these new experiences are costly to develop and maintain, so for 2008 we implemented our first ever membership fee increase, which resulted in a flood of renewals right before the end of the year! If you didn't get renewed in time, however, don't worry as the increase was only \$10 and our Family Explorer membership didn't go up at all, making it the best value in the Capital Region!

Despite all the growth we've experienced in the past 18 months, don't think that we plan on slowing down anytime soon...

Recent visitors have seen firsthand that construction is almost complete on the new Junior Science Lab and we plan on adding the Electron Microscope Experience shortly, making CMOST the only place around where kids can learn about nanotechnology by using a working electron microscope themselves! Improvements to the *Go Power!* and animal room exhibits are also in the works, and we hope to add more outdoor experiences in 2008 as well, so rest assured your membership can be put to good use any time of year.

Please continue to utilize CMOST for all your edutainment needs, from birthday parties to family outings, and especially during those times when the kids are out of school - *remember, when school's out, CMOST is IN!* For an updated schedule of activities, visit www.CMOST.org to find out what we have going on each day. Thanks for all of your support in 2007, and I'll look forward to exploring, discovering, and imagining the worlds of science with you throughout 2008!

Sincerely,

John Graydon Smith
President and Chief Executive Officer

Enhance your Employee Benefits Package!



CMOST

Corporate Memberships
are now available

For more information visit www.CMOST.org
or contact Laurie Miedema, Director of
Member and Guest Relations at 518-235-2120
or at Lmiedema@CMOST.org

Science Camps at CMOST

February Break Week:

Jr. Discover (Age 5 - 7)

Sr. Explorer (Age 8 - 10)

February 18-22, 2008, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

You can sign up for one day, two days or all five depending on your schedule.

Pricing for February Break Science Camp:

CMOST Members: \$45/day or \$200/week Non-Members: \$55/day or \$235/week

CMOST will have after-camp care available from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM, for an additional cost of \$9 per day per child. This service is only available with pre-registration.



Summer Science Camp Registration

Monday, February 18th - Opens for CMOST Members Only

Saturday, March 1st - Opens to the General Public

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



What's New at CMOST!

The Hudson River Interpretive Center



The new **Hudson River Interpretive Center** has kids and their families traveling the length of the Hudson River all the while exploring hands-on fun including discovering creatures that live in and near the river, exploring the Hudson River watershed at the Watershed Table, and utilizing touch screen technology to discover habitats found along the three hundred mile long river!



The **Butterfly House** has also opened as a part of its new Hudson River Interpretive Center. The Butterfly House features Painted Lady and Brassica butterflies, and has been integrated into the exhibit as an educational tool at The Museum to demonstrate life cycles to kids throughout the Tech Valley.



Both species of butterflies can be found locally as well as throughout North America. The Painted Lady butterfly is often found along the open spaces of the Hudson River Valley. The Brassica butterfly, also known as the Cabbage White butterfly, is often found in agricultural areas and is considered a pest to farmers and gardeners due to its appetite for cabbage and other vegetables.

You can hear the hammering and sawing as construction has begun on the new **Science Lab** located in the front of CMOST. Soon visitors will be experiencing a state-of-the-art science laboratory which will house CMOST's electron microscope- the only one of its kind in the country available to the public in a setting designed for children.



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CMOST After Dark!



Join the fun at CMOST during the day or see The Museum in a whole new light... after dark! CMOST is the perfect place to host your next meeting, special event, or catered party in addition to using The Museum for your child's birthday party, school group, scout trip or group overnight.



This past fall CMOST hosted Stove Top Stuffing's Community Dinner for two hundred people. Stove Top Stuffing invitees from around the Capital District enjoyed an evening at The Museum and had a sit-down dinner demonstration with Stove Top Stuffing!

And wedding proposals take place at CMOST! Congratulations to the future Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick (pictured on the right) who will always have a special place at CMOST where they became engaged in the Lally Planetarium "under the stars"!



For information on renting The Museum for your next event contact Laurie Miedema at 518-235-2120 or by email at info@CMOST.org. To see our rental package information visit www.CMOST.org.

*You can now purchase and renew your
CMOST membership online at
[www.CMOST.org!](http://www.CMOST.org)*



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

Prices effective January 1, 2008

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

1. _____

3. _____

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

GRANDPARENT \$75
All member benefits for two grandparents and all grandchildren under 18

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.

FAMILY \$80
All member benefits for two adults and all children in the household 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.

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

This membership is: New Renewal Gift

Memberships are non-transferable and non-refundable

***Please return this form to: CMOST, 250 Jordan Road, Troy, NY 12180
or go to www.CMOST.org to buy your membership today!***