Who would have thought that phrase would bring such a sigh of relief? Maybe not a sigh. A laugh, a screech, a giggle – all the noises we hear when families are in the Museum playing and learning. Or playing instruments at Art after Dark. Or learning something new at Family SciFest.

As the community comes back to us, we look for ways to make them feel welcome, reach out to them where they are and ensure everyone has an opportunity to visit the Museum.

This year, business as usual had a whole new meaning.

The Museum continues to work toward fully English and Spanish bilingual programming and exhibit spaces. From long-standing programs like Wee Play and Brain Boost to all-new bilingual tours and outreach the Museum is ensuring our Spanish-speaking visitors feel seen and welcomed in everything we do.

Aprendemos, a program funded by a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, focuses on accessibility for marginalized groups and emphasizes bilingual programs, including free weekly Discovery Nights.
need for accessibility

The Museum has a variety of programs focused on financial accessibility and inclusion. We offer discounted admission, free programs and subsidized school tours that reach traditionally underrepresented communities throughout Southern Arizona. The need for these programs has greatly expanded and helps meet the Museum’s strategic prioritization on equity.

Visitors using Museums for All, a discount program for people receiving food assistance, increased 5-fold since 2019. MyTime, which offers a quieter, supportive atmosphere on weekday afternoons for reduced admission, reached 3,900 visitors. There is no doubt these programs are needed. We will continue to look for ways to welcome everyone to the Museum experience.

out in the community

Southern Arizona has a lot of ground to cover. Not everyone has the opportunity to come to the Museum, which is why we have increased our efforts to bring the Museum to a wider audience.

Whether we’re delivering boxes of supplies and virtual learning videos to rural schools or setting up activities at a community event or library, the important thing is even more kids have the opportunity to experience hands-on STEM, arts and literacy engagement.

A summerlong collaboration at Tohono Chul was a highlight and a door to a new partnership! Every Saturday our Education team offered free nature-based activities as part of the Nature Niños program. In 2023, Children’s Museum Oro Valley moves permanently to its new location – inside the beautiful grounds of Tohono Chul botanical garden!
$50,000 & up
Armstrong McDonald Foundation
Institute of Museum and Library Services
Margaret E. Mooney Foundation+
Ruth McCormick Tankersley Charitable Trust
Town of Oro Valley
Tucson Electric Power
Del E. Webb Foundation

$20,000 - $49,999
Fiesta Bowl Charities
Edna Gray
Connie Hillman Family Foundation
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
Holsclaw Advisory Endowment Fund*
Pima County
TMC HealthCare

$10,000 - $19,999
Anonymous
Arizona Commerce Authority
Citi
Cox Communications
First Things First
Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold
Geico
Joseph Stanley Leeds Foundation
David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation
Kinder Morgan Foundation
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Southwest Energy LLC
Southwestern Foundation for Education and Historic Preservation

$5,000 - $9,999
Fred and Christine Armstrong Foundation
AT&T Foundation
AZ Humanities
BeachFleischman PC
Cigna
Country Fair White Elephant
Dairy Council of Arizona
Paul DeJoe
Desert Diamond Casinos
Tom & Kim Groh
Hazen Family Foundation
HSL Properties
Hughes Federal Credit Union
Long Realty Cares Foundation
Perimeter Bicycling Association
Roche
Union Pacific Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

$1,000 - $4,999
Alliance Bank of Arizona
Arizona Roadrunners

$500 - $999
AssuredPartners
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Michael Bilharz and Ethan Smith Cox
Bookmans
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Gietl & Strutz Insurance
Larsen Baker, LLC
Martha Manar
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality
SBBL Architecture + Planning
Michael Shiner and Melissa Spiller-Shiner
Otton Suarez and Jean Kinkel-Suarez
Gemma Thomas
Van Alsburg Law Firm

Donations from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Children's Museum Tucson | Oro Valley
2022 Community Report
Mission
To provide fun, play-based, interactive, hands-on learning experiences for children and their families.

Vision
To inspire children and their families to reach their full potential through discovery, creativity and learning.

CMT is dedicated to five principals of internal organizational culture
Inclusion • Accessibility • Professional Growth • Collaboration • Transparency

Leadership Team

Hilary Van Alsburg
Executive Director

Jordan Rivera
Director of Education

Sarah Osborne
Director of Strategic Engagement

Carol Sayler
Director of Finance

Teresa Truelsen
Director of Marketing

Joel Trupiano
Director of Exhibits

David Lopez
Director of Operations

Michael Bilharz
Associate Director Guest Experiences