



Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian Invites Families to Name the Barnyard Exhibit Cow

PRESS RELEASE • FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • 04/15/2020

**MISSISSIPPI
CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM -
MERIDIAN**

MEDIA CONTACT

Rebecca Jackson

Marketing

Coordinator

rebecca@mcm.ms

P: 601.207.5323

Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian's Exhibit Naming Contest.
The Mississippi Children's Museum - Meridian invites everyone to cast a vote for the name of its friendly life-sized cow that will be included in its barnyard exhibit.

Meridian, Miss. (04/15/2020) – The Mississippi Children's Museum - Meridian (MCM - Meridian) would like your help in naming the barnyard exhibit's cow within the "My Best Me" health and nutrition gallery currently under construction in Meridian, MS. She will be the endeared sister of "Daisy," the cow who resides at the flagship location in Jackson, MS.

Cast your vote via MCM-Meridian or MCM Facebook and Instagram pages starting April 20th through April 26th. Should her name be "Queen" or "Gypsy"? As with all of the exhibits within the new satellite campus, these names have cultural significance and intriguing backstories.

QUEEN – Meridian's nickname, "Queen City" is derived from the city's importance to the railroad industry in the 1880s. There was a need for speed and Meridian's geographic location provided it. The "Queen and Crescent Route" that stretched from Cincinnati to New Orleans intersected in Meridian where trains switched engines. Travel time from Meridian to New Orleans was 8 hours faster than its rival railroad routes. Meridian set the record for the fastest travel time between the two cities, earning the title, "Queen City."

GYPSY – Meridian is the burial site of the Gypsy Queen, Kelly Mitchell. In 1915, the nationally recognized Queen of the Gypsy (Romani) people passed away at the age of 47 while giving birth. Her husband and King of the Gypsies, Emil Mitchell, held her funeral in Meridian. Over 20,000 gypsies traveled from all over the United States to celebrate the life of their Queen with a huge parade. Adorned with beads and trinkets, her grave at the Rose Hill Cemetery is still visited today.

The winning name will be announced on MCM-Meridian and MCM social media platforms the week of April 27th. Upon completion of the museum in early 2021, the name chosen will be included in the barnyard exhibit signage.

Facebook: @mcmmeridian or @mississippichildrensmuseum
Instagram: @mcmmeridian or @mschildsmuseum

About the Mississippi Children’s Museum

The Mississippi Children’s Museum (MCM) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering in its visitors a passion for lifelong learning, improving the health and well-being of Mississippi children, and instilling a sense of state pride in all Mississippi residents. The mission of MCM is to create unparalleled experiences to inspire excellence and a lifelong joy of learning. The goal of MCM is to inspire Mississippi’s children from all backgrounds to discover and achieve their potential. The 40,000-square foot museum is designed around five primary initiatives, with correlating exhibits, programs and outreach efforts. These initiatives include: Literacy, STEAM, Health and Nutrition, Cultural Arts and Mississippi Heritage—the keys to helping our children mature into healthy and productive adult learners. Museum exhibits provide engaging, explorative, hands-on educational activities for children of all ages. To learn more about MCM, visit www.mschildrensmuseum.org.

About the Mississippi Children’s Museum - Meridian

The Mississippi Children’s Museum - Meridian (MCM - Meridian) is the East Mississippi satellite campus of the statewide Mississippi Children’s Museum (MCM)—a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that provides unparalleled experiences that ignite a thirst for discovery, knowledge, and learning in all children. Currently MCM - Meridian is building a 25,000-square foot facility with exhibit space designed around three primary initiatives: Literacy and Arts, STEAM, and Health and Nutrition with Cultural Arts and Mississippi History woven throughout all three galleries. The museum’s exhibits, programs, and outreach opportunities will provide engaging, explorative, hands-on educational activities for children of all ages. MCM - Meridian is a strategic part of the statewide Mississippi Children’s Museum which is dedicated to inspiring ALL of Mississippi’s children from ALL backgrounds to discover and achieve their potential. To learn more about MCM - Meridian, visit www.mcmmeridian.org.