Did you know that Barq’s, America’s favorite Root Beer, was invented in Biloxi, Mississippi? Or that Columbia, Mississippi, native and Jackson State alumnus, Walter Payton was the first football player to ever be featured on a box of Wheaties? Can you believe that the first heart transplant surgery happened in Jackson, Mississippi, by Dr. James D. Hardy at the University of Mississippi Medical Center? It’s all true! At the Mississippi Children’s Museum (MCM) we celebrate Mississippi every day. Visitors can see our state’s rich and complex past along with our most outstanding accomplishments and future opportunities woven through our exhibits, programs, and experiences.

Mississippi is celebrating a very exciting birthday this year–it’s Bicentennial! This year, MCM will be joining in with many others across the state to celebrate Mississippi’s big birthday! Our theme for this celebration is “Happy Birthday Mississippi: Celebrating Together Our Past, Present, and Future” and will include a series of events throughout the fall and winter. Read on to learn about some of the exciting and unique ways you can help us celebrate the 200 years of Mississippi’s statehood!
This year, Mississippi is celebrating its Bicentennial! On December 10, 1817, Mississippi was officially recognized as the 20th state in the United States of America. Many Mississippians are celebrating this special occasion through themed events and parties across the state this year. MCM has partnered in this celebration with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Mississippi Department of Education, and the Office of Governor Phil Bryant. Together, we are honoring 200 years of Mississippi thinkers, makers, artists, performers, writers, and bright minds, while highlighting opportunities for Mississippi’s children to impact the future of our world! Bicentennial events are designed to include educational elements for students and opportunities for families to reflect on the challenges of our past and the exciting prospects for our future together.

Don’t miss these special Bicentennial events!

MCM CHESS TOURNAMENTS

Visit MCM this fall to practice your strategic thinking skills in a chess tournament! This 1500-year-old game has seen a resurgence in Mississippi students since national media covered Jeff Bullington’s chess class for public school students in Franklin County. This critical thinking game has worked to help children realize their strengths through diligent training and strategic thinking. MCM has partnered with the Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association this year to celebrate the history of the game and its growing popularity in the Magnolia state by hosting chess tournaments on September 16 and October 14 at MCM. Register today at www.mschildrensmuseum.org!

MISSISSIPPIANS MISSED BY HISTORY

This fall, Power APAC high school theatre students are combining scholarly research with dramatic performance in order to become incredible individuals from Mississippi’s past! Did you know Mrs. Mamie Thomas of Vicksburg was the first female mail carrier in the United States? Or that Guy Bush of Tupelo threw Babe Ruth his last ever home run? Students will be utilizing primary sources provided by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History to discover some amazing Mississippians who have been missed by our class history books! Using this research, students will create monologues and scenes in the voice of their chosen person. These actors will be traveling to Jackson elementary schools throughout the fall to perform their monologues and share their research through a grant from MS Humanities Council. On November 11, they will share their monologues for MCM visitors on school visits funded.

CELEBRATE MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi has a rich history of artistic and creative individuals. We need you to help us create an amazing birthday gift for Mississippi—a full gallery of art, poetry and music all about our state. MCM and its partners are asking all Mississippi K-12 students to submit their best work for a Bicentennial-themed visual arts, music, and poetry competition. Submissions will be judged by a panel of community experts, and the winners of each category will be announced at our November 11 celebration.

For more information about these events visit mschildrensmuseum.org
Mississippi at the Center of Our Museum

From the Delta to the Coast & Under Our Feet

- Our Exploring Mississippi gallery features a Mississippi climbing map that highlights the state’s geography and natural science, its culture and history, its work and play, and its connections to the broader world. This map creates an engaging space based on Mississippi geography and provides some of the unique experiences of Mississippi life.

- Experience life as an early Mississippi settler along the Natchez Trace in the Pioneer Cabin.

- View the Earth Shakes with real-time seismograph in action and pump the pressure to make a volcano erupt, inspired by the inactive volcano 2,900 feet below Jackson.

- The Mount Woodall Slide represents the highest point of elevation in Mississippi, as well as the site of the Battle of Corinth.

- Learn Choctaw language and customs while engaging in pretend play inside our dwelling that is inspired by 18th century Choctaw dwellings.

- Walk through a replica of the Windsor Ruins near Natchez, which was an antebellum mansion.

Embrace Your Inner Artist

- MCM replicated the porch of Pulitzer Prize winning Mississippi author, Eudora Welty, in our literacy gallery, Wild About Reading. Come sit in a rocking chair, play checkers or chess, snuggle up with a book, or visit with a new friend!

- Budding artists can be motivated by the work of Mississippi artists in the Inspirations Studio, which houses a teaching space for visiting artists and kiosks featuring artwork by our guests.

- Learn to love reading in Between the Lions, based on the PBS Kids television show recorded in Mississippi! Write a fairy tale in the big magnetic book, make words from blends with Gawain’s word joust, play a bean bag toss, or read quietly with Lionel and Leona in a replica of the Between the Lions set.

- Build an instrument, create & mix MS sounds, record and play back your own song on a voice sequencer, and play bluegrass instruments in the music room.

Off to Work We Go!

Mississippi agriculture and industry are introduced in World at Work-MCM’s gallery focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. In this space, children can learn about the farming and timber industries we have here in our state, among other important careers.

- Become a forester by collaborating to move logs with the grapple skidder, dressed in safety gear, learning about forest regeneration and environmental responsibility, forest fires, and wood products.

- Explore the many types of trees in Mississippi, harvesting of the trees, and how we can be good stewards of them.

- Explore various modes of transportation and the landscape of our state on a smaller scale on the Mississippi transportation table. Visitors can transport goods over the state by building trains and bridges, while sightseeing opportunities of iconic MS buildings!
AMBER GILLESPIE, SUMMER MARKETING INTERN

We love it!” Camp.” Jake likes going to the Splash Pad, too, and he even lost a tooth there! Besides a discount on summer camp registration, Weems, her favorite part of camp was going to the Splash Pad every week and getting popsicles.

For MCM member Julia Weems, the museum is not just a place for her children to explore after school, but also somewhere they can make new friends at summer camp. Weems says that she promised her son Jake that she would make special summer plans for him and was excited when she was able to register both Jake and her daughter Ella for multiple weeks of camp this year. Both children have enjoyed their first MCM camp experience. Ella was Campers of the Week during the MCM Camp Challenge summer camp, and said her favorite part of camp was going to the Splash Pad every week and getting popsicles.

“They really loved it,” Weems says. Jake’s favorite part has been the Outdoor Adventures Camp with the Hilo, and his second was Spy Camp. Jake likes going to the Splash Pad, too, and he even lost a tooth there! Besides a discount on summer camp registration, Weems, who has been a member for two years, says that her family loves the flexibility of being museum members. “We definitely love being able to come and go anytime.” When school is in session, it’s really great to be able to pick them up and come here for an hour or two. We love it!

SARA BIBBS, SUMMER EDUCATION INTERN

MCM DONOR | AMANDA OVERBY

Amanda Principe Overby was born into a career of buying and selling residential real estate. The daughter of a builder and the granddaughter of a real estate broker, this third-generation Washingtonian, one of a Jackson transplant, has always maintained a keen interest in art and architecture, with an undergraduate degree in Art History and Archaeology from the University of Maryland-College Park. Licensed since 1998, Overby carved a niche for herself early in her career in Northern Virginia as a top producing Buyers Agent and has continued to see success since then. In 2003, professionalism, integrity, discretion and service have defined her work ethic and have defined both her professional work as well as her service commitment to organizations such as MCM.

Overby has been with the museum since the beginning. In the early 2000’s when MCM was in its developmental stages, she had two young children and was enthusiastic about the prospect of supporting a state of the art cultural institution dedicated to mental, emotional and social well-being of Mississippi’s children. Although 10 years later, her children aren’t able to frequent the museum as often, Overby’s commitment to the mission and success of MCM has remained steadfast.

She has been a member of MCM Partners for 7 years. On her time with the museum, Overby notes, “Being a transplant, my involvement with MCM has allowed me to ground myself, and therefore my family, into our surrounding community in a way that is incredibly fulfilling. The various committees that I was allowed to be a part of during the design, research, and construction phases continue to be a group of women who I am lucky to still call friends, today.” Plus, I have been able to see projects that I worked to establish early on continue on and now with my daughter’s involvement as a YAC, I get to watch this cycle come full circle!” We thank Overby for her enduring commitment to the museum.

MCM STAFF | LAUREN FERGUSON

MCM Visitor Assistant (VA) Lauren Ferguson started working for the museum in 2001 after being a member of the Youth Ambassador Council for several years. Ferguson, who is starting her sophomore year of college, was selected as the MCM Employee of the Quarter in Summer 2017 by other staff members for her friendly attitude and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty.

One of Ferguson’s favorite things about the museum is playing with the children who are visiting. “That usually leads them to recognize me, get excited, and want to play with me the next time,” she says. “I like to go on an exhibit and see if someone needs help or wants to play.”

As a VA, Ferguson is responsible for making sure that the exhibits are ready for visitors throughout the day, including turning exhibits on in the mornings, putting away props, working with summer camp, and leading programs throughout the museum. She says one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp, including one of her favorite summer camp memories was seeing one camper putting “For Sale” signs on everything in camp.

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MMFM FALL 2017 CALENDAR

Please note that these dates and events are subject to change. Visit www.mschildrensmuseum.org for an up-to-date schedule.

Check MCM’s social media pages in the morning to see what we are celebrating each day in 2017. Join us for a pop-up program using that day’s unique theme. #CelebrateEveryDay

/MSChildrensMuseum @mschildsmuseum @mschildsmuseum /mschildsmuseum

SEPT

Saturday
09
599 Day with College Savings Mississippi
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday
09
and 30th
Visiting Artist Workshop
Blanca Love: Pottery
Come & Go: 11-1 & 2-4

Sunday
10
Last Day to visit Curious George Exhibit
All Day

Wednesday
07
and 21st
Visiting Artist Workshop
Tina & Roger Long: Dance
Come & Go: 11-1 & 2-4

Saturday
14
Chess Tournament for Grades 6
Registration at 9:00 am;
Games from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Saturday
21
Question It! Discover It! Pulmonary & Sleep
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday
21
Nuclear Science Street Fair
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday
27
Park After Dark Event with the MS Museum of Natural Science
5:30 - 8:30 pm

OCT

Saturday
07
and 21st
Visiting Artist Workshop
Chuck Galey: Watercolor
Come & Go: 11-1 & 2-4

Saturday
11
Mississippi Bicentennial Celebration
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday
11
PHUN DAY with UMMC
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Monday
20
Magic Monday
All day 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Monday
20
Journey to the North Pole Members-Only Preview Party
5:30 - 7:30 pm

HIGHLAND VILLAGE

Wednesday
08
Highland Village Pop-Up Trading Post Opening

Nov

Saturday
04
and 18th
Visiting Artist Workshop
Tina & Roger Long: Watercolor
Come & Go: 11-1 & 2-4

Saturday
11
Mississippi Bicentennial Celebration
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday
11
PHUN DAY with UMMC
Come & Go: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Monday
20
Magic Monday
All day 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Monday
20
Journey to the North Pole Members-Only Preview Party
5:30 - 7:30 pm

SANTA VISITS THE MUSEUM!

NOVEMBER 20 (MEMBERS-ONLY)
5:30 - 7:00 pm

NOVEMBER 25
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

DECEMBER 1
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

DECEMBER 8
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

DECEMBER 15
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

DECEMBER 22
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

DECEMBER 29
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
The 2017 Mississippi Science Fest (MSF) launches into action this September to showcase STEM industries, organizations, and innovation happening around the Magnolia State. MSF aims to engage students, families, adults, and educators alike in a fun and interactive environment providing science education, workforce development, and a glimpse into the future of Mississippi. Piloted by MCM, organized by the LaFleur Museum District (LMD), and presented by C Spire, MSF will offer exhibitions, special events, and programs all celebrating science and the vital role Mississippians will play in future industry and development of our country. Events will be held at four different sites on September 22 and 23. MSF will also include an exciting appearance by Apollo 13 Astronaut and Mississippi native, Fred Haise, who will be providing our keynote address at Friday evening at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum.

In 2016, with support and assistance from The Franklin Institute, MCM piloted the first MSF. They hosted 23 exhibitors from across the state and saw over 600 visitors to the one-day event. Reflecting on its success, MCM President & CEO, Garrard saw the evident desire from the community for this event, noting, “STEM jobs are the future of Mississippi. The Mississippi Science Fest is a great way to expose children to educational concepts in an exciting and engaging way, as well as provide them examples of STEM-centered career paths they may not have had the opportunity to ever consider.”

This year the festival has been significantly expanded to include events throughout the museum district, which includes the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, Mississippi Children’s Museum, MDWFP Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, and Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum. This year, each of the four museums will be hosting a variety of exhibitors and programs over these two days of the festival.

A study from the Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America (ASTRA) predicts an 11% increase in STEM job opportunities in Mississippi between 2015 and 2024. MSF and its partner believe it vital for children and families to experience STEM education on a level that challenges and encourages them to explore further.

The nationally regarded Science Festival Alliance evaluation data illustrates the importance of festival attendees interacting with STEM professionals. This interaction dramatically increases attendance interest and knowledge in science. MSF will also work to create opportunities for STEM professionals to gain exposure and become more deeply involved with their community. LMD President and Executive Director of Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum Aaron Rogers states, the LaFleur Museum District is incredibly excited to host the Mississippi Science Fest. As educators, historians, and scientists, we feel it is exceedingly important to promote STEM initiatives and activities that inspire the next generation of Mississippi innovators, engineers, and visionaries.

Discovery Night, previously known as Fall Festival, is in its seventh-year, a MCM’s annual family fundraising event. This year’s theme “Journey to Space” has been planned to coincide with the Mississippi Science Fest on September 22. This special evening event invites children and families to explore the amazing world of space, science, technology, engineering, and more (STEM). This year’s event is designed to encourage children to investigate the outer limits of their imagination. By launching them into the world of space literature, it is MCM’s goal to encourage children not only to read more, but to reach for the stars in all that they do. Discovery Night is all about their families are encouraged to dress in their favorite space gear as they tap-off a great day filled with STEM fun.

MCM Partners and Discovery Night Co-Chairs Betsey Mosby and Olivia Champion have been working tirelessly to make this event a can’t-miss family fundraising event. Mosby reflects on her work with MCM, stating, “It is such an honor to co-chair MCM’s Discovery Night and have the opportunity to work with the amazing museum staff and so many wonderful volunteers that work tirelessly to gear back to our community by their involvement. The children’s museum provides a safe and fun environment for our children and also fosters their education by providing so many exhibits and tools to aid their learning. The event and the others like it throughout the year provide the funding the museum needs to keep going—and it’s an honor to help spearhead that by chairing this event.”

Champion elaborates on her involvement, saying, “The children’s museum is such a valuable resource and welcome space for the families of Mississippi. We want to do all we can to ensure the resources it needs to continue to operate and thrive. As a parent with two young children, we cannot love the museum more.”

This year’s event will feature a silent auction, adult game day, lounge, rock wall, anti-gravity gyroscope, moon bounce, space slide, and more! Ticket prices includes all food, drinks, buffet, adult beverages, and out-of-this-world music! Ticket prices are $55 for adults and $10 for children. (under 18) Purchase tickets online at mcmdiscoverynight.org or at the door on the night of the event!

Two Big Events. One Awesome Day! 09.23.2017

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY AT MS SCIENCE FEST ORG
MCM WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

MCM is the state’s largest cultural institution for children, providing world-class exhibits and programs for Mississippi’s families! However, we could not be who we are without the help of our passionate board members! Our board are not just children at heart, but a group who truly understands the needs of children in our state. They work tirelessly to do all they can to provide opportunities, experiences, and resources to change the life trajectories of Mississippi’s children and families. It is because of this passion that we are thrilled to welcome five new members to our board this year!

- Wilson Hood was born and raised in Jackson, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Mississippi. In anticipation of his board service, Hood said, “I am excited to serve on the MCM board because the museum has become such a part of our family’s life. We spend a considerable amount of time at the museum, attend the special events, and keep up with the important work MCM does in Jackson and across the state. I’m excited to do what I can to help further the mission and serve the kids of Mississippi.” Hood started his own company that focuses on real estate and restaurant development, where he currently works. He serves on the board of the Greater Belhaven Foundation, the Jackson Zoological Foundation, and Jackson Preparatory School, and is on the advisory board at First Commercial Bank. Hood is a volunteer with Young Life and is a member of Redeemer Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Belhaven and have an 18-month-old son, Trey.

- Adams Yerger is a graduate of the University of Virginia, graduating with distinction and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering in 2008. He worked for Capital One Auto Finance as a business analyst in their Credit & Business Strategy group before starting a small investment fund. Kurth Capital Growth, and a software development company, Juane LLC, where he now works. Yerger is on the board of PriorityOne Bank and the Mississippi Heights Homeowners Association. He is a member of First Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Jordan, live in Jackson and have three daughters: Elle, Avery, and Mary Adams.

- Hope Bynum grew up in North Carolina. She now volunteers at many area organizations, including Stewpot Community Services, the Children’s Museum of Mississippi, and MCM Partnership. St. Andrew’s Parents Association, Jack and Jill of America, LeFleur’s Bluff Chapter of Links, Inc., and the Junior League of Jackson. Bynum is married to Bill Bynum, CEO of Hope Credit Union and Hope Enterprise Corporation, a regional development financial institution that serves the financially disadvantaged. Their daughter, Blayke, is a graduate of UMMC and a resident physician in Richmond, Virginia.

- Meredith Aldridge was born and raised in Marietta, Georgia. While in college at Mississippi State University, Aldridge met her now-husband, Ben Aldridge. She has been married to Ben for 14 years, and they are the parents of two children: Ann Carlton (age 7) and Pate (age 5). Aldridge is Director at Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LCC. Aldridge also serves as the president-elect for the Junior League of Jackson. In reflection on her service to the MCM board, Aldridge says, “MCM has had a special place in my heart since its inception. I’ll never forget the excitement and sense of community that surrounded the planning, building, and establishment of MCM. Later, as a mom, I have witnessed the wonder of my children experiencing art, sounds, textures, local history, and so much more for the first time. As a League member, a mom, and a resident of Jackson, I am personally committed to ensuring the continued success of MCM. I am honored to serve on such a distinguished board, and I can’t wait to get to work!”

- Dr. Terry Dale Cruse is the administrative director and head of campus at Mississippi University-Meridian. Cruse has an extensive professional background in such areas as student recruitment, admissions, and financial aid. Before joining MSU-Meridian in 2015, he spent two years as vice president for enrollment services at LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas. Prior to LeTourneau, Cruse spent eight years at Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis. He served as assistant director of admissions at his alma mater, William Carey University. Along with his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from William Carey, he holds a doctor of higher education administration degree from East Louis University. Additionally, he is a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling and American Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers. In 2015, he was selected as one of 25 participants in the Council for Independent Colleges Senior Leadership Academy. Cruse and his wife, Pam, are the parents of three daughters.
Have fun learning everywhere you go!

- Mississippi is in Zone 8 of the US planting map.
- Zone 8 has a long growing season with hot summers.
- Most vegetable varieties will have no problem maturing before your first frost date.
- Things to plant in the fall in Zone 8 are: Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Lettuces, Peas, and Spinach.
- Be sure the plants are in the ground by October 1st, and most will be ready to harvest by December 1st!

Join us every Saturday @ 11:00 am for KNOW TO GROW!

GARDEN FUN FACTS

- Mississippi was the 20th state added to the United States in 1817. That means Mississippi is 200 years old this year!
- MCM is having a Bicentennial Celebration to celebrate Mississippi’s birthday! The word ‘bicentennial’ means the 200th anniversary of a special event.

What is the capital of Mississippi?

What is the state flower/tree of Mississippi?

What is the state bird of Mississippi?

Can you complete the pattern?

WORD SCRAMBLE!
Can you unscramble the following words?

KCSONJA
ERRIV
OLIAAGNM
IRDINGMOCB
FISATHC

Challenge a friend to a game of TIC-TAC-TOE!

WE TAKE FUN SERIOUSLY!

A signature project of the Junior League of Jackson
This project is partially funded through a grant by Visit Jackson.