



Mississippi Children's Museum - Meridian Visits Omaha, Nebraska

MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - MERIDIAN

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The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian exhibits are under construction at Heartland Scenic Studio in Omaha, Nebraska!

Meridian, Miss. (August 5, 2020) – Mississippi Children's Museum's (MCM) President/CEO, Susan Garrard, and MCM-Meridian's Executive Director, Liz Wilson, took a 14-hour road trip to visit Heartland Scenic Studio, the museum's exhibit fabricators, in Omaha, Nebraska. Garrard and Wilson reviewed exhibit construction progress and also hand-delivered several artifacts collected in East Mississippi, which will be included in several exhibit galleries.

Heartland Scenic Studio is one of the nation's premier exhibit fabricators with over 35 years of experience. Garrard and Wilson were joined by Kraemer Design + Productions for the two-day site visit which included a tour the 26,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility and an in-depth review of the intricate fabrication details of the MCM-Meridian exhibits. Exhibit elements were tested and studied for durability and usability including a larger than life guitar, a mobile health clinic equipped with sirens and an Xray machine, a reimagining of the Red Hot Café equipped with a sizzling grill and pizza oven that blazes, and much more! Working with the talented team of fabricators, features such as lighting, paint finishes, and shapes of tactile exhibit pieces were finetuned to enhance children's learning experiences in the museum.

Surrounded by the marvel of the imagined taking tangible shape, the MCM-Meridian team also sparked some awe and wonder as they unveiled the curated collection of artifacts highlighting the legacy of ingenuity and creativity of East Mississippi which will be highlighted within the WonderBox tinkering space in the museum. Among the artifacts were a Peavey guitar, a Slater Design surfboard sporting eco-friendly Bloom algae foam, and a golf putter made famous by Jack Nicklaus.

“For so long, these exhibits have only existed on paper, and to see them come to life is so exciting,” said Liz Wilson, MCM-Meridian’s Executive Director. “So many have played an integral role in this creative process from the early charettes with community members to the careful research and acquisition of elements that provide a rich sense of place.”

A virtual tour of the studio is featured on MCM-Meridian’s Facebook and Instagram pages (@mcmmeridian). The tour not only gives you a peek at what’s to come but also lightly touches on the fabrication progress from Kraemer Design + Production’s early conceptual drawings all the way to Heartland Scenic Studio’s construction documents and fabrication and testing.

MCM-Meridian exhibits will be complete in the latter part of 2020 and transported to Meridian for installation.

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, STEM, 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 first 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; STEM; 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.

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