

# The Mississippi Children's Museum Hosts *Storytelling Festival*

## MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

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#### **PRESS RELEASE** • FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Jackson, MS) -- Traditions are passed down through generations with stories, songs, and activities. Bring your children to the Mississippi Children's Museum to experience the fun of storytelling together on January 15.

On this special day, join us as we celebrate Mississippi's finest storytellers from our past and listen to those with us now. This event is an artistic, literary adventure celebrating the art of storytelling in many forms with special guests including Sherry Norfolk (storytelling), Martin Jue (inventor), Niketa Pechan (dance), and Linda Curtin (art journaling). This program is included in general admission and museum membership.

MCM will be open on Monday, January 17 for a Magic Monday! Visit www.mschildrensmuseum.org for more information.

#### **About the Storytellers**

Sherry Norfolk is an award-winning, internationally acclaimed storyteller and teaching artist, who performs and leads residencies and professional development workshops nationally and internationally. In fact, Sherry has a poem displayed in MCM's Literacy Garden. Sherry will be conducting workshops at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Martin Jue is the founder of MFJ, the largest producer of HAM radio pieces in the world. HAM Radios are radios that people build for fun to communicate with others over long distances — as far away as the international space station! Mr. Jue is very proud of having grown up in Mississippi, starting the largest company of its kind, and believes that all children from Mississippi can do great things too! Mr. Jue will be speaking at 11:00 a.m. in the WonderBox exhibit.

Niketa Pechan is a first-generation Jamaican-American who moved to Jackson four years ago. Niketa will tell her story through a Kukuwa African Dance fitness class. Niketa will be teaching dance classes at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

### About the Mississippi Children's Museum

The Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with a mission of creating unparalleled experiences to inspire excellence and a lifelong joy of learning in all children. 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. In response to community needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MCM shifted operating and programming priorities to best serve Mississippi's children and combat learning loss through facilitating virtual schooling and creating online educational enrichment – services that continue today through a robust, daily afterschool program and an online platform for teacher professional development.

In 2021, MCM celebrated a monumental year by receiving an Institute of Museum and Library Services National Medal, the nation's highest honor for museums, and through opening its first satellite museum, MCM-Meridian, which received the 2021 Governor's Award for Travel Attraction of the Year.

Learn more: www.mschildrensmuseum.org

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