



The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian Welcomes Guests to Explore Space During *NASA Day* Event

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MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - MERIDIAN

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Meridian, Miss. – Shoot for the stars and explore the wonders of the universe during *NASA Day* at the Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian (MCM-Meridian) on Saturday, March 12, 2022.

NASA Day is designed to give children a glimpse into career possibilities in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) while tapping into their natural curiosity about space.

Aspiring astronauts should come dressed in costume to experience out-of-this-world activities from 9am to 5pm. The highlight of this event includes temporary exhibits provided by the Johnson Space Center that model the space launch system, provide a taste of space, and engage children with a virtual Q&A session to learn how astronauts live and work in space.

Hands-on activities will include a space lander craft, designing your own mission patch, and making moon dust. Children can also take a step into space during a virtual planetarium experience to learn about the solar system and much more.

NASA Day is presented by the Meridian Airport Authority. All activities are included with \$10 general admission or museum membership. For additional opportunities to explore STEAM in a fun, hands-on environment, families can join MCM-Meridian for *Week of Wonder* from March 14th to March 18th.

Visit www.mcmmeridian.org to view MCM-Meridian's robust schedule of activities for the month of March.

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 creates unparalleled experiences to inspire excellence and a lifelong joy of

learning. MCM-Meridian is a 25,000-square-foot facility with exhibit space designed around three primary initiatives: Literacy, STEAM, Health and Nutrition, Cultural Arts, and Mississippi History woven throughout all galleries. Outdoors is a 25,000-square-foot exhibit gallery that allows children a safe and magical space to explore and enrich the learning experience. The museum's exhibits, programs, and outreach opportunities 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.

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.

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