



MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - MERIDIAN

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The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian is Giving Thanks during *Week of Gratitude*

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The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian is Practicing a Heart of Gratitude.

Meridian, Miss. (November 17, 2022) – 'Tis the season of giving, and the Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian (MCM-Meridian) is giving thanks during *Week of Gratitude* from November 21 – 25.

Institution-wide, the museum is looking back on its journey over the past two years and [Practicing a Heart of Gratitude](#). Since the monumental opening of MCM-Meridian last Spring, the museum has served more than **100,000 children and families** from near and far, providing them 83 indoor and outdoor hands-on experiences with Meridian's unique history incorporated throughout.

Steadily over the past year and a half, MCM-Meridian has grown to offer five weekly education programs, eleven annual events, two signature fundraising events, and four seasonal camps. All of which would not be possible without the collective support of our community consisting of generous donors, sponsors, Partners, members, volunteers, and the museum's dedicated staff.

"As we approach the end of the year, we can't help but to feel incredibly grateful for our community," said Barbara Zeller, Executive Director of MCM-Meridian. "Each person that walks through our doors, whether a guest, donor, or volunteer, contributes to the museum's success and enables us to fulfill our mission and vision to inspire children of all backgrounds to discover and achieve their potential."

During *Week of Gratitude* from November 21 – 25, the museum will offer Thanksgiving-themed programs and activities that aim to inspire guests to reflect on what they are most grateful for. Guests can also give back by donating to the museum's "Thanks for Giving" canned good drive benefiting the Wesley House Community Center, now until November 30th.

To discover how you can support the mission and vision of MCM-Meridian during this season of giving, visit www.mcmmeridian.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 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 five 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, hands-on 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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