

## MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

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## Northwest Rankin HS Student, Grace Taylor, Named MCM Volunteer of the Quarter

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Grace Taylor has been recognized as an outstanding volunteer at the Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) and has been named "Volunteer of the Quarter" for the summer.

Taylor is a junior at Northwest Rankin High School. She said she chose to volunteer at MCM because of her love for children, and she is also striving to achieve the "Distinguished Service Award" from her school which awards students who contribute over 100 volunteer hours of service.

"My favorite part about volunteering at MCM is the fun and entertaining atmosphere," Taylor said, "There is never a dull moment and I'm never bored."

Taylor describes the staff at MCM as kind, friendly, open, and accepting. "The environment at MCM is one I am truly honored I get to be part of," Taylor said.

Taylor's future goals include going to the Airforce Academy and becoming a pilot. She hopes to get her pilot's license before graduating high school. She currently participates in track, cross country, swim, and powerlifting, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA at Northwest Rankin.

Volunteering at MCM has strengthened Taylor's leadership skills. "Working with children always provides an exercise in leadership," Taylor said, "I have learned that they will respect a confident and assertive, yet fun leader."

The Mississippi Children's Museum is grateful for Taylor's leadership as an MCM volunteer. MCM offers volunteer opportunities for both youth and adults, for more information and to apply to volunteer visit <a href="https://mschildrensmuseum.org/jackson/get-involved/volunteer/">https://mschildrensmuseum.org/jackson/get-involved/volunteer/</a>.

## 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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