



MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - MERIDIAN

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The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian Announces New Exhibit, *Celebrations: Asian Culture*

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A new exhibit is set to open at the Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian on August 4th.

Meridian, Miss. (July 11, 2023) – The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian (MCM-Meridian) is thrilled to announce the opening of *Celebrations: Asian Culture*, a modular exhibit from the Freeman Foundation created to help children learn about and understand Asian cultures. *Celebrations: Asian Culture* will be available at the museum from August 4 – November 3 and January 9 – February 16.

Celebrations: Asian Culture is designed to bring children and families together to explore New Year celebrations in South Korea, China, and Vietnam through the imagery of fireworks, lanterns, lotuses, and kites. Children can participate in activities such as drumming, dancing, and storytelling. From telling the Nian Monster story in a small theater to discovering different dishes served for breakfast as an eye spy game, children will be captivated by the rich history, beauty, and fun of these Asian New Year festivals.

Museum members will be some of the first guests to experience this new exhibit. On **Thursday, August 3rd**, MCM-Meridian will host an exclusive **Members-Only Preview Night** from 5-7pm before opening to the public on Friday, August 4th. Additional events and programs tied to the exhibit will take place throughout the fall and winter.

Over the past twenty years, the Freeman Foundation has majorly invested in developing a greater appreciation of Asian cultures and histories in the United States, in partnership with the Association of Children's Museums (ACM). As a hands-on, modular exhibit, *Celebrations: Asian Culture* will help visitors to deeply engage with the content. By remaining at MCM-Meridian and in the community, this exhibit will become a part of a child's long-term memory, creating a more in-depth experience, openness, and comprehension of Asian cultures.

Access to *Celebrations: Asian Culture* is included in \$10 general admission and museum membership. To learn more, 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, 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 Freeman Foundation

The Freeman Foundation was established in 1993 by Mansfield Freeman. This private foundation is committed to increasing and strengthening the understanding of nations in East Asia.

About the Association of Children's Museums (ACM)

ACM is the foremost professional society supporting children's museums in developing rich environments that stimulate children's natural playfulness, curiosity, and creativity. With more than 470 members in all 50 states and in 19 countries, ACM champions children's museums and together enrich the lives of children worldwide.

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