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MISSISSIPPI
CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM -
MERIDIAN

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Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian Hosts Reimagined Traveling Exhibit, *Story to Stage: America250*

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(MERIDIAN, Miss.) – The Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian (MCM–Meridian) is proud to welcome *Story to Stage: America250*, a dynamic traveling exhibit designed to inspire young learners through storytelling, history, and interactive exploration in celebration of America's 250th birthday.

After debuting in Jackson earlier this year, the exhibit continues its statewide journey with a featured stop at the Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian, where it will be on display from **May 15 through August 15, 2026**, bringing hands-on educational experiences to children and families across the region.

MCM–Meridian will officially open *Story to Stage: America250* with a Members Preview Party on May 14, 2026, giving members an early look at the exhibit before it opens to the public.

The reimagined *Story to Stage: America250* exhibit features more than 50 children's books highlighting historical figures and pivotal moments in American history through six themes: Bravery, Freedom, Home, Stewardship, Citizenship, and Generosity. Featured titles include *How We Got to the Moon*, *The Story of Ruby Bridges*, *The Night Before Election Day*, and more. An interactive Story Tree encourages children to explore essential story elements such as character, plot, setting, problem, and solution.

In addition to reading and reflection, children are invited to step into the story. With costumes and props, the exhibit becomes an immersive stage where guests can act out historical moments, bring favorite stories to life, and create original narratives that connect the past to their own experiences and imagination.

Designed with young learners in mind, *Story to Stage: America250* encourages children to connect with familiar stories while exploring new perspectives on American history. Through storytelling, hands-on activities, and dramatic play, the exhibit helps strengthen identity, broaden understanding of the nation's past, and inspire reflection on how shared experiences can shape a stronger future.

Admission is \$10 per person and includes access to this experience along with all other interactive exhibits at MCM–Meridian.

This official America250 project was made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, through support from the State of Mississippi.

About the Mississippi Children’s Museum - Meridian

The Mississippi Children’s Museum - Meridian (MCM-Meridian) is the East Mississippi satellite campus of the Mississippi Children’s Museum located in Jackson, MS (MCM-Jackson)—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 MCM-Jackson, which is dedicated to inspiring all of Mississippi’s children from all backgrounds to discover and achieve their potential. Both museums offer excellent resources for children, families, and educators, such as the Launch into Learning afterschool program, professional development for educators, and innovative literacy and language development programs like Talk from the Start and Reach Out and Read. MCM-Jackson and MCM-Meridian have received numerous awards, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services National Medal, the Mississippi Tourism Association Governor’s Award for Travel Attraction of the Year, and the USA Today’s 10Best Travel Award for Best Children’s Museum. To learn more about MCM-Meridian, please visit their website at www.mcmmeridian.org.

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