



BEAUMONT
CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM

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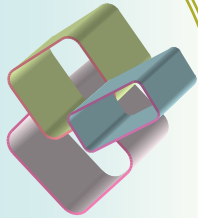
E-LETTER

BEAUMONT, TEXAS

FEBRUARY, 2009

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MISSION STATEMENT: Through creative, interactive programming, the Beaumont Children's Museum provides all children and families with an accessible environment that opens a window to the world around them and encourages them to look within and beyond.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH SCHRECK



Begin With the End in Mind

I have spent a great deal of time searching for an overarching theme for the 2009-2010 year. I find myself going back to the beginning of my adult life and a book that I read that changed the way that I look at the world around me, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People (Covey). The second habit is, "Begin with the end in mind." I have reflected on what this means to me, and how it relates to the development of the Beaumont Children's Museum.

The definition of "begin" means to come into existence; arise; originate; to proceed to perform the first or earliest part of some action (www.dictionary.com). In a recent meeting, I heard Tammy Anderud, President of the Junior League of Beaumont explain where we are in the process of beginning, by telling the ladies to "get their shovels out". I think that imagery captures the essence of where we are in the process of creating this place called the Beaumont Children's Museum. We are breaking the ground to move from "vision casting" to "vision doing". Our board is fully formed, our committees are taking shape, and our first traveling exhibit, Stuftee, has arrived and is gearing up to go out on into the community.

We have the amazing privilege to establish the vision for the Beaumont Children's Museum. We are building scaffolding for the museum that will, to a large degree, determine the end result. The museum will not be just one person's vision, but the vision of a community. Already, our various committees have involved more than seventy people in the development of our strategic plan and exhibit concepts. We will continue to reach out into the community to understand what the end result should be.

I want to share with you my vision of what the museum will be: Imagine that when you enter the museum there is a mirror and on that mirror is a sign that reads, "It doesn't matter where you have come from, it only matters that you are here, and that you can choose where you are going." To all of the children who tell themselves, or have been told "you can't" or "you will never", I want the museum to be a place that calls out to them, "YOU CAN" and "YOU WILL". To all of the children who need a safe harbor to learn in a different way, I want the museum to be the place where they can live math and touch science. To all of the children desperate for the attention of their parents and caregivers, I want the museum to be a place that draws families together in learning and play. We can change the world starting one child, and maybe even one adult, at a time.

Will you dare to dream with me of a bright future not just for one, but for many? What will the children's museum be like? What will it look like? How will it nurture children? How will it lift up caretakers of children? Whose lives will be changed forever because they fell in love with reading at the foot of a volunteer reader? Do you dare dream with me that your investment of time, energy, and money now will not only affect change in individuals, but someday in the whole of society? These children will grow up to be citizens, business owners, legislators, leaders of all kinds. We have the opportunity right now to lay the foundation of an organization that will undergird the education that our children receive in our public, private and home schools. We will serve as town hall of resources for all people who care for children: parents, educators, the medical community, and social services.

This is the "end in mind"...let us begin!

NOVEMBER 2008 BOARD RETREAT SUMMARY

Building an effective board is similar to creating a winning sports team. Recruiting talented players that fit the team and training them to play their best are key ingredients. Board members join an organization for a limited amount of time and pledge their personal, professional, and financial resources to advance the mission of the organization. On Saturday, November 5, 2008 members and prospective members of the Beaumont Children's Museum Board gathered for a day of education and strategic planning at the Non-Profit Development Center of Southeast Texas. Our excellent facilitator was Marcia Stevens and her assistant Leslie Parker. The first half of the day Marcia led us through a thorough review of the roles and responsibilities of board members. The second half of the day we spent reviewing our accomplishments so far and working on a first draft of the 2009 Strategic plan by committee. I have included some highlights below from those work sessions and will cover in detail at the January and February board meetings.

Psst . . .

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND STRATEGIC GOAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2009:

Executive Committee – Elizabeth Schreck, President

- *Develop board member and volunteer training
- *Develop Advisory Committee Structure
- *Obtain board insurance
- *Obtain office / storage space

Finance Committee – Stephanie Do, Treasurer

- *Develop 2009 budget
- *Set-Up PayPal

Exhibits – Shawn Hickman, JLB Signature Project Chair

- *Spring and Fall Museums Without Walls Exhibits: **Stuffee**
- *Develop future Museums Without Walls Exhibits

Publicity – Christina Delgadillo

- *Develop final logo materials
- *Develop website

Building – Lan Phelan

- *Pursue various possibilities for downtown properties

By-Laws – Tillie Hickman

- *Revise By-Laws to include President-Elect and Past President

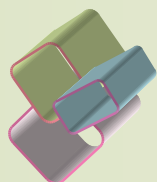
Fundraising – needs a chair

- *Spring “Seed money” fundraiser (Delgadillo)
- *Grant search and applications for Spring 2009
- *HOT Tax Money grant application

Outreach – Lauren Little

- *Coordinate activities with the Beaumont Public Library System
- *Coordinate activities with the Beaumont Parks & Recreation
- *Identify festivals and other similar events BCM should have a booth or Museum Without Walls

www.beaumontchildrensmuseum.org



BEAUMONT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
Board of Directors
Meeting Schedule 2009-2010

All meetings to be held at the Junior League of Beaumont Headquarters unless otherwise noted.
 Read Agenda attached to each meeting notice to confirm time and location.

Month	Date	Time	Notes
January 2009	Tue. February 3	5:30-7:30 pm	Kick Off Meeting: Consulting Team Present
February	Wed. February 25	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
March	Wed. March 25	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
April	Tue. April 28	6:30-7:30 pm	
May	Wed. May 27	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
June	Wed. June 24	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
July	Tue. July 28	6:30-7:30 pm	
August	Wed. August 26	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
September	Wed. September 23	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
October	Tue. October 27	6:30-7:30 pm	
November	Wed. November 18	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
December	No Meeting		
January 2010	Tue. January 26	6:30-7:30 pm	
February	TBA	TBA	BOARD RETREAT
March	Wed. March 23	11:30-12:30	Bring Lunch if desired
April	Tue. April 27	6:30-7:30 pm	ANNUAL MEETING

NOTES:

- Ten (10) Directors or a majority of the Board of Directors serving at the time then in existence, whichever shall be the lesser number, shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business at any meeting of the Board; but if less than a majority of the Directors are present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. A Director may vote either in person or by written proxy at any meeting at which a quorum is present. Such written proxy shall identify the issues to be voted upon and the absentee Director's vote for each of the respective issues. If any of the issues should be tabled, the proxy, with respect to the issue, shall remain valid until such vote is taken or such absentee Director rescinds the proxy. (BCM By-laws 2.08)

Unexcused absence for three consecutive Board meetings by any Director may be cause for removal by the Executive Committee. (BCM By-laws 2.12)



SME KICK OFF MEETING 2009 **Exhibit Concept Development Sessions**

By: Amy Renick
Vice President, BCM Board of Directors

In the words of the consulting team of Kraemer, Design + Production, Inc., “these were three of the best exhibit planning sessions we have ever seen”!

Exhibit Concept Development Sessions, the next stage of the development of the Master Plan for the Beaumont Children’s Museum, took place on Tuesday, February 3. The museum’s consulting team came to Beaumont to work with local Subject Matter Experts, members of the BCM Board and members of JLB, to flesh out exhibit and program design concepts surrounding the three broad exhibit themes derived from our mission statement.

Our Mission: Through creative, interactive programming, the Beaumont Children’s Museum provides all children and families with an accessible environment that opens a window to the world around them and encourages them to look within and beyond.

It is important to BCM Board of Directors, as well as the consulting team, to make sure the information presented to children in the exhibits and educational programs of the museum is accurate. We see the museum as a place “grow the future of Beaumont” and the surrounding areas. The museum will introduce very young children to the possibilities of their future, including the diversity, industry and incredible environment around them. The museum will do this through building respect for the history and experiences of our ancestors, as well as introduce ideas to move the next generations into the possibilities of the future.

The three major themes derived from the BCM mission statement are **Creating Good Citizens, Where We Live, and Our Connections to the World**. Listed below are the subcategories of each topic, types of organizations and businesses represented in each session, and topics explored.

Creating Good Citizens

Subcategories:

- Health
- Education
- Counseling
- Children’s Ministry
- Safety
- Local Traditions
- Our Diverse Cultures

Businesses and Organizations Represented:

- Health and Wellness Center
- Area Churches
- The Garth House Children’s Advocacy Center
- Lamar University
- Stark Foundation
- Local Education Institutions

Topics Explored:

- Building respect for the diversity of our cultures
- Local traditions
- Oral history of children
- Learning styles of children

Continued from page 4

Safety – physical, emotional, mental
 First Aid and emergency response
 Healthy lifestyles – food, exercise, hygiene
 Effects of smoking
 Childhood obesity
 Food safety
 Health related fields – doctors, nurses,
 veterinarians, ambulance
 Active lifestyles
 Outdoor recreation
 Overcoming fear of outdoors for parents and
 families
 Water safety

Where We Live

Subcategories:

Our regional weather
 agriculture
 waterways
 Big Thicket Nature Preserve
 land

Businesses and Organizations Represented:

The Big Thicket Nature Preserve,
 Lower Neches Valley Association
 Douget's Rice
 birding
 camping enthusiasts,
 scientists
 archeologists
 nature photography

Topics Explored:

history of settlers in the area
 abundance of the land,
 consumption in relation to preservation
 cowboys of Southeast Texas
 kids in relation to the natural environment
 Big Thicket – encapsulation of a unique
 environment
 Air quality – demonstrating improvements
 Project oriented volunteering – parents
 Changing environment

Our Connections to the World

Subcategories:

Commerce
 Enterprise
 Innovation
 Opportunity

Businesses and Organizations Represented:

Port of Beaumont
 Application Factory
 Sabine Neches Waterway
 former Gulf States
 Entergy

Topics Discussed:

Navigation
 Broad district
 Core of engineers
 State and county agencies
 Keeping the waterways navigable
 Port and the “water highway”
 How access through the port makes surrounding
 industry possible
 Importance and ranking of the Port of Beaumont
 Industry surrounding Port in addition to
 import/export
 Ship building
 Ship maintenance
 Drilling
 Connection of math, science and literacy to
 waterway systems
 Import/Export materials of local port
 Wind energy
 How local waterways connect to larger
 waterways to world
 Co-existence of commerce and recreation on
 waterways
 Impact/History of coastal fishing, hunting
 Waterway security
 Careers surrounding waterways

Although I have lived in Southeast Texas for most of my life, I was truly amazed at all I learned through these sessions about the wonderful area in which we live. The experience stressed to me the importance of helping children, at a very early age, appreciate all that is around them, including people, industry and the environment. I look forward to seeing the report and sketches which will be developed by our consulting team from these sessions.

MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS NEWSFLASH !

Stuffee[®] JUST MOVED INTO TOWN

The BCM's first MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS is here! His name is Stuffee and he is a one of a kind ambassador for health. Stuffee is used to teach about the human body and how it functions. In addition to learning about organ and tissue donation and the human body, children in pre-k through 4th grade can also listen to Stuffee's heartbeat, take his pulse, and hold soft sculpture reproductions of the heart, lungs, intestine, stomach and other organs. This traveling exhibit is an exciting educational tool for teaching children about nutrition, digestion, respiration, fitness and other wellness themes. Stuffee has been funded by the 2007 provisional class of the Junior League of Beaumont, the Beaumont Pediatric Center and the Southeast Texas OB/GYN Associates, P.A.. Thanks to their generous donations, Stuffee is here and will be visiting a pre-school near you this Spring!

If you would like Stuffee to visit your pre-school or to volunteer with Stuffee please contact:

Lauren Little
Beaumont Children's Museum
Outreach Chair
laurenalittle@yahoo.com



Stuffee's FIRST NIGHT IN TOWN:

Stuffee stopped by the Junior League of Beaumont's February General Meeting. League Members had a chance to meet Stuffee and see what he is all about. BCM President Beth Schreck and Vice-President Amy Renick were on hand for questions and information.





Kroger's 2008-2009 Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program Gives Back to Your Organization... Be Sure to Earn Your Share!

Customer Letter

Step One:

Read through this letter to understand the advantage of being a part of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

Step Two:

Take the letter with you to your neighborhood Kroger store the next time you go shopping.

Step Three:

Present the letter with **your organization's barcode** to your cashier upon checkout. After they have scanned your Kroger *Plus* Card you will be enrolled for the current year of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program. Every time you shop at Kroger and use your enrolled Kroger *Plus* Card, Kroger will contribute a percentage of your eligible purchases to the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation fund. Once a card is scanned with the barcode, it will be active for the remainder of the program year.

Q & A

How many Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor accounts can an organization have?

One per organization. (Example: ABC HIGH SCHOOL account could represent: PTA, cheerleaders, football, basketball, band, etc.)

Can a household "link" their Kroger Plus Card to more than one organization at a time?

No, the system allows for one organization per household. To change organizations, you must present your Kroger *Plus* Card and the new organization's barcode to the cashier.

Do I have to enroll each program year?

Yes, all organization's and participants must re-enroll for each new enrollment period. The current Neighbor to Neighbor Program is effective May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

How much can my organization earn?

The Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program will donate \$1 million annually. Each organization will earn a percentage of the \$1 million equal to the percentage of total earned contributions attributable to that organization.

How are the funds distributed?

Contributions will be paid via check and mailed to the organization's address and primary contact identified on the organization application form. For schools, it will be mailed to the principal and the funds distributed at their discretion.

Please feel free to contact a Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program Representative with any additional questions at 866-995-7643 or email to neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com. Additional information is also available at www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com.

Kroger cashier: Please scan customer's Kroger *Plus* Card at the beginning of the order, and then scan the above barcode. The customer's Kroger *Plus* Card is now enrolled in the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

BEAUMONT CHILDRENS MUSEUM



Something you can do with your kids for any holiday, just change out the cookie cutters. Bunnies and eggs for Easter, Flags for the 4th of July, etc. Like playing with Play Dough but for once you can actually keep these or gift them to the grandparents.

Salt Dough Cut Outs

- 2 C. flour
- 1 C. salt
- 1 C. water

Mix salt and flour. Add in half the water, then gradually add the remaining water. Knead until the dough is smooth, this can take up to 10 minutes.



Baking: Time varies based on thickness of ornament

Temperature: 325°F.

Time: 1 1/2 hours - or until dry

Let cool before you begin. Paint with acrylic paints. Glue on beads, buttons, or any fun accessory. Coat with acrylic varnish when everything is dry.

For flat dough ornaments roll out the dough on baking paper. You can also be creative and make odd shapes and wreaths (takes longer to bake.)

Use cookie cutters, cut-out templates, or just use your hands.

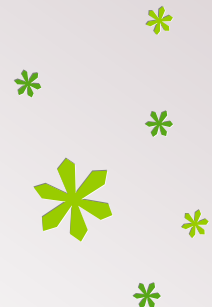
Dust dough with flour and begin to add details to the ornaments with a toothpick, popsicle stick, and knife.

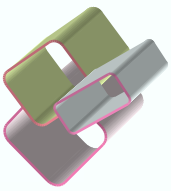
* WELCOME ADVISORY BOARD *

The BCM Board of Directors would like to thank the 2009-2010 Advisory Board members for their commitment to offer advice and support this year!

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Lynn Castle | Executive Director AMSET |
| Celia Coleman | Art Educator, All Saints Episcopal School |
| Jim Dreiling | Goodwill Industries |
| Melanie Heartfield | Community Advisor |
| Carolyn Howard | Beaumont Mainstreet |
| Paul Jones | Entergy- Retired |
| Eric Meadows | Phelan Investments |
| Carolyn McGuire | Texas Regional Title Attorney |
| Scott Renick | |
| Bonnie Tortorice | Community Advisor |





How can YOU get involved and be part of the BEAUMONT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM?

As a not-for-profit organization, the Beaumont Children's Museum operates on private donations. Contributions by private donors are essential to our being able to plan for, and sustain this unique environment for children.

The success of planning and building the Beaumont Children's Museum rests on the willingness and the generosity of those who want to add this great resource for the children of Beaumont, and the cultural and economic life of the region. Every gift is important. Every gift will be acknowledged.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution so that the Master Plan of the Beaumont Children's Museum will become a reality.

- Email us at donate@beaumontchildrensmuseum.org for further information.
- Check out our e-newsletter and website and share them with your friends: www.beaumontchildrensmuseum.org
- Provide feedback to our Board of Directors about events and newsletter elizabethschreck@sbcglobal.net
- Offer your time and talent as a Board Member, Subject Matter Expert Team, Strategic Planning Committee, Advisor or volunteer for Museum Without Walls elizabethschreck@sbcglobal.net

Don't forget to check out our
new website!
www.beaumontchildrensmuseum.org

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THANK YOU TO OUR RECENT DONORS

Beaumont Pediatrics
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hickman
 Mrs. Tillie Hickman
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Little
 Mr. Ian Phelan
 Amy and Scott Renick
 Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Schreck
 Southeast Texas OBGYN
 Judge John and Marcia Stevens

If you are interested in making a tax deductible contribution to the Beaumont Children's Museum please contact us at:

donate@beaumontchildrensmuseum.org



Beaumont Children's Museum
 c/o The Beaumont Junior League
 2388 McFaddin Street
 Beaumont, Texas 77702
www.beaumontchildrensmuseum.org



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