



Press Release

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The Sacramento Children's Museum Announces *Play Around the World: A New Exhibit from the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series*

Sacramento, CA — Today the Sacramento Children's Museum (SCM) announces a new exhibition, *Play Around the World*, a modular exhibit from the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series created to help children learn about and understand Asian cultures. ***Play Around the World* will be on view in the museum's Learning Lab starting February 10, 2024.**

***Play Around the World*, a modular exhibit of the Freeman Foundation Asian Culture Exhibit Series, is designed for children and families to explore different types of play—roleplay, narrative, symbolic, and constructive—around aspects of Chinese, Japanese, and South Korean cultures.** Anchoring the exhibit are immersive activities children can engage with, including feeding pandas at a preserve, attending a cherry blossom picnic, or "diving" to explore an under-the-sea area inspired by the story of the Jeju mermaids. There is an element of play that can inspire any child while simultaneously educating them on the richness and diversity of Asian cultures.

"Play is universal," says Sharon Stone Smith, Executive Director of SCM. "This exhibit is a wonderful way for our guests to explore new cultural concepts and different types of play while interacting with each other and doing hands-on activities."

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, *Play Around the World* will help visitors to deeply engage with the content. By remaining at the Sacramento Children's Museum and in the community, *Play Around the World* will become a part of a child's long-term memory, creating a more in-depth experience, openness, and comprehension of Asian cultures.

Interested guests can learn more on the museum's website, Sackids.org.

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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.

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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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About the Sacramento Children's Museum

The Sacramento Children's Museum (SCM) was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in 2005. SCM seeks to build an environment in which learning is exciting and enriching for children and their families and facilitated through exploration and hands-on activities. Built by Roebbelen Contracting, Inc., the Museum opened to the public on August 25, 2011. In 2021, the museum expanded to include the entire original building thanks to a donation from the City of Rancho Cordova. The expansion increased storage, classroom and office space and added 3,000 square feet of exhibit space, which has hosted traveling exhibits and Leo's Learning Lab. With the regular addition of new hands-on experiences, programs and activities, SCM aims to inspire all children through play-based learning.

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