An exhibition for children and families
to celebrate the diversity of Muslim cultures
in America and around the world
through art, architecture, design, music,
travel, trade, and more!

February 2016 – Present
By the Children's Museum of Manhattan
New York

Cultural Series Rationale

Start Early

"Research clearly shows that children not only recognize race from a very young age, but also **develop racial biases by age three to five**."

Winkler, E.N. "Children Are Not Colorblind: How Young Children Learn Race" HighReach Learning Inc., 2009

Offer Variety

"When children are taught to pay attention to **multiple attributes of a person** at once, reduced levels of bias are shown."

Aboud, F.E. (2008) in Winkler, E.N. "Children Are Not Colorblind: How Young Children Learn Race" HighReach Learning Inc., 2009.

Provide Time to Practice

"**Understanding a point of view other than your own takes knowledge, skills, perspective and values**. Developing these four also **takes practice** – learning to apply and transfer these four from one topic to another."

UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development in Action

Teaching young children to have multiple perspectives "…is likely to reduce problems involving prejudice or discrimination and is an **important component of early childhood education**."

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. "Exploring Sustainable Development: A Multiple-Perspective Approach." UNESCO: Education for Sustainable Development in Action Learning & Training Tools Number 3. 2012

Exhibit Goals

1. Introduce families to the **beautiful and joyful diversity and commonalities** in **contemporary Muslim communities in New York City, the United States, and around the world**.

2. Immerse children in interactive, fun and accessible ways so as to give families a **new positive forum in which they can discuss Muslim cultures**

3. Celebrate **cultural expressions** as reflected in art, architecture, objects and stories in both the home and communities.

4. Prepare our **children as global citizens** to work, play, and live in the increasingly interconnected and interdependent 21st century

5. Show how **cultures have peacefully interacted and co-existed for centuries**

Overview

Travel the world in a single museum visit!

This is a first-of-its-kind exhibition for children and families to celebrate the diversity of Muslim cultures in America and around the world through art, architecture, design, music, travel, trade, and more!

GLOBAL MARKET

Interact with products and foods from around the world

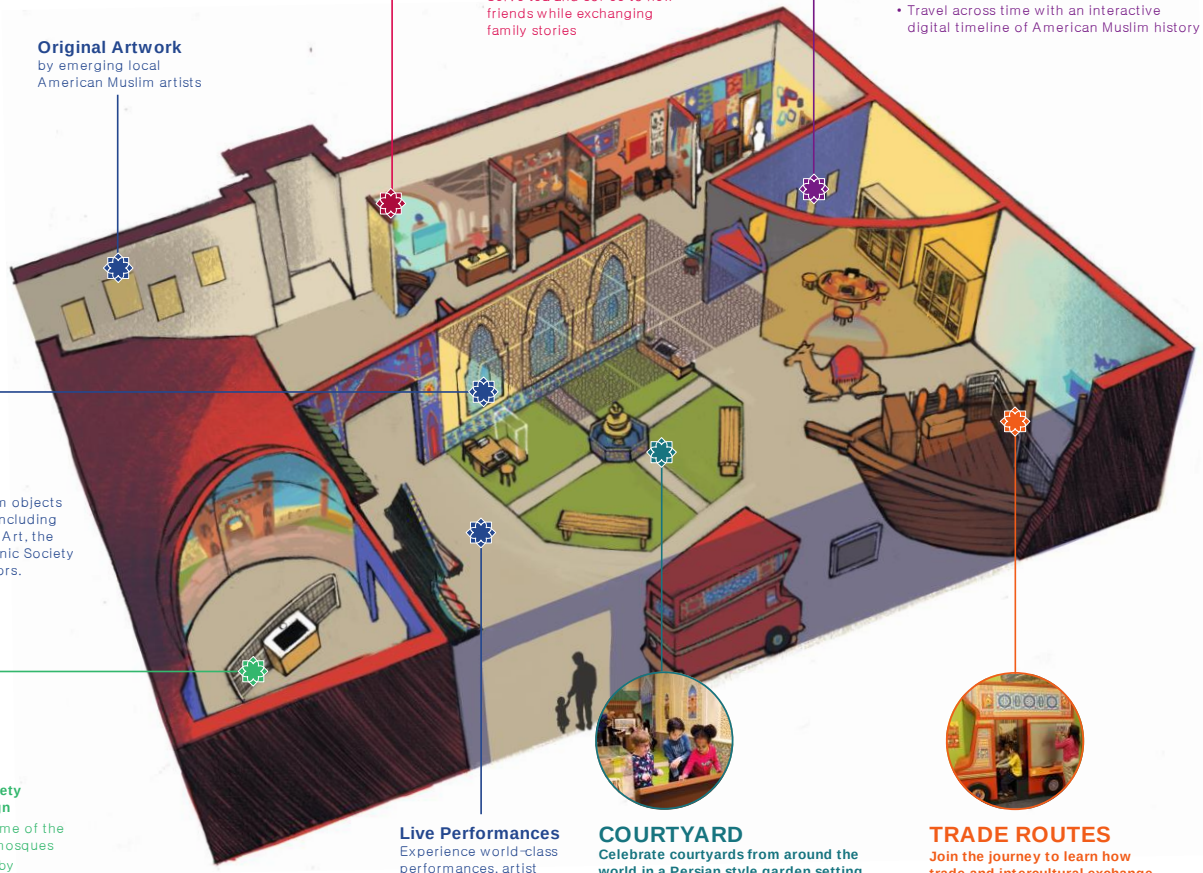
- Pretend to buy, sell, and trade spices, fish, fruit and ceramics
- Design outfits with colorful fabrics, roll and sell rugs woven with secret messages
- Serve tea and coffee to new friends while exchanging family stories

AMERICAN HOME

Explore stories, objects, clothing and art from local American Muslim homes

- Write and learn how to say "My Name Is…" in 21 languages spoken by Muslim New Yorkers
- View objects and listen to stories from local American Muslim families and explore artwork by emerging artists
- Travel across time with an interactive digital timeline of American Muslim history

Original Artwork
by emerging local American Muslim artists



Object Cases

Discover world-class museum objects on loan from local partners including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Hispanic Society of America, and private donors.

ARCHITECTURE

Uncover the beauty and variety in Muslim architectural design

- Take a virtual trip inside some of the world's most magnificent mosques
- Design a building inspired by Muslim architectural shapes and styles
- View a variety of New York City's mosques

Live Performances

Experience world-class performances, artist demonstrations, and cooking workshops by American Muslim artists, dancers, musicians, storytellers, and chefs.

COURTYARD

Celebrate courtyards from around the world in a Persian style garden setting

- Create music by blending the sounds of instruments from around the world
- Play an object guessing game with a stunning assortment of hand-made objects
- Add a drop to the community water fountain, and share how you would make your community better, one drop at a time

TRADE ROUTES

Join the journey to learn how trade and intercultural exchange go hand in hand

- Be the captain of an Indian Ocean dhow! Load and unload goods from around the world
- Pack your bags and climb onto the camel for a desert journey
- Decorate a Pakistani truck before driving of to deliver your wares

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Entry View

Architecture Area: Mosque Mural

Concept by MIIM Designs

Architecture Area

International Mosques Panoramic Interactive

Trade Routes Area

Trade Routes: Pakistani Truck

Signage

PAKISTANI TRUCK

Shipping trucks in Pakistan are like moving works of art.

Truck owners hire artists to decorate their trucks with images and personal messages.

Many of the trucks' unique designs ref ect patterns and ideas from a variety of cultures.

Pakistan has one of the largest Muslim populations in the world.

Symbols Tell Stories
Pictures can communicate dif erent feelings—for example, f owers may be used to express love.

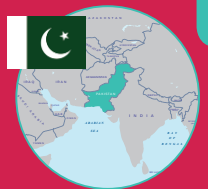
Modern Trucks, Traditional Arts
The geometric patterns, decorative f owers, and arabesques are often inspired by Islamic artistic traditions.

Trucks That Jingle
The decorative chains attached to the trucks' bumpers often make a jingling sound.

Read Any Good Trucks Lately?
Drivers sometimes decorate their trucks with poems, verses from the Qur'an, and even jokes to make people laugh. This truck features information about its shipping company and artist.

PAKISTAN TODAY: COUNTRY FACTS

Population
199,085,847 (July 2015 estimate)



Languages Spoken
Punjabi, Sindhi, Saraiki, Pashto, Urdu, Balochi, Hindko, Brahui, English, Burushaski

Statistics: CIA World Factbook: Languages are listed in order of prevalence, starting with the most-spoken language.
Map: ©Maps in Minutes 2013. The boundaries and names do not imply endorsement or acceptance by CMOM.

Barren Deserts and Lush Forests
Trucks travel through Pakistan's desert plains as well as its lush green hills to reach dif erent cities and towns.

Professional Artists
Truck artists often learn their craft from more experienced, skilled artisans through apprenticeships.

Popular Patterns
Some of the colorful designs seen on the trucks can also be found on camel blankets and accessories.

Photo Credits: 1. Photography by Jamal Elias; 2. Danial Shah www.danialshah.com; 3. S.M. Rafiq Photography s.m.rafiq@yahoo.com

Trade Routes Area: Dhow

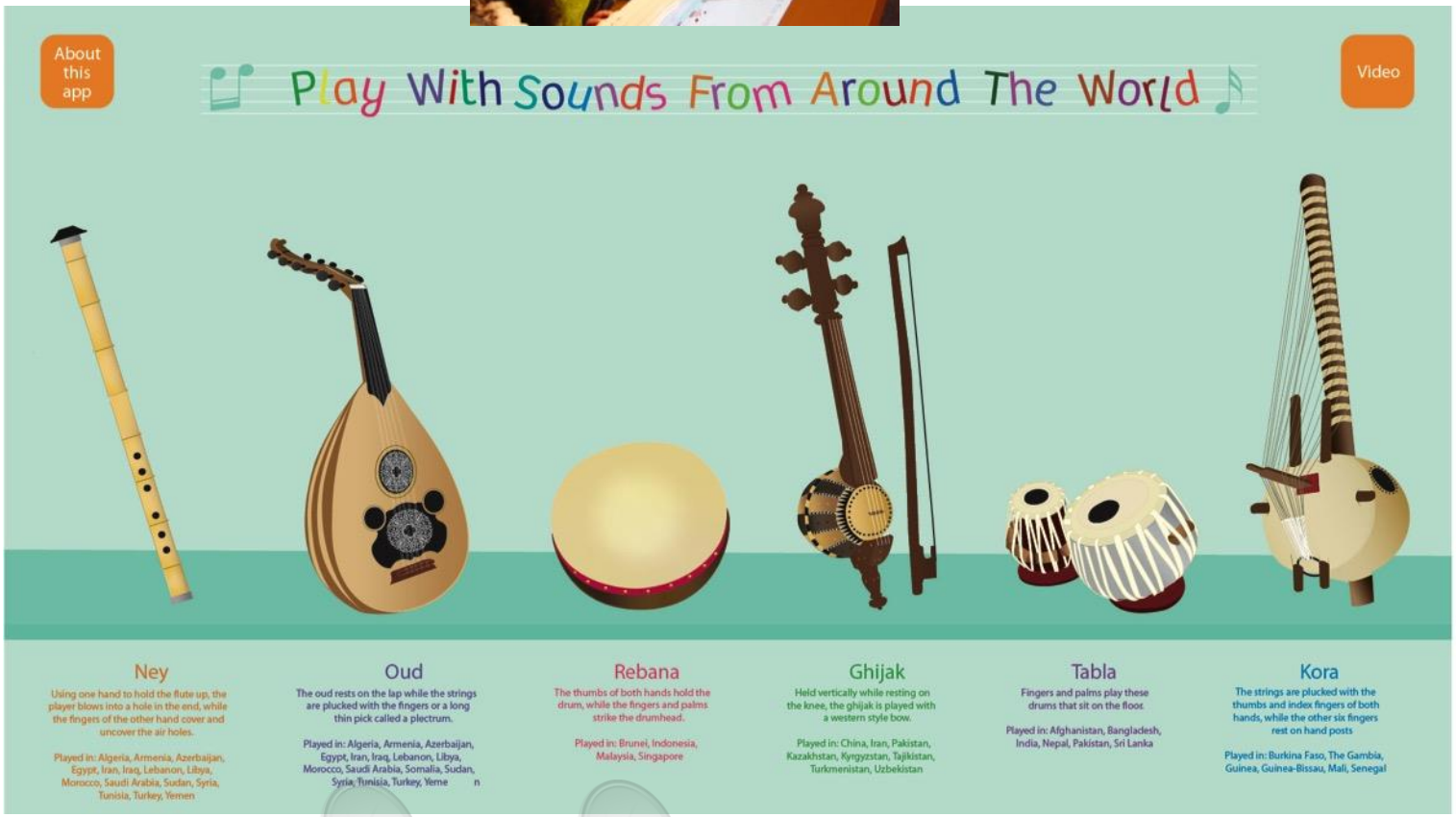
Trade Routes Area: Dhow

Trade Routes Area: Camel

Trade Routes Area: Camel

Courtyard Area

Courtyard Area: Music & Instruments

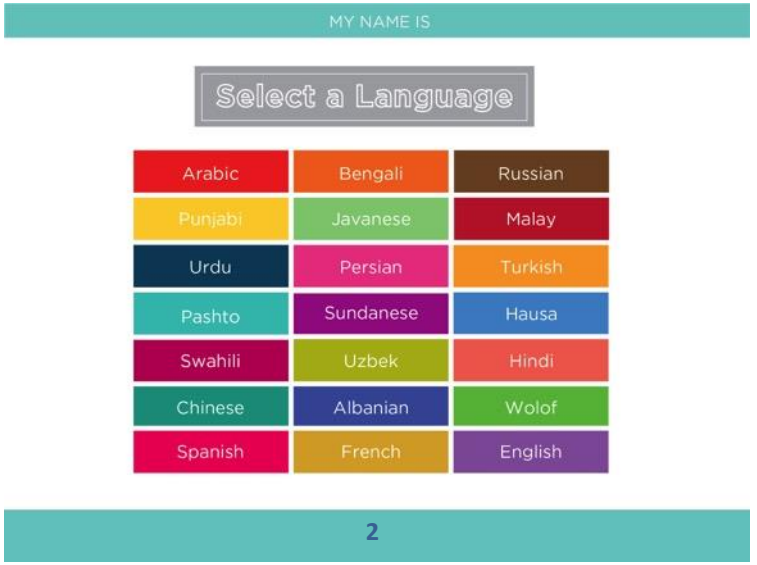


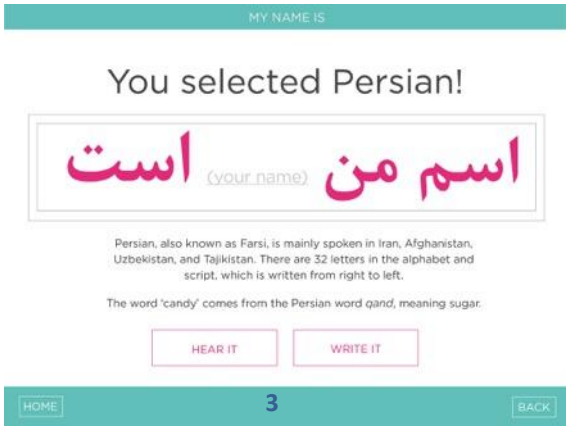
Public Programs: Traveling Cart

American Homes Area

American Home Area: 21 Languages

My Name Is… iPad App





Global Marketplace

Experience local products and foods from around the world.
Pretend to buy and sell spices from Egypt, ceramics from Turkey, and rugs from Morocco. Weigh your fresh catch at the Zanzibari fish market, smell Indonesian fruits, serve Tajik tea, and design outfits inspired by NYC Senegalese fashion!

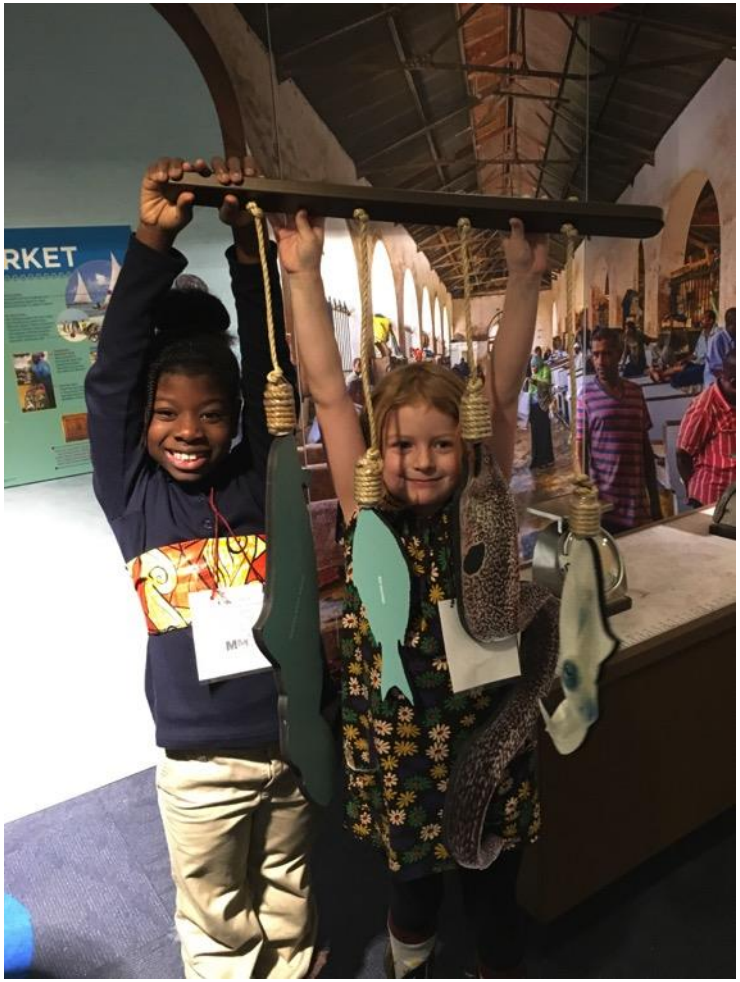
Global Marketplace: Moroccan Rugs

Global Marketplace: Egyptian Spices

Global Marketplace Area: Turkish Ceramics

Global Marketplace Area: Indonesian Fruit

Global Marketplace: Zanzibar Fish Market



Global Marketplace Area:
Tajikistan Tea & Coffee

Authentic Objects

Metropolitan Museum of Art
13th, 17th, 19th Century Persian Objects

Lizzy Martin
Director of Exhibit Development
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