NEW YORK CITY — The Children’s Museum of Manhattan (CMOM) has announced the opening of “Inside Art,” a new immersive and hands-on exhibition that encourages visitors to connect with art, space and design like never before as they assemble, create, peek into, crawl under and walk through new large-scale installations and sculptures. Designed for children ages 3-10, the exhibition at CMOM will be on long-term view opening January 18.

The 3,000-square-foot exhibit, located in CMOM’s first-floor gallery, features works from ten critically acclaimed contemporary artists, whose work explores ideas around architecture, natural phenomena, collaboration and culture. Among the featured artworks are giant clusters of colorful cylinders that encourage peeks into mirrored tunnels of light, rainbows and reflections by artist duo Yoju & Chat; a massive tabletop mystery puzzle that challenges kids to decode icons, shapes and patterns by artist Damien Davis; and a sculpture that invites children to move like a groundhog as they dwell in one of two burrows built to human scale by artist Julie Ann Nagle.

In addition to engaging directly with new artwork, visitors to “Inside Art” will also meet the museum’s resident artists who will have studios located in the gallery. Kids also can create their own sculptures and installations in the Maker Space and family art studios with CMOM’s lead visual arts educators and connect to places and their communities through pop-up performances in dance, theater and music performed in the gallery.

“We believe that all children deserve sophisticated, beautiful and complex art, and we have a responsibility to offer multiple entry points,” said David Ron, Children’s Museum of Manhattan’s director of public programs and the exhibit’s curator. “This means having access to quality works of art, access to real people working in the field such as artists and arts educators, and the opportunity for family engagement through making art.”

“Inside Art” is funded by the Ford Foundation.

The Children’s Museum of Manhattan is at 212 West 83rd Street. For information, 212-721-1228 or www.cmom.org.

Julia Ann Nagle’s “Sh NMer Underground Interspecies Burrow” to be installed in Inside Art at the Children’s Museum of Manhattan, photo courtesy of the artist.