

## **CMOM EXPANDS VISITOR EXPERIENCE WITH NEW TIMED SESSIONS BEGINNING JUNE 2, 2021**

**NEW YORK – May 19, 2021** – Starting June 2, 2021, the Children's Museum of Manhattan (CMOM) expands its visitor experience with new, two-hour sessions that allow children and their caretakers to enjoy the entire museum and all of its exhibitions during their visit. These beloved researched-based exhibitions and programs, including the recently re-opened and expanded outdoor *Dynamic H<sub>2</sub>O* water exhibit, offer immersive opportunities for our youngest New Yorkers to grow into life-long learners.

Visitors can reserve timed tickets for CMOM's new sessions online starting today; CMOM's curated family tour adventures will continue to be offered through Sunday, May 30. Starting June 2, the new sessions will be offered from Wednesdays through Sundays at 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. CMOM's health and safety protocols—including limited visitor capacity, temperature checks, mask and social distancing requirements, and regular, ongoing cleanings and sanitization throughout the day and in-between sessions—will continue to be enforced.

“We are grateful to be a part of helping to open New York City safely with our new two-hour sessions, which allow children and their families to choose their own adventures while at the museum and take full advantage of all that CMOM has to offer,” said Aileen Hefferren, CMOM's CEO and Director. “Whether they decide to experience every exhibit, devote their entire stay to exploring just one, or something in between, children and families are the heart of our mission, and we hope these new adventures inspire a joyful visit and optimism for the future.”

During each session, CMOM educators will be stationed throughout the museum to engage families with art making, storytelling, and music activities and to ensure health and safety protocols are upheld. The following exhibitions are currently on view:

- *Inside Art* features large-scale, interactive installations and sculptures by contemporary artists, encouraging new understandings of art and environment.
- *Superpowered Metropolis: Early Learning City* transports children into playful comic book versions of New York City adventures including a musical subway car, two story treehouse, and magical fountain.
- *Adventures with Dora and Diego* invites children to a musical fiesta with Dora and to take care of animals in the rainforest with Diego and friends.
- *PlayWorks* helps children build confidence and independence as they feed letters to a friendly talking dragon; shop and cook at a NYC deli; drive a NYC firetruck and MTA bus; create art on a 6 ft. mural wall, and more.
- *Dynamic H<sub>2</sub>O*, CMOM's outdoor seasonal water table exhibit, has expanded for 2021 with more waterfall, spinners and spouts for children to splash and play with as they learn more about New York City's water cycle.

To reserve tickets or learn about private playgroups and learning pod visits, please visit [www.cmom.org](http://www.cmom.org).

## **CMOM Health and Safety Procedures**

Since its reopening in October 2020, CMOM has adopted and implemented a rigorous set of health and safety protocols, in adherence with recommendations from the CDC and state and city officials. The museum has upgraded ventilation systems with MERV 13 air filters to protect against airborne virus transmissions. It conducts regular, ongoing cleanings of its exhibits and high-touch surfaces, including cleanings between visitor timeslots with new sanitation measures and special equipment to disinfect its spaces. Multiple hand sanitizing spaces are available throughout the museum.

All visitors, including members, are encouraged to purchase timed tickets in advance at [www.cmom.org](http://www.cmom.org) to ensure that there is availability during their preferred timeslot. Each two-hour session has limited capacity to allow for social distancing and safe play inside the museum. Tickets can be printed or shown on a mobile device at entry. In addition, each visitor will:

- Have their temperature checked upon arrival. If someone's temperature exceeds 100 F, the individual and their group will be unable to enter the museum.
- Wear masks (all visitors aged two years old and older, no exceptions made).
- Respect social distancing protocols, staying 6 feet apart throughout the museum. Elevators and bathrooms are limited to one family at a time. Paths are marked throughout the museum to help guide guests, with signage indicating 6-foot-spacing for social distancing.
- Use new digital membership cards (for members only). To become a member, or retrieve your card, please visit <https://cmom.org/membership/>.

A detailed overview of the museum's new health and safety protocols, how to reserve a timeslot, and what to expect during your visit, are available on the [museum's website](#).

## **About Children's Museum of Manhattan**

Established in 1973, the Children's Museum of Manhattan is a vital destination and resource for New York City children and their families, dedicated to cultivating life-long learners across backgrounds and boroughs. A steward of early childhood education and development, CMOM offers imaginative and enriching exhibitions and programs that support, challenge, and inspire. Beyond the Museum walls, CMOM mounts outreach programs in 60 sites across the city, equips colleagues via professional development training programs, and shares its award-winning content through traveling exhibitions and online offerings. To meet growing public demand and ensure that this child-centered, interactive resource is available for future generations, the Museum is planning a forthcoming move to an expanded home at 361 Central Park West, which will include state-of-the art exhibition and programmatic spaces.

CMOM is especially grateful to Bank of America, the Ford Foundation, New York Community Trust, Robin Hood Foundation and the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund for supporting and sustaining the museum during these unprecedented times. For more information about CMOM, visit [www.cmom.org](http://www.cmom.org).

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