

President's Corner

SUMMER 2009

Summertime and the learning is easy – at The Children's Museum where science and nature are fun.

This summer, The Children's Museum welcomes a new neighbor - the Connecticut Science Center in Downtown Hartford. We look forward to working together to improve science education. After all, The Children's Museum has led the way in teaching and learning about science and nature for a long time.

Today, what The Children's Museum and the Connecticut Science Center do is more important than ever. Our schools cannot do it alone when it comes to achievement, attainment, and literacy in science. We will continue to focus on younger children and families because that's what we do best. When we succeed, the Science Center succeeds because we capture the inquiry and discovery early on that sustains lifelong interest in science. And the Science Center will be there so our kids can stay connected and involved with science as they get older.

As Robin Davis, a science educator in Alaska, told me recently in an email, **"Often people ask me how my career was molded and I honestly say it was a summer camp at The Children's Museum in West Hartford that sparked my imagination for learning about nature and the world of science."** That's what the support of members and donors like you makes possible at The Children's Museum every day.

As members and supporters of The Children's Museum, you will want to visit the Connecticut Science Center. I'm sure you will also continue to be a part of hands-on science and nature at The Children's Museum and our Roaring Brook Nature Center, as well as at the hundreds of museums and science centers nationwide where our members get a passport to visit



Kevin Sullivan, President and CEO of The Children's Museum

free. (For now anyway, membership at the new Science Center does not include this benefit.)

Here at The Children's Museum and our Roaring Brook Nature Center, you may also notice some changes: new activities in our summer vacation camps, added Travelers Science Dome programs, and new rescued animals in the UTC Wildlife Sanctuary. We also have more of a focus on education with no less fun, updated technology thanks to funding from Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and a general sprucing up. At the same time, plans move forward for relocation in West Hartford by 2014, including a long overdue push for the same kind of federal, state and local public investment that supports every other children's science center and museum in the state and nation.

This summer, more and more of us will likely be staycationing closer to home. At The Children's Museum, it's great education, great fun, and a great bargain.

the children's museum

950 Trout Brook Drive · West Hartford · CT · www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org · 860.231.2824