



FOR RELEASE: May 24, 2010
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HAPPY 10!

*It's the Buell Children's Museum's 10th Birthday Party
and EVERYONE is invited.*

June 10- October 10, 2010

(Pueblo, Colo.) Celebrating its 10th birthday beginning June 5, the Buell Children's Museum at the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center will mark the occasion with a summer's worth of festivities centered round the number 10, including a new, earlier opening time of 10 a.m.

The summer exhibit features 10 Saturdays of interactive art classes included with admission, as well as special celebrations on the 10th of June, July and August. Children will be tantalized by the exhibit's Jellyfish Jubilee, amazing PlasmaCars, fairy and troll forest friends, party art, bridge construction projects, Catch-A-Dragon Puppet Theater, and so much more.

"We've had 10 great years of celebrating children, education and art," said museum curator Donna Stinchcomb. "We want to thank the community for their support. We've designed an incredible summer chock full of entertaining exhibits, guest artists, and interactive art opportunities for our young visitors. In addition, we have three really special days planned in June, July and August starting with our birthday party."

The children's museum's Happy 10th Birthday Party will take place **Thursday, June 10** with extended hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Young visitors can chase, pop and stomp humongous bubbles from a 14-foot-tall bubble tower, enjoy birthday cupcakes (while they last), test drive a kid-powered PlasmaCar, meet some furry friends, including Sparky the Art Dog, listen to stories read by Pueblo Library storytellers, and dance to the bluegrass music of local band Fireweed from 12-2 p.m. Families are invited to step over to the Helen T. White galleries from 5-7 p.m. for the free public opening of the summer Rock 'N' Rods exhibits.

On **Saturday, July 10**, a Fairy House Garden Tour is the featured event, with fairy/troll houses constructed by children and made of materials found in nature displayed on the front lawn of the museum. Enjoy dainty fairy cakes, face-painting by Joni Giarrantano, sketching with artist Jedediah Jackman, and the beautiful music of harpist Karen Anderson (12-2 p.m.), then watch *Kristen's Fairy House* at 3:15 p.m. in the Magic Carpet Theater for a true "day of enchantment." Entry forms to participate in the fairy/troll house exhibit may be picked up at the Buell front desk and must be returned by July 3. All participants receive a golden Pueblo coin.

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It's all about bridges on **Thursday, August 10** when children glimpse examples of engineering, construction and weight-bearing physics during the Peace Bridge Project. They can connect their own self-made bridges to those made by other children to make one big bridge! Bridge-builders should pick up an entry kit at the children's museum's front desk before Aug. 3 to participate in the Peace Bridge on Aug. 10. From 12-2 p.m., the Pueblo Woodworkers are providing wood-turning demonstrations, while Ed Hill entertains with silly songs. Building contests and art projects round out the day. With a nod to the Royal Gorge Bridge in neighboring Fremont County which recently celebrated its 80th birthday, visitors will receive a discount coupon to this world-renown attraction, as well as learn about other unique bridges in the area.

This summer's Creativity Box at the Buell features 10 Saturday art classes from 12-2 p.m., included with admission:

- June 12 – join potter-in-residence Kate Jarrett for clay fun;
- June 19 – meet local dance group The Scamps and learn to tap dance;
- June 26 – enjoy fairy scrapbooking activities with Ann Ogburn;
- July 3 – Joni Giarratano leads watercolor splash;
- July 10 – sketch the garden with Jedediah Jackman;
- July 17 – meet artist Ed Sajbel for collage art;
- July 24 – see a show and dance on stage with the Sangre de Cristo Dancerz;
- July 31 – theater fun with Gary Holder, Curator of Education;
- August 7 – sing songs with musician Chris Reed;
- August 14- learn to perform simple magic with The Incredible Mr. E.

Dedicated in the summer of 2000, the Buell Children's Museum offers 7,500 square feet of interactive gallery space, a theater, a café and gift shop on the grounds of the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center. In the February 2002 issue of *Child Magazine*, the Buell Children's Museum was recognized as the number two arts-related children's museum in the country. In 2004, the museum was named the winner of the Award of Excellence in Arts & Humanities by the El Pomar Foundation. In 2009, the museum welcomed nearly 35,000 visitors. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Museum admission is \$3 for children and military and \$4 for adults. Arts Center members enjoy free admission.

The Sangre de Cristo Arts Center galleries are open Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Box office open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98b, or visit online at www.sangredecristoarts.org.

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