

**2003 MetLife Foundation and Association of Children's Museums  
Promising Practice Award  
Applicant Project Summaries**

Listed below are summaries of promising practices in U.S. Children's Museums submitted for the *2003 MetLife Foundation and Association of Children's Museums Promising Practice Award*. This year, the award honors innovative management and programming practices among U.S. children's museums that illustrate the ways in which children's museums foster the value of lifelong learning and use strategic partnerships to create a community of learners on behalf of children.

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| 1. | <b>Betty Brinn Children's Museum</b><br>929 East Wisconsin Avenue<br>Milwaukee, WI 53202 | <b>Contact:</b><br><b>(p)</b><br><b>(e)</b> | Fern Shupeck, Executive Director<br>414.291.0888<br>fshup@bbcmkids.org |
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*Family Focus* emphasizes the impact of play on early learning by providing caregiver education, and membership and transportation subsidies, to disadvantaged families. Our promising practice: 1) promotes a lifelong love of learning through play; 2) cultivates a community of caregivers who share what they learn, and 3) formulates critical collaborations with organizations that enrich the lives of children and families. Results include funding opportunities from corporations/foundations, and a broadening of the diversity of museum visitors.

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| 2. | <b>Brooklyn Children's Museum</b><br>145 Brooklyn Avenue<br>Brooklyn, NY 11213 | <b>Contact:</b><br><b>(p)</b><br><b>(e)</b> | Carol Enseki, President<br>718.735.4400<br>censeki@brooklynkids.org |
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*Special Needs Initiative: Accessibility for Everyone.* Brooklyn Children's Museum has been dedicated to serving all children, families, and teachers, including those in the special needs community. In recent years, we have sought ways to increase our efforts to ensure greater access to all Museum exhibits and programs; determine ways to support parents and teachers of children with special needs; increase Museum staff's sensitivity and awareness of disabilities; and find ways to enlist community support to make introductions to others in the field and to guide us as we move forward.

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| 3. | <b>Center for Learning at Garden State<br/>Discovery Museum</b><br>2040 Springdale Road, Suite 100<br>Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 | <b>Contact:</b><br><b>(p)</b><br><b>(e)</b> | Sarah Orleans, Executive Director<br>856.424.1233 (x306)<br>sorleans@voicenet.com |
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*Passing It On* is designed to develop storytelling skills with at-risk mothers. Young mothers get hands on experiences with learning the difference between reading and telling a story. Using the fun, interactive environments of the Garden State Discovery Museum and working with award winning storyteller, Queen Nur, mothers are encouraged to find their own storytelling voice, sharing family and personal stories together with traditional tales.

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| 4. | <b>Chicago Children's Museum</b><br>Navy Pier., 700 East Grand Avenue,<br>Suite 127<br>Chicago, IL 60611 | <b>Contact:</b><br><b>(p)</b><br><b>(e)</b> | Stacia Whitmore, Director of<br>Foundation and Government Grants<br>312.464.7717<br>staciaw@chichildrenmuseum.org |
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The partnership of a city agency, the Chicago Fire Department, and a not-for-profit children's museum, Chicago Children's Museum, enabled the museum to create its newest permanent exhibit, The Allstate Foundation presents *Play it Safe*. Partners worked together on the design, development, and implementation of both the exhibit and the ongoing programming. Children and families benefit greatly from the safety messages delivered through this interactive exhibit and related programs.

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| 5. | <b>Children's Discovery Museum<br/>of Central Illinois</b><br>716 E. Empire<br>Bloomington, IL 61701 | <b>Contact:</b><br><b>(p)</b><br><b>(e)</b> | Shari Buckellew, Executive Director<br>309.829.6222 (x204)<br>staff@cdmci.org |
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The Children's Discovery Museum of Central Illinois has developed a series of *Home School Science Workshops* which help us address the needs of an often forgotten community of learners, the home school learners. Each workshop is developed based on the hands-on educational philosophy of the museum and the science curriculum needs as identified by parents whom home school their children. A different topic is offered monthly for open registration or specific topics are developed for specific group needs.

6. **Children's Museum in Snohomish County** **Contact:** Nancy Johnson, Executive Director  
 3013 Colby Avenue **(p)** 425.258.1006  
 Everett, WA 98201 **(e)** nancyj@childs-museum.org

Our exciting Museum has a critical shortage of parking...the City of Everett recently opened an incredible Multi-Model Transit Station with plenty of free parking. Joining together we created *Education & Fun Rolled Into One!* A program created to showcase both facilities, make getting to the Museum easier, raise awareness of the new transit center, educate children about mass transit and promote riding the bus...bundling unique enrichment and learning opportunities into FUN.

7. **The Children's Museum of Denver** **Contact:** Dr. Linda E. Farley, President/  
 2121 Children's Museum Drive Executive Director  
 Denver, CO 80211 **(p)** 303.561.0119  
**(e)** lindaf@cmdenver.org

*Literacy Through the Arts* is a collaborative program between The Children's Museum of Denver and the Ready to Succeed Partnership and their families. *Literacy Through the Arts* is designed to support the acquisition of literacy skills among an at-risk population of 4 year olds through the integration of literacy-based activities into their regular school day activities.

8. **Children's Museum of Kansas City** **Contact:** Marty Porter, Executive Director  
 4601 State Avenue **(p)** 913.287.8888  
 Kansas City, KS 66102 **(e)** childrensmuseumofkc@hotmail.com

*The Children's Campus Project:* In 2004, the Children's Museum will move to a new tourism district, where nine million people/year are expected. The Museum will also establish a site in Kansas City's northeast area. In 2002, the Children's Museum became part of a feasibility study resulting in over 45 organizations joining to create a seamless, integrated system of services to support the health and well-being of children, 0 to 5 years of age, where 2,000 preschool children live in poverty. Families will receive help with health, education, child care needs, or may also visit the Museum at the "Campus."

9. **Children's Museum of Manhattan** **Contact:** Andrew Ackerman, Executive Director  
 212 West 83rd Street **(p)** 212.721.1223  
 New York, NY 10024 **(e)** aackerman@cmom.org

\$5 can't buy much anymore, but at the Children's Museum of Manhattan (CMOM), it can buy a world of learning. Since 2000, the *Family Access Membership Program*, partnering with over 50 community-based organizations, has enabled 1,000 low-income families to purchase renewable \$5 memberships that include complete access to Museum resources. By incorporating "access families" into CMOM's community, this program does not segregate low-income families to special free days, truly a promising practice for museum growth.

10. **The Children's Museum of Memphis** **Contact:** Judy Caldwell, Executive Director  
 2525 Central Avenue **(p)** 901.458.2678  
 Memphis, TN 38104 **(e)** judy.caldwell@cmom.com

The *Teen Volunteer Program* is a training program to help young teenagers gain skills in areas of work habits, child development, and customer service. The program benefits both the program participants and the museum. Through training, supervision, mentoring, and hands-on experience helping visitors in the museum gallery, 75 youth ages 13-15 gain skills, obtain a reference source for school or work, make friends and meet people from all over the world. Emphasis is placed on accepting teens who may not have excelled in other arenas but have potential.

11. **Children's Museum of Richmond** **Contact:** Patricia S. Morris, Director of Development  
 2626 West Broad Street **(p)** 804.474.7033  
 Richmond, VA 23220 **(e)** pmorris@c-mor.org

The Children's Museum of Richmond (CMoR) *Open Doors, Open Minds Forum* brings nationally known child development experts to a statewide audience of community leaders, doctors, teachers, parents, nurses, social workers, and grandparents for a variety of events including public lectures, seminars, and community leader functions designed to make a positive change in the lives of children through education in the most current research and practices, the creation of partnerships, and rallying action on behalf of children.

12. **Children's Museum of Tacoma**  
 936 Broadway Street  
 Tacoma, WA 98405
- Contact:** Debbie Kray  
**(p)** 253.627.6031  
**(e)** debbiekray@hotmail.com

The Children's Museum of Tacoma's *Learning Lounge* transforms early childhood research from shelf-bound resources to informative, interactive opportunities for adult visitors to learn more about nurturing the young child. Focus issues are rotated quarterly and determined in collaboration with community partners, particularly Talaris Research Institute (TRI). This flexible environment engages adults in lifelong learning and provides space for parent/child activities and programs, allowing adult visitors to put their newly gained knowledge into practice.

13. **Children's Museum of the Shoals**  
 2810 Darby Drive  
 Florence, AL 35630
- Contact:** Lezlie Martin, Executive Director  
**(p)** 256.765.0500  
**(e)** lezmartin@aol.com

The Children's Museum of the Shoals (CMOS) collaborates with the local chapter of Master Gardeners to enrich the museum experience and provide exciting learning programs for young people. *Master Gardeners* maintain an herb garden, a vegetable garden, and a butterfly garden on the museum grounds for hands-on workshops lead by a Master Gardener based on Junior Master Gardner modules. Master Gardeners serve as role models of lifelong learning while sharing skills children can take with them throughout their lives.

14. **Creative Discovery Museum**  
 P.O. Box 6339  
 Chattanooga, TN 37401
- Contact:** Henry Schulson, Executive Director  
**(p)** 423.648.6065  
**(e)** hhs@cdmfun.org

*Sensory Camp:* Creative Discovery Museum offers a summer camp to children with autism in a collaboration that includes two schools for special needs children, the local university's occupational therapy department, and a children's hospital. The three-hour day camp lasts two weeks and consists of activities designed especially for children with autism and time to enjoy the museum's exhibits. A research component has been a part of the camp for the two years it has been offered.

15. **Discovery Creek Children's Museum**  
 2233 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 410  
 Washington, DC 20007
- Contact:** Christopher Politan,  
 Director of Development  
**(p)** 202.337.5111  
**(e)** cpolitan@discoverycreek.org

In October 2003, Discovery Creek launched a one-of-a-kind mobile immersion exhibition, an authentic recreation of a neo-typical rainforest, the *Rolling Rainforest*. This 53-foot tractor-trailer transports visitors to the lush tropics of the rainforest, capturing their senses and filling them with excitement about scientific learning. Teaching lessons of conservation, stewardship, and love for the earth, the *Rolling Rainforest* provides access to an environment that many children and families may never have the opportunity to explore.

16. **DuPage Children's Museum**  
 301 North Washington Street  
 Naperville, IL 60540
- Contact:** Cynthia Mark-Hummel,  
 Director of Exhibits and Programs  
**(p)** 630.637.8000  
**(e)** cmhummel@dupagechildrensmuseum.org

*Learning About Learning (LAL)* has transformed the DuPage Children's Museum's physical environment, our approach to the adult-child context for learning, and established an innovative interactive education program using the Museum as a living laboratory of early learning. Our expanded institutional commitment to the adult-child learning partnership has resulted in an active network of 61 agencies that work cooperatively through LAL to meet the diverse and challenging needs of their participating families and to promote an enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

17. **EdVenture Children's Museum**  
 2835 Devine Street, P.O. Box 1638  
 Columbia, SC 29201
- Contact:** Catherine Horne, President/CEO  
**(p)** 803.779.3100 (x14)  
**(e)** chorne@edventure.org

In 1997-98, EdVenture Children's Museum developed a unique community outreach program focusing on the sciences. The idea was to create a challenging curriculum that complemented state and national standards while at the same time, offered stimulating hands-on activities to third-graders in elementary school classrooms. Known as *EdVenture Science*, the program was offered through a series of "packages" and provided by trained museum educators. EdVenture Science also provided out-of-the-classroom activities for families and several after-school experiences. Overall, EdVenture had two key goals: 1) Infuse hands-on learning into elementary science programs and, 2) Develop a revenue stream for educational programs offered beyond the museum facility.

18. **Explorations V Children's Museum, Inc.** **Contact:** Georgann Carleton, CEO  
 109 North Kentucky Avenue **(p)** 863.687.3869  
 Lakeland, FL 33801 **(e)** explorationsv@aol.com

*After School with the Arts!* Is a unique program combining quality after care with a daily arts block. It includes transportation, snack, Museum exploration, academic tutoring, and a daily interactive arts program--performing, visual, culinary, creative writing, and museum--all within the safe, fun-filled environment of the Children's Museum. Thirty students in grades three to five from two schools were selected by their principals based on need. The program is free to the families.

19. **Felix Adler Memorial Association, Inc./  
 Felix Adler Discovery Center** **Contact:** Theo Smith, Executive Director  
 501 11th Avenue, South **(p)** 563.243.3600  
 Clinton, IA 52732 **(e)** dgsmith@clinton.net

The Felix Adler Discovery Center is the realization of a dream that began in 1993 when the Felix Adler Memorial Association, Inc. established as one of their goals the development of a Children's Museum thus keeping alive the memory of Felix Adler, world famous Barnum and Bailey clown and native son of Clinton, Iowa. He gave his life to children, what better way to remember him than to provide a positive, fun, and educational experience for Gateway area children.

20. **Fox Cities Children's Museum** **Contact:** Dorrie Hipschman, Executive Director  
 100 West College Avenue **(p)** 920.734.3226  
 Appleton, WI 54911 **(e)** fccmexec@thenet.net

*Fourth Friday Family Festivals* launched in January 2002, are held the fourth Friday of each month (except June, July, and August) and have an average attendance of 300-500 people. Each evening includes a dinner and a variety of themed activities to encourage families to spend quality time together and foster appreciation of the arts, science, diversity, and to encourage a love of learning. The Museum staff designs each event and produces them with support from a variety of public and private organizations.

21. **Great Lakes Children's Museum** **Contact:** John Noonan, Executive Director  
 336 West Front Street **(p)** 231.932.4526  
 Traverse City, MI 49684 **(e)** john@glcm.org

The Great Lakes Children's Museum in Traverse City, MI utilizes accessibility components in the conceptual design and implementation of all their interactive experiences to accommodate children with physical, developmental, and sensory disabilities. This practice includes the use of measurement criteria for mobility assistive devices as well as a five-senses approach to each interactive. The result is a cost effective, proactive approach creating an inclusive environment whereby the museum experience of all children is enhanced.

22. **Hands On Children's Museum** **Contact:** Patty Belmonte, Executive Director  
 106 11th Avenue, SW **(p)** 360.956.0818  
 Olympia, WA 98501 **(e)** prpatty@attbi.com

*Hand in Hand* is a community-wide education campaign that promotes the value of early learning and early literacy while building skills for children, parents, childcare providers, and other caregivers. Using the Early Learning Discovery Center at the Hands On Children's Museum as a gathering place and resource center, the campaign links a network of community partners including parent cooperative preschools, childcare providers, colleges, and social service agencies to deliver programs and disseminate information.

23. **Hands On! Children's Art Museum of Chicago** **Contact:** Karolyn Kuehner, Executive Director  
 1800 West 103rd Street **(p)** 773.233.9933  
 Chicago, IL 60643 **(e)** karolyn@handsonart.org

Our promising practice brings the art-immersed setting of our museum together with the academic environment of a traditional school setting through our *Art Encounters* outreach program. A primary component of this outreach is our work with disabled children. We are working to increase disability awareness, provide teacher-training in the arts, promote the value of early arts intervention, and offer the children we serve an integrated, quality art experience.

24. **Hawaii Children's Discovery Center** **Contact:** Liane Yajima, Director of Education  
 111 Ohe Street **(p)** 808.524.5437  
 Honolulu, HI 96813 **(e)** lyajima@discoverycenterhawaii.org

*Grandparents Day* culminated in a month long tribute to seniors, honoring grandparents for the vital role they play in nurturing our younger generation. This event gave grandparents opportunities to show love for their children's children and allowed children to demonstrate to grandparents how much they are appreciated by their families and by the entire community. Through smiles, laughter, and in the spirit of learning together, the generations came together in a true celebration of lifelong learning.

25. **The Iowa Children's Museum** **Contact:** Deb Dunkhase,  
 1451 Coral Ridge Avenue **(p)** 319.625.6255  
 Coralville, IA 52241 **(e)** ddunkhase@theicm.org

A new program, *ICM for Everyone*, was created to fulfill the mission of The Iowa Children's Museum to promote meaningful involvement of parents in the education of their children and to provide informal learning opportunities for all children regardless of their ability, economic status, cultural heritage, or family structure. *ICM for Everyone* provides free museum memberships to families in need through individual and corporate partnerships that nurture life-long learning and a sense of community.

26. **Junior Museum of Bay County, Inc.** **Contact:** William R. Barton, Executive Director  
 1731 Jenks Avenue **(p)** 850.769.6128  
 Panama City, FL 32405 **(e)** jrmuseum@knology.net

The *Super Summer Program* is an all day educational program providing K4-8th grade children with fun, hands-on curriculum during summer vacation. There are six different subject areas children rotate through each day or they can choose a weeklong camp, with field trips, that cover one topic in depth. Certified instructors teach daily Science, Cooking, Theater, Drama, World Cultures, and Arts & Crafts classes. Camp topics include Air & Space, Marine Science, Reptiles, Robotics, and Drama.

27. **Long Island Children's Museum** **Contact:** Bonnie Dixon, Executive Director  
 11 Davis Avenue **(p)** 516.224.5800  
 Garden City, NY 11530 **(e)** licm1@aol.com

*KICK (Kid's Ideas Create Knowledge) START* provides free guided Museum visits and outreach programs for thousands of children and families from Long Island's most underserved communities. The Long Island Children's Museum (LICM) has partnered with Head Start centers, public school districts, and summer recreational programs in four economically challenged communities on Long Island with the goal of serving families traditionally not reached by museums, and of becoming a sustained and valuable presence in these families' lives.

28. **Louisiana Children's Museum** **Contact:** Julia Bland, Executive Director  
 420 Julia Street **(p)** 504.586.0725 (x201)  
 New Orleans, LA 70130 **(e)** jbland@lcm.org

*Healthy Lifestyle Choices* is a strategic, community collaboration whose goal is to teach 9,000 New Orleans students (K-6) life skills. Reaching children at school, home, and community, HLC delivers the knowledge and skills needed to avoid risk behaviors in topics of health, safety, nutrition, substance abuse, and conflict resolution. Significant impact has been achieved through comprehensive partnerships among Louisiana Children's Museum (with exhibit, computer games, and outreach), HLC, Inc., two public school districts, and media.

29. **The Magic House,  
 St. Louis Children's Museum** **Contact:** Julie Tubbs, Director of Community  
 516 S. Kirkwood Road **(p)** Education 314.822.8900  
 St. Louis, MO 63122 **(e)** julia@magichouse.org

The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum collaborates with four St. Louis pediatric hospitals to provide *A Dose of Magic*, a monthly outreach program that's just what the doctor ordered for ill and recovering children. *A Dose of Magic* delivers hands-on learning experiences to children in their own wards, playrooms, and even beds. The program also includes special evening events for patients and their families when the museum is closed to the general public.

30. **Mid-Hudson Children's Museum** **Contact:** Diane Pedevillano, Executive Director  
 75 North Water Street **(p)** 845.471.0589  
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 **(e)** mhcm@vh.net

The Mid-Hudson Children's Museum is dedicated to the enhancement of learning opportunities for children, and provides both school hour and non-school hour programming using interactive exhibits and services that both educate and fascinate children, families, and teachers. We provide opportunities for individuals of all learning styles, ages, and abilities to join in the learning adventure. Our exhibits are enhanced by innovative programs, led by trained educators and professional staff, which involve all facets of the community.

31. **Minnesota Children's Museum** **Contact:** Carleen Rhodes, President  
 10 West 7th Street **(p)** 651.225.6001  
 St. Paul, MN 55102 **(e)** crhodes@mcm.org

In the fall of 2000, Minnesota Children's Museum initiated a systemic partnership with Saint Paul Public Schools to provide all children in kindergarten through second grade with a series of in-depth educational experiences based on Museum exhibits and programs. The partnership, that we have called *Weaving Resources*, now is in its third year and serves over 7,000 children. It integrates Museum field trips, classes, discovery kits, and parent education into the District's core curriculum, helping teachers to meet learning standards set by the State of Minnesota.

32. **Muncie Children's Museum** **Contact:** Lenette D. Freeman, Executive Director  
 515 S. High Street, Box 544 **(p)** 765.286.1660  
 Muncie, IN 47308 **(e)** lfreeman@munciechildrensmuseum.com

Teens can no longer say "There's nothing to do in Muncie!" The Muncie Children's Museum engages middle and high school students in planning and participating in: 1) Youth Academy for Community Leadership; 2) Mayor's Youth Council; 3) Youth Environmental Council; 4) Rock Climbing Wall; 5) Youth on Boards, in focus groups, and planning special events; 6) Annual Youth Summit; 7) Service/Volunteer opportunities. In collaboration with 35 agencies, youth are empowered to reach their greatest potential.

33. **Please Touch Museum®** **Contact:** Lesly Attarian, Director of Development  
 210 North 21st Street **(p)** 215.963.0667  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103 **(e)** lattarian@pleasetouchmuseum.org

The *Latino Project* is Please Touch Museum's (PTM) first concerted effort to serve Philadelphia's Latino Community by providing an outreach program specifically designed to serve Spanish-speaking families with children aged seven and under. A program of museum-based educational resources that promote "learning through play," the *Latino Project* encourages under-served families to make wider use of PTM's award-winning community programs, in-museum exhibits, and the Philadelphia area's other cultural institutions.

34. **Providence Children's Museum** **Contact:** Janice O'Donnell, Executive Director  
 100 South Street **(p)** 401.273.5437  
 Providence, RI 02903 **(e)** odonnell@childrenmuseum.org

Providence Children's Museum's (PCM) *Learning Together* program is a partnership with an urban elementary school serving ethnically diverse low-income children and a rural elementary school with a homogenous student population, most from moderate-income households. This partnership, developed at the request of the teachers, brings together students and teachers from diverse backgrounds, promotes children's belief that they are learners and that learning is fun, and provides teachers and parents with tools to support their children's learning in the classroom and at home.

35. **Santa Fe Children's Museum** **Contact:** Ellen Biderman, Co-Director  
 1050 Old Pecos Trail **(p)** 505.989.8359  
 Santa Fe, NM 87505 **(e)** children@santafechildrensmuseum.org

Since 1966, the Santa Fe Children's Museum has combined resources with the Santa Fe Public Schools and local funders to meet a community need for quality summer programming. *Los Amigos Summer Day Camp* is a learning community that brings together professional staff, college interns, teen volunteers, foster grandparents, parents, and children in a developmentally appropriate program rich in art and science that serves some of Santa Fe's most underserved children aged five to seven.

36. **The Science Place** **Contact:** Diana T. Hueter, President and CEO  
 P.O. Box 151469 **(p)** 214.428.5555  
 Dallas, TX 75315 **(e)** dhueter@scienceplace.org

The Science Place and TI Founders IMAX in Dallas, TX, has a school as part of its operations that provides an interdisciplinary curriculum based on science. The curriculum is presented in a dual language format of English and Spanish. Children benefit from hands-on, developmentally appropriate activities and experiments with guided discovery and free exploration while incorporating the science center's exhibits and programs. Our program is designed to spark a child's imagination and to nurture a love for learning that will help prepare the child for an increasingly complex global community.

37. **Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum** **Contact:** Margaret W. McKee, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 239 **(p)** 540.722.2020  
Winchester, VA 22604 **(e)** pmckee@discoverymuseum.net

The Discovery Museum presents an exhibit called *Positive Exposure* to kick off a new set of programs on human genetics. This exhibit will be staged in collaboration with "Our Genes, Ourselves" Genetics Conference, March 25-26, 2003, in Winchester, Virginia. In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be free family events, a reception for conference attendees, and activities that bring together individuals with chromosomal syndromes and the public at large.

38. **Think Link Discovery Museum** **Contact:** Kathy L. Davis, Executive Director  
906 Washington **(p)** 541.975.2040  
LaGramde, OR 97850 **(e)** thinklink@econi.com

Our museum maintains a *Wild Idea Committee* comprised of board members and faculty members from our local university. This committee has one, informal lunch meeting each term. Out of these meetings a list of creative possibilities is generated for ways the museum and university could partner to provide service learning opportunities for university students, improve access to learning enrichment activities for children in rural, Northeast Oregon, and bring fresh exhibits and classes to Think Link.

39. **Treehouse Children's Museum** **Contact:** Lynne Goodwin, Executive Director  
455 23rd Street, P.O. Box 727 **(p)** 801.394.9663  
Ogden, UT 84402 **(e)** treehouse@relia.net

All exhibits and programs at Treehouse Museum have a focus on family literacy. Through a three-pronged initiative called *Treehouse Spreads the Words* Treehouse is creating learning opportunities for the entire community outside our walls. The initiative involves working with hundreds of students to create books for at-risk preschoolers, sharing our design skills with a public library to create a new children's wing, and creating an exhibit celebrating America for a July 4th event involving 30,000 people.

40. **Virginia Discovery Museum** **Contact:** Peppy Linden, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 1128 **(p)** 434.977.1025  
Charlottesville, VA 22902 **(e)** vdm@cstone.net

We have an Exhibit Development department of one person! Even with our limited resources, we take great pride in the original exhibits we design, fabricate, and install in the Back Gallery (2,000 sq. ft) every 3 months. In choosing topics, special emphasis is given to the history, technology, and geography of our area. The generation of exhibits is one of the most energetic, substantive, and dynamic aspects of the Museum. The engagement of community organizations like Monticello (Home of Thomas Jefferson), the University of Virginia, the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, and the local chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation have been central to the success of these efforts.

41. **World Awareness Children's Museum** **Contact:** Dr. Jacqueline Touba, Executive Director  
229 Glen Street **(p)** 518.793.2773  
Glenn Falls, NY 12801 **(e)** wacm@worldchildrensmuseum.org

The World Awareness Children's Museum conducts an annual *International Youth Art Exchange*, which has created one of the largest collections of original children's art in the country. The promising practice is two fold: 1) utilizing the museum's international collection of children's interpretations of their societies to develop interactive hands-on installations to raise awareness of world cultures and appreciation for diversity, and 2) to make the original children's art collection available to children's museums so they can have cultural component as part of their exhibitions.

42. **The Children's Discovery Workshop Museum** **Contact:** Brenda Lukasaewicz, Museum Director  
343 West Fourth Street **(p)** 570.322.5437  
Williamsport, PA 17701 **(e)** ymcacdw@yahoo.com

CDW's promising practice is to focus on the continued development of Girl Scout, Boy Scout and group *Camp-In* programming. In the winter of 2002, CDW had approximately 45 troops spend their weekend at our museum over a four-month period. With programming to challenge their physical stamina, to group discussion, along with hands-on learning in coordination with earning a badge, each troop walked away discovering the importance of strong independence, the strength of family, and the importance of community involvement. CDW's *Camp-In* program is maturing into a positive, successful promising practice.