



**Madison Children's Museum**  
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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Madison Children's Museum receives \$150,000 IMLS grant**

MADISON, Wis. (October 6, 2009) — Madison Children's Museum (MCM) has been awarded a \$150,000 Museums for America (MFA) grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) as part of the museum's capital campaign to build a new, larger facility on the Capitol Square.

Specifically, MCM will use the grant to help fabricate and install programming aspects of Rooftop Ramble, a permanent, year-round exhibition on the rooftop of the new facility. Rooftop Ramble's construction was made possible through a gift from Pleasant T. Rowland.

Awarded under the Engaging Communities category, this project responds to a community need for the museum to provide expanded natural and physical science programming for children up to age 12.

Additional goals are to create a natural model for the design and use of the year-round outdoor space to advance the museum's sustainability practices with a green rooftop and an alternative energy demonstration site, as well as to contribute to community development and urban revitalization.

Currently located at 100 State St., Madison Children's Museum is planning for a move to its new location at 100 N. Hamilton St. in August 2010. On opening day, MCM's new facility will have three times the public space of its current location, with room to expand to five times its current size. The new museum will be able to serve approximately 40,000 more visitors per year. Other features include newly designed exhibits, increased educational programs and public performances, accommodations for school groups, on-site parking and improved visitor amenities.

The museum has raised nearly \$8 million toward its \$10 million Ready, Set ... Grow! Capital Campaign. It also has received a \$750,000 Kresge Challenge Grant. When the museum reaches \$9.25 million in fundraising, The Kresge Foundation will provide \$750,000 to top off the campaign. To donate, please visit [madisonchildrensmuseum.org/invest](http://madisonchildrensmuseum.org/invest).

### **About Madison Children's Museum**

Madison Children's Museum is an award-winning organization which fosters family and community connections, and provides a place where every child can learn through play in an interactive environment. MCM's hands-on exhibits and programs celebrate and encourage children's imaginations and the power

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of play as the cornerstone of learning.

**About the Institute of Museum and Library Services**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov).

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