



## FACT SHEET

### **Mission**

Boston Children's Museum exists to help children understand and enjoy the world in which they live. It is a private, non-profit, educational institution that is recognized internationally as a research and development center and pacesetter for children's exhibitions, educational programs and curriculum. Boston Children's Museum incorporates two strategies – engaging families and building communities – to impact five outcome areas for children: Creative Kids, Curious Kids, Global Kids, Green Kids and Healthy Kids.

### **History**

Founded by science teachers from Boston Public Schools in 1913, Boston Children's Museum is the second oldest children's museum in the United States. The Museum first opened at Pine Bank on Jamaica Pond in Boston's Jamaica Plain neighborhood. It moved to the former Morse/Milton estate on the Jamaicaaway in Jamaica Plain in 1936.

In 1979 Boston Children's Museum moved to an empty wool warehouse on the Fort Point Channel in order to gain more space and become more accessible to people in Boston.

In April 2006, the Museum broke ground on a \$47-million expansion and renovation project and closed for four months at the beginning of 2007 to complete the project. The project added a 23,000-square-foot (2,100 m<sup>2</sup>), glass-walled enclosure to the front of the Museum, a new theater, new exhibits, and a newly landscaped park. The Museum reopened on April 14, 2007.

### **Museum Facts**

- Second oldest children's museum in the United States
- First "green" museum in Boston.
- Over 50,000 items in the Museum's collections
- The Japanese House, or Kyo No Machiya, was donated to the Museum by Kyoto, Boston's Japanese sister city in 1980.
- The Hood Milk Bottle in front of the Museum is 40 feet tall and 18 feet in diameter. If it were a real milk bottle, it would hold 50,000 gallons of milk. Originally located in Taunton, Massachusetts, the bottle moved to the museum in 1977.

### **Green Building**

Boston Children's Museum has made a major commitment to green design and has integrated the following elements that have qualified the museum for the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® Gold certification:

- Three green roofs – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor green roof was planted by Museum staff and visitors, June 2007
- Storm water reclamation to reduce run-off into Fort Point Channel
- New infrastructure and fixtures to increase building efficiency
- Recycled, local, and low-emitting building materials

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|----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| <b>President/CEO</b>             | Dr. Louis B. Casagrande  |                  |
| <b>Location</b>                  | 300 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210<br>Phone: (617) 426-6500<br>Fax: (617) 426-1944<br>www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org   |                  |
| <b>Size</b>                      | 105,000 square feet (museum)<br>175,000 square feet (entire building)  |                  |
| <b>Annual On-Site Attendance</b> | 500,000+ visitors  |                  |
| <b>Membership</b>                | 10,000+ member households<br>ACM Family Membership: \$125<br>ACM Family Plus Membership: \$250<br>Full Library Discount Membership: \$675<br>Half Library Discount Membership: \$335 |                  |
| <b>Public Hours</b>              | Monday – Thursday, Weekends  | 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
|                                  | Friday   | 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. |
| <b>Admission Prices</b>          | Adults (16-64)   | \$10             |
|                                  | Ages 2-15 & senior citizens  | \$8              |
|                                  | 1 year olds  | \$2              |
|                                  | Friday after 5 p.m.  | \$1              |
|                                  | Infants under 1 and members  | Free             |

### **Education Programs**

Boston Children's Museum programs align with Massachusetts State Learning Standards in art, science, social studies and more. School groups can explore relevant exhibit space with hands-on activities that teachers can discuss in their classrooms before and after their visits.

### **Special Event Facilities**

The museum hosts birthday parties, meetings, corporate events, holiday parties, and weddings.