

PRESS RELEASE

SPRING BREAK AT THE MCCORD MUSEUM: WHERE FUN MEETS DISCOVERY

Montreal, January 12, 2015 – From February 28 to March 8, 2015, children are invited to take part in a spring break program at the McCord Museum featuring exhibitions, workshops, stories and treasure hunts that promise to engage them and spur their imaginations and curiosity. Building on the success of recent years, for the first time this year the program will begin on the weekend leading into spring break and, on an exceptional basis, will also open on Monday, March 2, in response to demand. These fun-filled activities, along with admission to the exhibitions, are offered free of charge to children ages 3 to 12.

“We particularly look forward to welcoming children during this winter holiday. They are a highly enthusiastic audience, and the Museum wants to offer them the chance to discover and dream while thoroughly enjoying themselves. The families that join us will discover an exceptional way to spend time together and will leave with many happy memories,” said Suzanne Sauvage, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McCord Museum.

The activities slated for spring break are part of ***The Adventure at the Museum*** program and feature the materials and treasure hunts offered to families throughout the year. Held in collaboration with motherforlife.

THE ISLAND OF TOYS

- **Exploration of *The Island of Toys* exhibition**, a place of mystery and imaginary characters, will include a **treasure hunt** that will lead children to a strange and wonderful world. They will also have to make their way through a waterfall to find Captain Gustav’s crew, who have scattered far and wide following a shipwreck, and help them return home.

- **Story Hour** will be held at 11:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. in French and English in the exhibition halls, in collaboration with L’école des loisirs. Some lucky young visitors will even sit at the feet of a giant to listen to the storyteller.

- **A continuous workshop** offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Atrium will teach children to make a treasure map using recycled materials.

WEARING OUR IDENTITY – THE FIRST PEOPLES COLLECTION

- The children will enjoy a visit to the exhibition ***Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection***, in which they’ll see exceptional garments and accessories that display the skills, creativity and cultural wealth of Canada’s First Peoples.

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Photo: McCord Museum



Photo: McCord Museum

- They'll also take part in a themed treasure hunt to help Thomas, a young Aboriginal boy, rediscover his identity following his removal from his family and his placement in a residential school.

FESTIVAL MONTRÉAL JOUE

As part of *Montréal Joue*, vintage and contemporary board games will also be made available to families during spring break.

LOVE IN FINE FASHION AND MONTREAL- POINTS OF VIEW EXHIBITIONS

Many other discoveries await families at the McCord Museum:

- **Love in Fine Fashion**, an exhibition of 30 stunning bridal gowns and as many accessories from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries drawn from the Museum's permanent collection, will particularly delight children who dream of princesses resplendent in dresses as beautiful as these.
- **Montreal - Points of View** enables visitors to explore the history of Montreal, from the city's earliest residents before the arrival of the first Europeans, to today's fast-paced metropolis, all in an original and engaging setting.
- The exhibition in honour of the 50th anniversary of L'école des loisirs will reveal to visitors the secrets behind the creation of a book.

About the McCord Museum

The McCord Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study and appreciation of Montreal's history, as recounted by its people, artists and communities living in the city's past and present. The McCord Museum is home to one of the largest historical collections in North America, consisting of First Peoples objects, costumes and textiles, photographs, decorative and visual artworks, and textual archives, totalling more than 1.4 million artefacts. The McCord Museum produces exciting exhibitions that engage visitors from Montreal, Canada, and beyond by offering them a contemporary look at the world. The McCord Museum also offers educational and cultural activities, as well as innovative projects on the Internet. **McCord Museum: Our People, Our Stories.**

mccord-museum.qc.ca/activities

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Photos available:

The Island of Toys: <http://bit.ly/1smst0n>

Love in Fine Fashion: <http://bit.ly/1zYrJ6h>

Source and information:

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The Museum is grateful for the support of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec and the



Moccasins
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Wedding dress, 1904
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Conseil des arts de Montréal, Accès Montréal, CAA, as well as its media partners, *Journal 24 h*, *The Gazette* and *La Vitrine Culturelle*.