The mission of the Santa Fe Children’s Museum (SFCM), a non-profit cultural institution, is discovering the joys of learning, play, and community.

Purpose and Values
For 36 years SFCM has served as a town square and helped to build social capital. Our innovative bilingual programs and exhibits provide the opportunity for hands-on exploration and informal education. A key focus is to ensure “Access for All,” reducing barriers as we honor, celebrate and interweave the multicultural heritage so unique to New Mexico.

About the SFCM & Organizational History
The Santa Fe Children’s Museum (SFCM) was incorporated in 1985 as the first children’s museum in the State of New Mexico. Located on the historic Armory for the Arts Campus in Santa Fe, the building was originally constructed in the 1930s. SFCM was founded by four local educators who perceived a need for learning opportunities in the community that would be distinctly different from those provided in school or home settings. Convinced that experiential learning is a necessary complement to traditional education, the founders sought to create a dynamic, hands-on, exploratory environment that included opportunities for family engagement.

Today, SFCM remains the only organization of its kind in the region serving 60,000 children and families on an annual basis through dynamic exhibits, programs, and cultural events.

Contact
For information on sponsorship and partnership opportunities, and how to support the Santa Fe Children’s Museum virtual initiatives, contact: Hannah Hausman at hhausman@santafechildrensmuseum.org
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Coming Soon!
Backyard Renovation
To meet the vision of every young child experiencing nature daily, SFCM has embarked on a master plan renovation of their acre plus outdoor space, which has been serving families for decades. This collaborative re-design is with the National Wildlife Federation and ECHO (Early Childhood Health Outdoors) and Surroundings Studio, a multidisciplinary design studio in Santa Fe. The master plan redesigns our space to reflect a nature-based health equity strategy to serve all our children and families for many years to come.

Over the next few years, 28 new exhibits and explorative environments will be expanded to encourage outdoor exploration and play. A few highlights include:

- Music Plaza & Performance Space, with new equipment, performance stage, and the opportunity for thespians, budding musicians, and poets to perform, imagine and create, using nature as their muse!
- Hill Play, from climbing ropes, nets, and boulders, this area includes a two-part Bandelier cliff dwelling with ladder, openings, and lookout to honor our history and heritage.
- Outdoor Classroom, creating a space for all ages to build new skills, dive into STEM projects and classes, art activities, and more.
- Adobe Village, an expansion of our beloved adobe house, this area includes a playhouse and play market, echoing a different time and space.

A n easy to play web-based STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) game where family members of all ages can populate a virtual space environment at home or in the museum! The game is designed to foster creativity and imagination by visioning and learning about what life on other planets might look like. Create customized robots, aliens, spacecrafts, and habitats using either a tablet-based or desktop computer mix-and-match interface. After making their space creation, users simply swipe up on their screen to launch their creation off onto the main projection screen and then watch it interact with its new environment. Relevant scientific facts about space are interspersed to create an educational experience for all.
MISSION & CONCEPT
Designed to foster creativity and imagination, the Space Creation Virtual Game is an original creation, developed by New Mexico Highlands University Media Arts & Technology Department, based on themes that visitors of the Santa Fe Children’s Museum know, and love! This easy to play web-based game lets any user imagine life on a far away planet, providing everyone with endless learning, possibilities, and play!

WHY GO VIRTUAL?
The Space Creation Virtual Game brings learning and discovery to everyone, using the popular theme of space. Going virtual bridges the digital divide, allowing children and families as near as Santa Fe or as far away as New Zealand to learn and explore key educational themes in a fun way.

TARGET MARKET
Children and families of all ages can enjoy this hands-on experience. Teachers and students are invited to use this application in their daily learning in the classroom.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE
Taking an interdisciplinary approach, The Space Creation Virtual Game is built on the pillars of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics). It is never too early to start building on these concepts teaching children key problem solving and life skills.

Studies have shown that certain games can:

- Help children improve early reading skills with the support of parents and teachers.
- Enhance short and long term memory and concentration.
- Capture players’ imagination helping them to stay focused on certain tasks and builds their perseverance to achieve a goal.
- Improve multitasking skills.
- Build skills for future careers.
- Offer a new way to understand culture and perspectives.

The Space Creation Virtual Game complements the variety of STEAM based educational programs offered by the Children’s Museum including Virtual Field Trips which delivers an all ages Astronomy Program, and Fun in Space: An Introduction to Space Science. Since March 2020, SFCM has delivered complimentary virtual field trips to 8,000 children and teachers attending schools throughout the State of New Mexico.

PLAY SFCM’S EXCLUSIVE SPACE GAME NOW!
CLICK HERE to play the demo