



***For immediate release***

**media contact**

Kerri Fox  
619 795 1524/301 404 8921 (*cell*)  
[kfox@thinkplaycreate.org](mailto:kfox@thinkplaycreate.org)

Toni Robin  
858 483 3918  
[tr@trprsandiego.com](mailto:tr@trprsandiego.com)

**THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AWARDED \$20,000 NEA GRANT**

*National Endowment of the Arts Award will support Innovator Lab Installation*

*SAN DIEGO – May 13, 2016* - The New Children's Museum has been recommended to receive \$20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and its Art Works program to support the Museum's planned "maker-space" installation called *Innovator Lab*.

NEA announced more than \$82 million in funding for arts projects and partnerships in the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2016. The Art Works category supports the creation of work and presentation of both new and existing work, lifelong learning in the arts, and public engagement with the arts through 13 arts disciplines or fields.

"The arts are all around us, enhancing our lives in ways both subtle and obvious, expected and unexpected," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "Supporting projects like the one from The New Children's Museum offers more opportunities to engage in the arts every day."

*Innovator Lab* will be a hands-on, interactive studio that will offer an array of art materials, basic tools, and prompts for creative, open-ended, skill-building activities. *Innovator Lab* will feature rotating "professionals in residence," including artists, engineers, architects or similar design professionals, who will create fun challenges for participants as they experiment with a variety of tools and art-making techniques.

"The New Children's Museum has been prototyping this installation for several months," said Executive Director Judy Forrester. "We are excited to move forward with this new phase of the project. In addition to this generous grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, other supporters of this maker space include Hunter Industries, Genentech, ResMed Foundation, Lockheed Martin, Kinder Morgan, and General Atomics."

**ABOUT THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

The New Children's Museum is a new model of children's museum whose mission is to stimulate imagination, creativity and critical thinking in children and families through inventive and engaging experiences with contemporary art. Serving San Diego for 30 years, the Museum opened in La Jolla as the Children's Museum/Museo de los Niños and reopened downtown in 2008. The Museum brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending elements of children's museums and art museums. The Museum collaborates with contemporary artists on an ongoing basis, both for large-scale thematic exhibitions, individual installations and educational programs for children. The New Children's Museum is a non-profit institution funded by admissions, memberships and community support. To learn more, visit [www.thinkplaycreate.org](http://www.thinkplaycreate.org).

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