August 5, 2019 — San Diego — Known for its innovative and out-of-this-world fundraising events, The New Children’s Museum downtown has announced this year’s annual benefit theme, Into the Future. The arts-based children’s museum has earned a reputation for throwing galas unlike any others in town, where they showcase their unique blend of creativity with themed food, drinks, music and entertainment. Three years ago, they started using Studio 200 on Island as their gala theme, an homage to New York’s famed Studio 54 and a play on their downtown address, 200 West Island. Each year they transform their multi-level contemporary space to create a vibrant, club-like atmosphere.

“Core to our mission of igniting creativity and imagination is helping children develop critical skills needed for the future,” said Judy Forrester, Executive Director and CEO. “This is what inspired this year’s gala theme Studio 200: Into the Future, which will raise funds for our many access programs, enabling us to bring over 25% of our annual visitors for free or very little cost.”

The Museum has three of San Diego’s community leaders enthusiastically co-chairing this year’s event. Extremely active and involved in the community, each brings a passion for the Museum and its mission to the planning of the event (full bios below).

• Chanelle Hawken, Vice President of Government and Public Affairs for Cox Communications California
  
  “I first toured the Museum in its warehouse phase 12 years ago and knew that it was going to be an amazing addition to downtown and a much needed educational and play-based space for children. I’m thrilled to play a role in the planning and fundraising for an organization with such great momentum.”

• Pam Pendrell, Chief Compliance Officer for GlobeFlex Capital and member of the Museum’s Board of Directors
  
  “The New Children’s Museum is a place where kids get to be kids - curious, active, wild, contemplative, social, creative - and engage with art. And for many children, it's one of the only places where they can do either (or both). That's why The New Children's Museum is so important for the San Diego community and why I'm proud to serve on the Board. The annual benefit is not only our biggest fundraiser of the year, it's one heck of a fun party!”

• Cami Rosso, community leader, freelance writer, model and runner
“I am honored to support The New Children’s Museum, an award-winning nonprofit that inspires innovation through art. It’s a world-class museum that serves the local community and draws visitors globally.”

**Studio 200: Into the Future** will provide an opportunity for guests to explore the Museum’s many galleries and get hands-on with the art installations. Future-inspired décor will be provided by Raphael’s Party Rentals with exceptional cuisine by Feast on This stationed throughout the Museum, complementing the art and activities. The hottest sounds in the universe will be provided by BetaMAXX, along with other innovative entertainment throughout the evening. The gala will also feature a comprehensive silent auction, where guests can bid on their phones throughout the evening.

“Our co-chairs and volunteer gala committee are fired up and ready to go,” added Forrester. “It’s inspiring to have such an energetic, enthusiastic committee of community leaders working with us to make this event so successful.”

**Studio 200** is sponsored in part by the generosity of the following organizations and individuals, among others: Cox Communications, Jennifer and Kurt Eve, Lynn Gorguze and Hon. Scott Peters, Hampstead Partners, Kaiser Permanente, Dr. Laurie Mitchell and Brent Woods, Pamela and Charlie Pendrell, Monique Rodriguez and Greg Richardson, Cami and Tom Rosso, San Diego Padres, SDG&E, Solar Turbines and U.S. Bank.

Media sponsors include Giving Back Magazine, Ranch and Coast Magazine, San Diego Magazine and KPBS.

**Studio 200: Into the Future**

- General tickets $250; Premier tickets $500
- Honorary Committee ($1,500 per couple) and other sponsorship and underwriting opportunities available.
- Website: thinkplaycreate.org/studio200

Photos attached:
- Group shot of Co-Chairs. Left to right: Cami Rosso, Pam Pendrell (bottom) and Chanelle Hawken
- Individual photos of each co-chair
- Museum exterior (party shot)
- Museum interior (last year’s Studio 200)

**About the Co-Chairs**

**Chanelle Hawken**

Chanelle Hawken is Vice President of Government and Public Affairs for Cox Communications California, providing leadership and strategic direction to the local, state and federal government affairs, community affairs, media and public relations and internal communications departments. Chanelle also oversees Cox Charities, which provides scholarships to local students and grants to nonprofits supporting youth, education, the military and conservation.

Chanelle serves on several boards, including the Downtown San Diego Partnership, LEAD San Diego and the Public Leadership Institute. She was appointed to the Mayor of San Diego’s Pure Water Working Group, is a member of the Mayor of Irvine’s Business Roundtable and is on the Executive Board of the CA Cable and Telecommunications Association. She has a passion for mentoring young female
professionals. She was one of San Diego Metro's Top 40 under 40 and a Women Who Mean Business Winner from the San Diego Business Journal.

Chanelle lives in Encinitas with her husband Peter and their two daughters.

Pam Pendrell
Pamela Pendrell has been on the Board of The New Children's Museum since 2015, and has chaired committees and participated in annual benefit planning.

Pamela has been with GlobeFlex Capital, an investment management firm serving institutional clients, for 15 years and is their Chief Compliance Officer. She is on the Board of the Southern California Compliance Group and speaks on industry conference and webinar panels. She and her husband support several nonprofits and she serves on the planning committee for the Meals on Wheel's annual gala. Pamela also pursues an amateur singing career, which includes performing in a local Funk/Soul band.

Pamela and her husband Charlie live in Point Loma.

Cami Rosso
Cami Rosso writes, models and races. She is a thought-leader on science, innovation and leadership. Her column on Psychology Today (The Future Brain) is at the intersect of artificial intelligence and neuroscience. Rosso models on fashion runways, TV and magazines. She has raced in nine half marathons and six triathlons.

Cami has an MBA from IMD in Switzerland, and certificate from the Harvard Business School Executive Education program. She founded three companies and has worked in Silicon Valley and on Wall Street.

Wherever Rosso has lived, she has helped the community, such as serving meals to the homeless, mentoring youth-at-risk, comforting terminally-ill patients as a hospital volunteer, and leading youth soccer teams as a U.S. National Soccer Federation coach.

Cami, her husband Tom (the Museum’s current Board Chair) and their two children live in Rancho Santa Fe.

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. Located downtown, the Museum collaborates with contemporary artists to design and create art installations and educational programs for children. The Museum brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending the best elements of children’s museums, contemporary art museums and community resources.

In June, 2019, the Museum was awarded the 2019 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation’s highest honor given to libraries and museums. The New Children's Museum was one of only 5 museums selected, and the only children’s museum to win the award.

To learn more, visit thinkplaycreate.org or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

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