



the new children's museum™

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**Photos available upon request**

## **The New Children's Museum to Receive \$25,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts**

*Grant will fund two-year Artist-in-Resident Program for Innovators LAB*

SAN DIEGO – *January 15, 2020* – The New Children's Museum has been approved for a **\$25,000 Art Works grant** to support its Innovators LAB, a creative makerspace focused on exploring the creative process through the intersection of art, design, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). The funds will support two artists in the Museum's Artist-in-Resident Program, during which each will explore art-making techniques and develop prompts for skill-building activities for children.

"The arts are at the heart of our communities, connecting people through shared experiences and artistic expression," said Arts Endowment chairman Mary Anne Carter. "The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support projects like The New Children's Museum's Artists Residencies in its Innovators LAB."

The National Endowment for the Arts has approved 1,187 grants totaling \$27.3 million in the first round of fiscal year 2020 funding to support arts projects in every state in the nation, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The Art Works funding category supports projects that focus on public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation; the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence; learning in the arts at all stages of life; and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life.

"Our Artist-in-Resident Program is integral to our mission of integrating ART into STEM through collaborations with contemporary artists," said Tomoko Kuta, Deputy Director at The New Children's Museum. "We're thrilled to be recognized by the NEA for this effort, and its recognition of our artists as meeting the highest standards of excellence. We look forward to realizing this program over the next two years and elevating our work in the Innovators LAB."

The NEA-funded Artist Residencies will enable the Museum to expand its Innovators LAB programming and offer a range of art materials, tools, and prompts for open-ended and structured skill-building activities. With projects that highlight and examine the intersection of art and science, the artists will develop projects for children to exercise creative confidence skills including idea generation, experimentation, resiliency and collaborative problem-solving. The programming will target children aged 7-12 years. This is the Museum's second NEA award in as many years.

For more information on projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news). For more information about the Museum's Innovators LAB and other programming, visit [thinkplaycreate.org/explore/art-studios/innovators-lab/](https://thinkplaycreate.org/explore/art-studios/innovators-lab/).

### **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 2018, the Museum celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> year in San Diego and its 10<sup>th</sup> year as The New Children's Museum downtown. To learn more, visit [thinkplaycreate.org](https://thinkplaycreate.org) or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

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