



the new children's museum™

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The New Children's Museum to Receive \$58,425 Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

*Grant will fund new *The Earth(s)eed Archive* exhibition planned for 2023*

April 16, 2021 - The New Children's Museum has been awarded \$58,425 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The 20-month planning grant fully funds *The Earth(s)eed Archive: Science Fiction Creates the Future*, an exhibition planned for 2023. Out of the 225 NEH-funded humanities projects announced, the arts-based children's museum is one of only two organizations in San Diego to receive an award, and one of only 22 nationwide to receive funding for an exhibition.

"NEH is proud to support these 225 new projects, which embody excellence, intellectual rigor, and a dedication to the pursuit of knowledge, even as our nation and the humanities community continue to face the challenges of the pandemic," said NEH Acting Chairman Adam Wolfson. "We look forward to the contributions these projects will make to our understanding of ourselves and our society through exemplary humanities research, publications, documentary films, exhibitions, and undergraduate programs."

The Earth(s)eed Archive will be the first children's-focused exhibit on the life and work of American science-fiction writer Octavia E. Butler (1947-2006). Butler was the first Black woman to win widespread recognition in the Sci-Fi genre and among the first artists of any genre to include climate research in her output. The exhibit proposes that we need diverse writers, poets and other artists to consider current science and help us create stories of alternative futures that are more fair, just and hopeful.

"This project will use the lens of Octavia E. Butler's incredible work to generate an optimistic, resilient and creative vision of our future with climate change," said Megan Dickerson, the Museum's Director of Exhibitions. "By amplifying current research on climate change, engaging in intersectional community storytelling and prioritizing marginalized creative voices, we will create not only a vision for an abundant future, but also pockets of beauty where that future can be felt today, now."

For more information on projects included in the National Endowment for the Humanities grant announcement, visit [neh.gov/news](https://www.neh.gov/news).

About The New Children's Museum

The New Children's Museum (opened 2008) 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. The Museum has been closed due to the pandemic since March 16, 2020 and has been providing virtual experiences and creative activities online ever since. The Museum will be reopening to the public on May 21, with special members only days beginning May 7. To learn more, visit thinkplaycreate.org or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

About the National Endowment for the Humanities

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at www.neh.gov.

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