



the new children's museum™

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THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM RAISES \$250K AT ANNUAL GALA

Guests experienced a colorful evening of “being the art” and supporting access

Nov. 11, 2021 — Downtown San Diego — The New Children's Museum welcomed 375 guests and brought in \$250K at last weekend's **Studio 200: Be the Art** fundraising event chaired by Edwardo and Taryn Gillison. Guests embraced the theme, arriving in white as a “blank canvas” and “became the art” as the night went on.

One of the event's highlights was graffiti artists “Crown One” and “Brisk” of Writerz Blok who used stencils and graffiti to create one-of-a-kind designs on guests' clothing. Artist Risa Puno ([In the Balance](#), currently on display in the Museum's park) stepped in to paint and transform guests' outfits into something colorful. Another highlight was the return of BetaMAXX, a live 80s band, who brought the party into the street and turned Island Avenue into a festive dance floor.

All the Museum's commissioned art installations were open throughout the event. Museum staff, adorned in paint-splattered T-shirts and glowing lanyards, helped guests interact and play like children do every day. Popular activities included sliding down the 40-foot slide into [El Más Allá](#), by PANCA, climbing into [Whammock!](#), by Toshiko Horiuchi MacAdam and exploring the many rooms in [The Wonder Sound](#), by Wes Sam Bruce.

New to this year's event, the Museum hosted an art show featuring work by several of their commissioned artists, including Risa Puno, David Israel Reynoso, Wes Bruce, Marisol Rendón, Ingram Ober, Katie Ruiz, Kurosh Yahyai, Matt Picon, Sonya Calderon, Eva Struble, Jose Venegas and the late Ernie Silva. Artists in attendance at the event include Risa Puno ([In the Balance](#)), David Israel Reynoso ([Teatro Piñata](#)), Marisol Rendón ([Wobbleland](#)), Eva Struble ([Ocotillo Sunset](#)), Ingram Ober and Jose Venegas.

Proceeds from the evening will go toward the Museums' access programs enabling children and families to experience art and the Museum at little to no cost to them.

Catering was provided by Feast on This and bar service was provided by San Diego Wine and Culinary. Raphaels Party Rentals and Maktive handled the décor, rentals, lighting and production.

Presenting sponsors were Laurie Mitchell and Brent Woods; Lynn Gorguze and Hon. Scott Peters. For a full list of sponsors, [click here](#).

[Link to Gala Photos \(names listed from left to right in photos\)](#)

- Arturo Garcia and David Reynoso (Photo Courtesy of The New Children's Museum)
- Dance Floor Limbo (Photo by David Hartig)
- Eduardo and Taryn Gillison, Caroline Perry (Photo by David Hartig)
- Entertainer 1, 2 and 3 (Photo by David Hartig)
- Guest (Photo by David Hartig)
- Guests (Photo by David Hartig)
- Inside (Photo by David Hartig)
- Kerri Fox and Tammy Gamboa (Photo by David Hartig)
- Tom and Vicki Reed, Lynn Gorguze (Photo by David Hartig)
- Mike and Merrilee Neal, Eduardo Gillison, Ameer Alagiri, and Taryn Gillison (Photo by David Hartig)
- Outside (Photo by David Hartig)
- Paint Throwing (Photo by David Hartig)
- Guests and Risa Puno (Photo by David Hartig)
- Risa Puno with paint (Photo Courtesy of The New Children's Museum)
- Risa Puno, Marisol Rendón, Ingram Ober (Photo Courtesy of The New Children's Museum)
- Writerz Blok Graffiti (Photo by David Hartig)

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 addition to the downtown San Diego location, the Museum now has a satellite location called the Art + Play Space in Del Mar. To learn more, visit thinkplaycreate.org or follow them on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#).