

BOWERS MUSEUM



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New Family Chess Exhibit Makes Its Opening Move At Kidseum On September 29, 2018



(Santa Ana, California): Bowers' Kidseum will play host to ***Kings, Queens & Castles***, a children's chess exhibit co-created by The World Chess Hall of Fame and The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum, September 29, 2018-February 18, 2019. This innovative, nationally traveling exhibition brings the game of chess to life and provides an engaging introduction to individual chess pieces and game strategy. ***Kings, Queens & Castles*** invites children to learn more about this classic game while diving into an interactive world of medieval fantasy.

Designed for children ages 3 to 11, ***Kings, Queens & Castles*** features an array of hands-on elements. Visitors of all ages can:

- Take a drawbridge into a medieval castle, complete with turret slides and a giant chess board floor with life-size chess pieces.
- Make a fanciful crown, then don a royal cape and sit on a majestic throne to become a king or queen.
- Design a shield to become a knight.
- Build castle walls with oversized interlocking bricks.
- Play a human chess game dressed as their favorite chess piece.
- Enjoy a game of chess with a friend while sitting on royal thrones at a one-of-a-kind game table.
- Take the exhibition experience home with an app that creates a personalized memory book of their visit and connects to a digital chess game.

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Kings, Queens & Castles not only provides an opportunity for dramatic play in its medieval environment, but it also helps children understand basic chess strategy. “We have observed a growing interest in the game of chess, especially among school-age children,” said Shannon Bailey, World Chess Hall of Fame chief curator. “Our exhibit, ***Kings, Queens & Castles***, is designed to provide a fun, age-appropriate introduction to Chess, an ageless game that develops important 21st-century skills.” For more information on *Kings, Queens, and Castles*, click [here](#).

Kings, Queens, & Castles will be presented in conjunction with the Bowers Museum’s featured exhibition ***Knights in Armor*** from Museo Stibbert, Florence, Italy. ***Knights in Armor*** will open September 22, 2018. For more information on ***Knights in Armor***, click [here](#).

About the Bowers Museum

The **Bowers Museum** has earned an international reputation through its world-class exhibitions, including *A Quest for Beauty: Van Cleef & Arpels*; *Warriors, Tombs and Temples: China’s Enduring Legacy*; *Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China’s First Emperor*; and *Mummies—Death and the Afterlife: Treasures from the British Museum*, as well as its own extensive art collections from the Americas and the South Pacific. Additionally, the **Bowers’ Kidseum** spotlights the excitement of art and archaeology. Enjoy a leisurely luncheon at our award-winning restaurant, **Tangata**. Browse the rare and exotic at the **Bowers Museum Gallery Store**. It’s more than just a shopping trip—it’s a cultural experience. Visit bowers.org for information and tickets.

About Bowers Kidseum

Founded in 1994, Bowers Kidseum, both an interactive children's museum and learning center, serves as an extension of the main Bowers Museum, offering multi-faceted art and cultural experiences for young children, their families and the community. Primarily dedicated to the pre-school and early elementary age, Kidseum's central focus is providing a 'hands-on' experience in keeping with the museum's mission to "enrich lives through the world's finest arts and cultures."

About The World Chess Hall of Fame

The World Chess Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization committed to building awareness for the cultural and artistic significance of chess. It opened on September 9, 2011, in the Central West End, in the City of St. Louis, after moving from previous locations in New York and Miami. The WCHOF is housed in an historic 15,900 square-foot residence-turned-business and features the U.S. and World Chess Halls of Fame, displays of artifacts from the permanent collection and exhibitions highlighting the great players, historic games and rich cultural history of chess. Information at www.worldchesshof.org.

Exhibition Events:

- September 29, 30: 11 AM - 3 PM | Opening Celebration: Chess Tournament
- October 7: 11 am- 3pm | Italian Renaissance Faire: Sword demonstrations, live music, and more.
- October 27: 11 AM - 3 PM | All Hallow’s Eve Celebration
- November 24: 7 pm | Mead and Manuscripts: Paint night at Kidseum with mead and period costume, ages 21 & up only
- December 15: 11 AM -3 PM | Yule Celebration!

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