



# Wonder Works

DECEMBER 2007 NEWS

*A Children's Museum in Oak Park*

6445 West North Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302

tel: 708.383.4815 fax: 708.383.5730 www.wonder-works.org

*Wonder Works is a 501c3 non-profit organization.*

## Jim Gill Honored at Wonder Works Gala Fundraiser

We are pleased to announce the Gala held on November 3 to celebrate Wonder Works' fourth birthday raised more than \$30,000 to support the non-profit museum.

A special thanks to the Gala co-chairs Michelle Arnold and Anne Klassman and the Gala committee for their tremendous effort. We also thank the event sponsors: Ariel Capital, Whole Foods Market, the Cargie Family, Community Bank of Oak Park and River Forest, a5 Inc., 3d Health Inc., Dwight Atchley of Edward Jones, Marijane and Tim Brangle, Dawn and Duane Glossa, Senator Don Harmon and Theresa Harmon, Tom Mallon, Michelle Arnold and Paul Martin, The Klassman Zimberoff Family, Ellen and Michael Griffin, Sharon and James Madura, Bob and Mary Oakleaf and Elizabeth and Rob Harano; as well as the generous food and beverage donors.

We also were honored to have State Senator Don Harmon in attendance.

Children's musician and advocate Jim Gill received this year's Children First award for his support of children and creativity. In receiving the award, Jim commended Wonder Works for giving children a much-needed opportunity to play in a world that is too often overwhelmed by other distractions. "Look around the museum: you don't see computers or buttons to push. What some would perceive as less is actually more; this type of fuel—called play—physically builds the brain," Gill told the Gala attendees. Thanks to Jim for his continuous support of Wonder Works and commitment to educating children.

## SIGN UP NOW FOR SESSION 2 CLASSES

The second session of Wonder Works classes begin November 26, 2007 and run through February 2, 2008. Our classes allow children and parents to spend focused quality time together in a creative way and offer a wide range of topics, from Bouncing Babies to Terrific Tunes to Family Crafts. For more information or to register, call the museum at 708.383.4815 or visit our web site at www.wonder-works.org.

### *The Return of Lego Days*

*Saturday, February 2, 2pm to 5pm*

Children and parents alike can share in the creative fun and build anything they can imagine from one of the world's largest pile of Legos. Thanks to the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust for sponsoring the event. General museum admission, \$5 per person or \$15 per family, gives your family the chance to be architects and builders for the day.

### *Black History Month*

In February, we will celebrate Black History Month with music, dance, storytelling and crafts. Activities and special guests will be announced soon; check our web site or call the museum for details. Thank you to the Illinois Arts Council for funding our special Black History Month events.

## WINTER HOURS

Wonder Works will be open until 7 pm every Wednesday between November 28, 2007 and March 26, 2008. The museum will be open December 24 from 10 am to 4 pm and New Year's Eve from noon to 5 pm.

## JOIN WONDER WORKS FOR MUSICAL FUN AT THE SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

The Sunday Concert Series is a chance for children and families to experience a delightful lineup of performers. The series is made possible thanks to a grant from Mattel Inc. on behalf of Eugene P. Beard and the Nancy Jones Beard Foundation and the Oak Park Area Arts Council. Upcoming performers include:

### *Jim Post – January 27*

Folk singer, troubadour and American treasure Jim Post makes his Wonder Works debut Sunday, January 27 at 4 pm. Post performs children's songs and currently stars as Mark Twain in the one man show "Mark Twain and the Laughing River." Tickets are \$6 for members and \$10 for non-members.

### *Joel Frankel – February 17*

Singer and songwriter Joel Frankel returns Sunday, February 17 at 4 pm. A Chicago resident, Frankel has developed a creative and stimulating musical performance that captivates listeners of all ages by combining his musical talents and teaching background. Tickets are \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members.

Concerts begin at 4 pm with special hours on concert days: the museum closes at 3:30 pm for non-ticket holders but remains open to concertgoers. Check our web site, www.wonder-works.org, for announcements on additional concerts, in February and March.



# \$10 OFF

Bring this coupon to Wonder Works and receive \$10 off any \$50 or greater purchase from the Wonder Works Toy Shop.



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Coupon expires 12-31-2007. Limit one coupon per customer per visit.