



# Wonder Works

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2009 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](http://www.wonder-works.org)

*Wonder Works is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

## SANDY LUCAS PERFORMS FOR WONDER-WORKS SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

*December 14*

Sandy Lucas returns to Wonder Works for the December show in our concert series. Lucas, who has been performing at family events around Chicagoland for more than 10 years and has been a part of the Wiggleworms program since 1991, will perform lively, interactive children's music. Tickets are \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members and free for children under age one.

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. Look out for our shows in upcoming months:

### **THE BOOGERS** *January 25*

The Boogers debut at Wonder Works for our January show. Musician Paul Crowe (will perform original and classic children's songs in a rock 'n' roll style. Crowe uses music to both entertain and educate children, through call and response, rhyme, dance and performing new lyrics and melodies for traditional songs, creating a unique concert experience. Tickets are \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members and free for children under age one.

### **ELLA JENKINS** *February 22*

Come see Grammy Award Winner Ella Jenkins for our February concert. Known as "The First Lady of Children's Music," Ella is a Chicago native who has been educating children through her call-and-response song style for over 50 years. This Chicagoan encourages learning through play to teach kids about cultural diversity and creativity. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$14 for non-members.

### **THADDEUS REX** *March 22*

Come join Wonder Works in welcoming award-winning songwriter Thaddeus Rex as he performs at our March show. Described by the Washington Post as part Monty Python, part Dr. Seuss, Thaddeus Rex travels around the country promoting reading, writing and rockin' music. Look forward to a radically engaging concert with a mixture of captivating music, hilarious interaction and an enthusiasm that is contagious. Tickets are \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members.

## *Support Creative Play*

Creative play is essential to healthy child development. According to Alix Spiegel for National Public Radio (NPR), creative play helps to build a critical cognitive skill called executive function. "One of the elements of executive function is self-regulation – the ability for kids to control their emotions and behavior, resist impulses, and exert self-control and discipline." In addition to self-regulation, executive function also supports working memory and cognitive flexibility. Sending your kids to play can help develop reading skills, exercise concentration and promote creativity and flexibility in thinking. Support creative play at Wonder Works.

## *New Year's Eve Party*

*at Wonder Works*

*Wednesday, December 31*

*12:00 pm to 5:00 pm*

Ring in the New Year with games and activities for the whole family. Count down each hour with other countries around the world.

**1:00 pm**

Sydney, Australia  
Palikir, Micronesia  
Noumea, France

**3:00 pm**

Tokyo, Japan  
Seoul, South Korea  
Jayapura, Indonesia

**2:00 pm**

Brisbane, Australia  
Guam, Mariana Islands  
Port Moresby,  
Papua New Guinea

**4:00 pm**

Beijing, China  
Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia  
Manila, Philippines

*Event is free with regular museum admission.*

## *Young Architects Day*

*Saturday, January 17*

Come build with a variety of materials: Legos, Duplos, Kapla Blocks, Lincoln Logs and much more. Learn the architectural tricks of experts at our Lego workshop and build with the blocks that inspired Frank Lloyd Wright to become an architect at the Froebel Blocks workshop. Please visit the Wonder Works web site at [www.wonder-works.org](http://www.wonder-works.org) for additional events and activities.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2008 GALA SPONSORS

### WONDER MAKER

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### WONDER WORKERS

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Oak Park River Forest  
The Klassman/ Zimberoff Family  
Mary and Bob Oakleaf

### WONDER FRIENDS

Dwight Atchley (Edward Jones)  
Heidi and Thomas Babbo  
Mary and Bill Bodlak  
Marijane and Tim Brangle  
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Steven Kirsch  
J. Martin and Krista Konecki  
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## WONDER WORKS HOLIDAY HOURS

Date	Time
December 22 & 23	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 24	open 10 am to 3 pm
December 25	closed
December 26 & 27	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 28	open 12 pm to 5 pm
December 29 & 30	open 10 am to 5 pm
December 31	open 12 pm to 5 pm
January 1	closed
January 2 & 3	open 10 am to 5 pm
January 4	open 12 pm to 5 pm

*For regular hours on any days not listed above, please visit our  
web site at [www.wonder-works.org](http://www.wonder-works.org).*

## HELP PROMOTE CREATIVITY AND SUPPORT WONDER WORKS

At Wonder Works, we help young children develop their imagination and learn through creative play. They explore, they think, and they have fun doing it. Wonder Works is a participatory place: make a masterpiece, build a castle, and perform a play--together. All of this is fun AND critical for early learning. Wonder Works' fun learning goes beyond the exhibits. We offer classes, special events and concerts, which are loads of fun, and rich, new experiences.

As a non-profit institution, Wonder Works relies on your contributions. We have set our prices in order to keep our facility affordable to all. In addition, we provide free admission for underserved and low-income families. In fact, sixty percent of our budget is generated from earned revenue (admissions, memberships, field trips, birthday parties and our store), but 40 percent must be raised from individuals, corporations and foundations. Every dollar counts and goes to promote creativity in our children. Even in hard economic times, we cannot forget our children.

Help us to strengthen this valuable community resource and reach out to thousands of children and families. If you have given before, we thank you for your past support. Your gift directly supports the operations of this engaging museum. Join us in our commitment to enrich the lives of children and their families.

In this season of giving, please include Wonder Works on your gift list and help give thousands of children a happy, new year. For more information on how to contribute, please contact board president John Harris at (312)706-2525 or executive director Mary Bodlak at (708)383-4815. For additional information on Wonder Works, please visit our web site at [www.wonder-works.org](http://www.wonder-works.org).



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**Coupon expires 12-31-2008.**  
**Limit one coupon per customer per visit.**

## \$20 OFF YOUR NEXT WONDER WORKS PARTY

Bring this coupon to Wonder Works  
and receive \$20 off any party booked  
by December 31, 2008 for parties scheduled  
for January 1, 2009 through March 1, 2009