lexington children's museum

The Cornerstone

Economic Development & Real Estate

# CALL FOR PAPERS/PLAY: PLAY & LEARNING EXHIBITION AT THE CORNERSTONE

Proposal deadline:
5 pm on January 25, 2027

**First and Last Name:** Jane Patel
**Department or Organization:** College of Education at UKY

**Title of your program proposal:** Tot-Spot Weekly Program

**Describe your proposed program in 150-300 words:** I am proposing a recurring event called Tot-Spot for ages 3 years and under. The objective is to introduce young children to basic STEM concepts through hands-on play and sensory-based activities. This would be a weekly event held every Tuesday and Friday, starting at 10:30 am at the Lexington Children's Museum. This time works well because this age group is not in school yet. It would take place in the Wonder Woods exhibit, a section of the museum specifically for children 3 years and under.

Activities could include a mixture of gross motor and fine motor experiences. Examples include playing with ramps and balls, experimenting with wind tunnels, color recognition and sorting, and different building exercises. The activities could change weekly or correspond with the season or upcoming holidays. Changing events would give families that come every week something new to look forward to instead of the same endeavors every time. The activities would also give caregivers an opportunity to interact and learn with their children. Tot Spots would be guided by LCM staff but would allow children to explore and play at their own pace. The event is meant for this age group to learn about STEM while also giving their caregivers ideas about how they can continue this type of learning at home.

**What type of display are you considering?** Trifold board on a table

SAMPLE PROPOSAL

lexington children's museum

The Cornerstone

Economic Development & Real Estate

# CALL FOR PAPERS/PLAY: PLAY & LEARNING EXHIBITION AT THE CORNERSTONE

Proposal deadline:
5 pm on January 25, 2027

**First and Last Name:** Maria Thompson
**Department or Organization:** Awesome Local Nonprofit

**Title of your program proposal:** Sensory Hours

**Describe your proposed program in 150-300 words:** Many families in our community have sensory sensitivities that make it less comfortable for them to play in busy or high-stimulus environments. This proposal is for a monthly event tailored to people with various sensory needs. The objective is to increase access to the museum for visitors who may not feel comfortable coming during regular operating hours. This event would be called Sensory Hours.

Sensory Hours would take place at the Lexington Children's Museum on select Sunday mornings from 11 am to 1 pm. I chose to have this event on Sundays because it is not during our normal business hours, so fewer people will be in the museum and there will be no overlap with large Field Trips. Also, 11 am to 1 pm is a good time because the museum opens at 1 pm, so this would allow for 2 hours of uninterrupted playtime for attendees. Sensory Hours would include people of all ages. During the event there would be softer lighting, quieter sounds, and additional supports for those with sensory sensitivities. Some of the support items that would be provided include headphones, picture schedules, and fidgets. There would also be community partners present, like the Lexington Police Department bringing their popsicle van and other groups that provide resources related to sensory needs. This event is supposed to feel like a normal day playing at the museum, just in a controlled environment so visitors feel safe and are free to have the most fun possible.

**What type of display are you considering?** Poster

SAMPLE PROPOSAL

lexington children's museum

The Cornerstone

Economic Development & Real Estate

# CALL FOR PAPERS/PLAY: PLAY & LEARNING EXHIBITION AT THE CORNERSTONE

Proposal deadline:
5 pm on January 25, 2027

**First and Last Name:** Joe Smith
**Department or Organization:** Local Community Leader

**Title of your program proposal:** Community Outreach

**Describe your proposed program in 150-300 words:** I am proposing a mobile program that would be taken to other community events throughout the year. The objective of this program would be to connect with the community and introduce them to the Lexington Children's Museum through whatever activities we bring to events. Instead of having a specific time or date, this program would take place throughout the year whenever there is a community event that the museum could attend. Events could include a county fair, a farmers market, or an event at the University of Kentucky. There are many different possibilities for the types of events, but the selected events would have to align with the museum's mission to ignite curiosity through play and learning.

Activities brought to such events would be walk-ups, and designed to engage all ages. One activity that could attract a lot of attention is the paper rocket launcher. Both children and caregivers would be encouraged to participate. A presence at community events would give people examples of what the museum has to offer, and would show folks the power of educational play.

**What type of display are you considering?** Poster plus a small, hands-on activity on a table.

SAMPLE PROPOSAL