

From *E-News* – July 2008



Children's Museum of Winston-Salem

There's a whole new world of things both children and adults can experience at the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem. Eric Kerchner, the new director of the Children's Museum, said the museum is changing and evolving, particularly in the area of programming.

On the horizon are two traveling exhibits. The first exhibit, called "Healthier Ever After," opens October 4 and is coming from the Cleveland Children's Museum. The exhibit will be sponsored by Novant and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. Built to look like a fairytale castle, the exhibit features games and an obstacle course geared toward health and exercise.

"The exhibit is fun, interactive and physical," Eric said. "We will have a number of additional programs at the museum this fall in support of the exhibit, including gymnastics performing groups and food-related events. It's going to be unlike anything we've ever had at the Children's Museum."

Soon after Healthier Ever After leaves the museum on January 4, one of the most popular exhibits in the country is coming to the museum: Arthur's World. The exhibit, which will be on loan from the Boston Children's Museum, opens February 1 and will remain until the end of May.

"Kids want to be interactive, and we at the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem are working to redefine ourselves as a fun, interactive destination that always offers something new for kids to discover," Eric said. "We're going to be very aggressive toward meeting our goals."

Eric said the Clifford exhibit will be at the Children's Museum next year after Arthur. In addition to major exhibits, he said upcoming programming includes a stage version of Rainbow Fish, turning the entire building into a Candyland game theme and a visit by Barney in January. Get ready to turn purple and sing, "I love you, you love me . . ."

Mark your calendars now for the first-ever Children's Festival featuring arts, theater, shows and musicians on April 17 and 18, 2009, at the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem. For more information, visit www.childrensmuseumofws.org or call 723-9111.