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Children's Museum of Pittsburgh's XOXO Exhibit Opens Saturday, February 15

Everyone longs to be loved. And the greatest thing we can do is let people know that they are loved and capable of loving. —Fred Rogers

PITTSBURGH (February 14, 2014) – **XOXO: An Exhibit About Love & Forgiveness** makes its world premiere at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh on Saturday, February 15. Created by Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, this exhibit offers children and their caregivers the opportunity to work together, hold hands, hug, create art and explore love and forgiveness through interactive experiences that inspire feelings and conversation about these emotions. Visit online at <https://pittsburghkids.org/exhibits/xoxo>.

- ♥ Write down a loving thought and press it into a token to keep or gift
- ♥ Hold hands with someone to illuminate a hidden message about love
- ♥ Work together to balance on a bubble seesaw or connect an infinite puzzle
- ♥ Explore facial expressions and build using Face Blocks
- ♥ Draw or write down what makes you angry or sad and crank it through a paper shredder
- ♥ Hug a soft sculpture that responds with a comforting sound

Throughout the exhibit visitors are encouraged to communicate and share their feelings, and by so doing, gaining new insight into the various ways love and forgiveness can be expressed.

February 15 and 16th XOXO Opening Weekend Special Events

♥ **World Premiere Performance: THE GIFT**

Saturdays & Sundays, February 15 – March 2

Performances in the Theater at 1 & 3 pm

Roving vignettes throughout the Museum from 12:30 - 3:30 pm

The Zany Umbrella Circus presents an original theatrical performance that brings **XOXO** to life. **THE GIFT** tells the story of a heartwarming couple, one dollar and eighty-seven cents, and the very first wedding anniversary of young performers. Based loosely on O. Henry's classic tale *The Gift of the Magi*, **THE GIFT** uses physical theatre, masks, participatory theatre, and circus to explore the role of gift giving in expressing and creating love.

♥ **Love Letters**

Saturday & Sunday, February 15 & 16, 10:00 am – 4:30pm

Join guest artist Dalia Shevin in the Studio to explore the magic of snail mail, the wonders of writing by hand and the delight of discovering how much love words can hold. Using traditional hand letter writing materials including postcards, stamps, and even a manual typewriter, craft a message to someone or something you love.

Share your thoughts on ***XOXO: An Exhibit About Love & Forgiveness*** on social media using **#xoxopgh**

XOXO: An Exhibit About Love & Forgiveness will be on exhibit through August 31 and is made possible by support from The Fetzer Institute – an organization that works to foster awareness of the power of love and forgiveness throughout the world. <http://www.fetzer.org/>

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is open Monday–Sunday from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Admission is \$13 for adults, \$12 for children 2-18 and senior citizens. Children under two are free. The museum is located on the North Side at 10 Children's Way, Allegheny Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

For more information, please call (412) 322-5058 or visit the museum website www.pittsburghkids.org.

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