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Celebrate 45 Years of Magic at The Magic House

The Magic House first opened its doors on Oct. 16, 1979.

ST LOUIS (October 11, 2024) – The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum, is celebrating its 45th birthday!

On October 16, 1979, The Magic House opened as one of the nation's first children's museums in a whimsical Victorian house filled with innovative hands-on exhibits designed to pique curiosity, spark imagination and make learning fun.

Over the past 45 years, The Magic House has grown from a local museum to an award-winning national landmark welcoming over 500,000 visitors each year. Through a series of expansions, the St. Louis community has seen the Museum grow from 5,500 to 55,000 square feet – 10 times the original size.

"The Magic House has continued to evolve to meet the growing needs of our community, but the Museum's mission to engage all children in hands-on learning in a place of beauty, wonder, joy and magic has remained the same," said Beth Fitzgerald, President of The Magic House since it opened in 1979.

To celebrate this important milestone on Wednesday, Oct. 16 The Magic House will go back in time to charge the admission prices from 1979! Admission for kids will be \$1.50 and adults will be \$2. Visitors who wear the iconic photo button of their hair standing on end at the Museum's electrostatic generator will be able to have another photo taken free of charge. Special birthday cupcakes will be available at the Picnic Basket Café.

For The Magic House's 45th birthday, the Museum is raising funds to support the oldest part of The Magic House. Over 17 million visitors have explored the original Victorian home since it opened! Those who make a donation of \$45 or more to the 45th Birthday Fund will receive a custom-made vintage Magic House T-shirt and be able to add a candle with their name on it to a gigantic three-tiered birthday cake that will be on display through the end of 2024.

To learn more about donating to the 45th Birthday Fund, click here: <u>https://www.magichouse.org/support-us/45th-birthday/</u>

About The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum

The Magic House is a not-for-profit participatory museum that provides hands-on learning experiences that spark imagination, pique curiosity, enhance creativity and develop problemsolving skills within a place of beauty, wonder, joy, and magic. Serving more than 550,000 visitors annually, The Magic House opened in 1979 and has 55,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits. In 2019, the Museum opened an all-new satellite makerspace in the City of St. Louis on Delmar Boulevard, located between the Central West End and the Delmar Loop.

To stay up-to-date with The Magic House, visit <u>www.magichouse.org</u> and follow the club on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

