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MEDIA CONTACT

Sara Jennings
(626) 808-3309

sjennings@kidspacemuseum.org



**The 27th Annual Butterfly Season Takes Flight on March 9th
at KidSPACE Children's Museum**

PASADENA, CA (March 1, 2023) KidSPACE Children's Museum announces the return of Butterfly Season with its most colorful celebration yet beginning March 9, 2023.

"In honor of the predicted super bloom this year and the record number of Monarch butterflies migrating across California, we've created a Butterfly Season that's bigger and more beautiful than ever before," said KidSPACE CEO Lisa Clements. "This year we've added an interactive art installation in the courtyard by contemporary designers Héctor Esrawe and Ignacio Cadena as a tribute to the Monarch butterfly's cultural and ecological ties to Mexico."

The installation, *Los Trompos*, first commissioned by the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, is a large-scale interpretation of vintage toy tops created in part by flat nylon rope woven in traditional Mexican style. Visitors can sit inside the vividly colored structures and work together to spin them on their bases.

"Butterfly Season is an opportunity to celebrate a creature that is both extremely familiar and quite extraordinary. No matter what lens you use to examine butterflies – metaphorical, aesthetic, cultural, or scientific – they are fascinating. We want our guests to enjoy and appreciate butterflies from all those perspectives," said Clements.

Butterfly Season highlights include:

- **Bug safaris.** Kidspace provides the magnifying glass and some expert tips; you bring your curiosity and keen creature-spotting skills and join our search for eggs, caterpillars, and adult insects around campus.
- **Fantasy flutter-by-play.** Dress up like a butterfly, climb into a "chrysalis," and take flight on the flutter path.
- **Pollinator takeover in Nature Exchange.** View live caterpillars, butterflies, moths, and honeybees, learn about the butterfly life cycle, and celebrate the important role of pollinators in a healthy ecosystem
- **Create a caterpillar.** What kind of fuzzy caterpillar would you like to create? Shape your creature out of clay, and then add seeds to sprout a fuzzy fellow of your own to take home.
- **Flower showers.** Grab a watering can and learn about what plants butterflies and other pollinators rely on while helping the flowers grow.

The butterfly celebration continues at home: live caterpillar adoptions are back! Raising and releasing native Painted Lady butterflies is a living science project the whole family (or classroom) will enjoy. The process takes about two weeks for a tiny caterpillar to morph into a lovely butterfly, ready for you to release into nature. Caterpillar adoptions are available onsite through the Kidspace store or online at store.kidspacemuseum.org. All caterpillars must be picked up in person at the museum. Caterpillars start at just \$6 for one, and care instructions are available on the Kidspace website.

Butterfly Season is the perfect time to start a Kidspace Family Membership. From Butterfly Season to Summer Campout to Halloween and Winter Frolic, there's always something new to discover at Kidspace. Families and friends can learn and play while making lasting memories throughout the year.

Visit kidspacemuseum.org to reserve tickets for Butterfly Season, included with general admission through May 14. Follow Kidspace Children's Museum on Instagram and Facebook for the latest announcements and updates.

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ABOUT KIDSPACE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Kidspace Children's Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational and cultural institution committed to serving the needs and interests of children and families. Kidspace hosts more than 300,000 guests each year on a beautiful, 3.5-acre outdoor campus with more than 40 hands-on exhibits, a live animal collection, and a variety of creative play spaces and water features. Kidspace offers a wide array of free and discounted programs, field trips, and digital resources for schools to maximize access for children and educators.