



Museum Fact Sheet

LOCATION

5235 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64112
Free museum parking available off of 52nd Street.

HOURS

Open daily 10am-4pm.
Closed Tuesdays and major holidays.

ADMISSION

\$5 for ages 5 and up
Free for ages 4 and under
Free for museum members
Free for active-duty service members with a valid ID
Free for UMKC faculty, staff, and students with a valid ID

ONLINE PRESENCE

Website: toyandminiaturemuseum.org
Small Talk Blog: toyandminiaturemuseum.org/blog
Facebook: facebook.com/toyandminiaturemuseum

Pinterest: pinterest.com/toyminiature
Twitter: twitter.com/toyminiature
Instagram: instagram.com/toyandminiaturemuseum

HISTORY

The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures opened in 1982 as the Toy and Miniature Museum of Kansas City featuring the collections of two Kansas City women. Operating in a building on the corner of 52nd and Oak on the University of Missouri - Kansas City campus, the 7,000-square-foot museum had two full-time staff members.

Over the next thirty years with expansions in 1989 and 2004, the museum grew to 33,000 square feet. During the same period, the collection increased to over 72,000 objects. In 2012, the museum embarked on its first public capital campaign to raise \$10.2 million to support building and exhibit improvements. The campaign raised \$10.73 million and the museum reopened on August 1, 2015 with new exhibits and interactives featuring the world's largest collection of fine-scale miniatures and one of the nation's largest collections of antique toys.

COLLECTION

The museum collection of toys and miniatures numbers more than 72,000 objects. The museum's 21,000 miniature works represent all of the major contemporary miniature artists. Room settings, architectural structures, and decorative arts are stunningly rendered in 1:12 (one inch equals 12 inches) or smaller scale. Peek in on Louis XV's study at the Palace at Versailles, an Italian Renaissance studio, or a Boston Beacon Hill mansion, all without leaving Kansas City. The museum's collection of more than 46,000 toys documents humanity's ingenuity, creativity, and imagination. They serve as evidence of society's cultural beliefs, technological advancements, and hopes and dreams from the 18th century to the present. Explore generations of childhood through dolls, dollhouses, trains, soldiers, teddy bears, and more.

CURRENT TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

Playing for Keeps: The VFW Marble Tournaments, 1947-1962

November 11, 2017 – January 06, 2019

Marble playing ruled playgrounds for much of the twentieth century. Requiring only a handful of marbles and a patch of dirt, the game crossed all economic and social barriers. In 1947, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) created a national marble tournament to positively influence young boys and re-engage WWII and Korean War veterans in civilian life. The tournament, an annual event for 14 years, was a life-changing experience for the thousands of kids who participated. *Playing for Keeps* tells the firsthand stories of the players alongside their souvenirs, trophies, and marble memorabilia. Learn their stories and then knuckle down to experience the thrill of the game in a regulation-size marble ring.

PAST TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

The Three-Dimensional Imagination of Donna Moore

Saturday, June 10, 2017 – Sunday, June 03, 2018

You may not know who Donna Moore is, but if you grew up in the 1980s and 1990s, there is a good chance you played with one of her soft toys. Based in Kansas City, Moore was one of the most prolific toy designers of the late 20th century and her products were sold all over the world. From the “Crazy Crop” characters for Hallmark to the Beatles John, Paul, George, and Ringo for Determined Products, explore Moore’s career and artistic process.

Over The Rainbow: Toys from the Land of Oz | North Gallery

Saturday, January 14, 2017 – Sunday, August 20, 2017

Published in 1900, L. Frank Baum’s *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is considered America’s first fairy tale. Since then, the story of Dorothy’s fantastical journey through the Land of Oz has enticed generations. Explore the original literary story and its many retellings, including the 1939 Technicolor film, *The Wiz*, and *Return to Oz*, through playthings, first edition books, and original costumes.

Pedal to the Metal: Pedal Cars and American Car Culture

August 1, 2015 – August 28, 2016 | North Gallery

Experience America’s obsession with four-wheeled vehicles big and small in an exploration of the history, design, and production of pedaled playthings. From the Garton Kidillac to the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, see how suburban kids have rolled in style!

Messengers of Goodwill: The 1927 Japanese Friendship Doll Exchange

August 1, 2015 – January 3, 2016 | South Gallery

Discover the story of how dolls were used to mend diplomatic relations. Step into 1920s Japan and America to view five of the three-foot-tall friendship doll ambassadors reunited for the first time since 1927.

Stereotypes to Civil Rights: Black Paper Dolls in America

February 20, 2016 – August 21, 2016 | South Gallery

Explore how stereotypes of people of African descent were created and institutionalized through paper dolls from the mid-1800s to the present day with the encyclopedic collection of Arabella Grayson.

FUNDING

T/m is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit institution that relies on the donations of individuals, corporations, and foundations to preserve and exhibit the museum's world-class collection. Individuals interested in supporting exhibitions, educational programs, or acquisitions can make a tax-deductible contribution at toyandminiaturemuseum.org/donate.

RESEARCH LIBRARY

The museum's research library of books, periodicals, and vertical files on fine-scale miniatures and antique toys is open to the public by appointment.

MUSEUM STORE

The museum store offers a fun selection of toys for the young and young at heart. Take home a memory of your museum visit or a copy of the museum's first publication: *Highlights from the Collection of The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures*.