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/ A collection that speaks for itself.

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HELLO, DOLLY!

**T/m exhibits 35 historic dolls, designs a charming paper doll, and
plans a big birthday bash for Barbie's 60th**

February 7, 2019 (KANSAS CITY, MO) – Now and in the coming months, dolls are taking center stage at The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures!

Thirty-five New Dolls in *The Doll Gallery*

The new collection of dolls now on exhibit in *The Doll Gallery* spans centuries and continents. Among those on display is Miss Kinuko Fukushima, one of 58 Friendship Dolls given as a gift to the people of the United States from the government of Japan in 1927, and a circa 1760 wood and gesso Queen Anne-style doll with an original dress that has recently undergone a conservation treatment to stabilize it. *The Doll Gallery* also features dolls by prominent 19th-century makers from Europe and America. Although most of these dolls were made for children, they are beautiful works of art in their own right.

A Rare Doll to Celebrate Black History Month

Introduced to *The Doll Gallery* just in time for Black History Month is a doll T/m calls Baby Moss. Measuring just 10 inches, Baby Moss was crafted in the late 19th century by African American artist Leo Moss. Moss, a handyman in Macon, Georgia, made his portrait dolls in the likeness of family, friends, and members of the community. Moss's dolls are works of art. Added to the collection in 2018, the museum is thrilled to share this important and rare doll. Every weekend in February, T/m is giving away to all visitors a free Baby Moss keepsake.

(MORE)





The Doll That Inspired a Paper Doll

In the early part of the 20th century, Kansas girl Harriet Penney received a beautiful Gibson Girl doll made by the German firm Kestner.

Beautifully preserved, the doll and a selection of her wardrobe will be temporarily on display in *The Doll Gallery*. In honor of her exhibition, the museum has created a new educational booklet titled *Harriet's Doll: More Than Just A Pretty Face*. The booklet features a paper doll version of Harriet's doll and clothing. Every Friday throughout the summer, each visitor will receive the booklet free of charge. Harriet's doll's story will also be told during a special Meet the Experts event, "The Genealogy of a Doll," with Ann Vernon, February 10, 2-3 pm.



60th Birthday Bash for Barbie

On March 9, 1959, the Barbie doll debuted at the American International Toy Fair in New York. Sixty years later, she remains one of the most popular toys of all time. On March 9, 2019, T/m will celebrate Barbie's 60th birthday in style! From 10am-4pm, visitors can snap a keepsake Barbie photo and create a special Barbie shoe charm bracelet to take home. Visitors who bring their own Barbie doll, or want to arrive in Barbie costume, can join the Barbie fashion parade at 2pm. Museum admission includes all activities.

Barbie on Exhibit

Throughout the museum, T/m visitors will see a lot of Barbie, including a case dedicated to Barbie and her friends in the Hall of Collections, and the original Barbie Dream House in the Iconic Toys Hallway. Visitors can also get a peek at Bild Lilli, the German fashion doll that inspired Mattel's Ruth Handler to create one of the most iconic dolls of all time.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TOYS AND MINIATURES

The National Museum of Toy and Miniatures educates, inspires, and delights adults and children through the museum's collection and preservation of toys and miniatures. Located on the University of Missouri - Kansas City campus, the museum exhibits the world's largest collection of fine-scale miniatures and one of the nation's largest collections of antique toys. For more information, call (816) 235-8000 or visit www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org.