

Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit #55720

ADDRESS
CORRECTION
REQUESTED

Write your own computer programs

Visitors will soon be able to write their own computer programs on the museum's terminals using LOGO, a computer language developed by MIT in the early '70s for easy use by kids.

MIT student Doug Klunder is now developing a step-by-step explanation of programming and how to use LOGO, and the system will begin this summer.

Once LOGO is in operation, the system will collect programs written by visitors so that others can use them.

In other news from the Computer Center, Director Bill Mayhew has just completed a report that describes the conversion of the museum's cultural collection catalog from card files to a computerized form.

The new catalog enables untrained visitors and staff to conduct searches using simple commands; most inquiries about the 20,000 item collection can be answered in less than a second.

Copies of the report, "Inexpensive Computerized Museum Cataloging," are available free of charge by

sending a 9x12 self-addressed envelope and 93¢ postage to the museum's Center for Advanced Public Computing.

The cataloging project was funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Finally, the services provided by the center to other area organizations continue to grow. Data processing services are now provided to 15 nonprofit organizations including the Brockton Art Center, EARTHWATCH, the Metropolitan Cultural Alliance, and the Peabody Museum at Harvard University.

Children's Museum

News

April 1980

Japanese house opens in April

The carp kites will be flying at the museum on April 19 and 20, when the colorful Children's Day festival, Kodomo-no-Hi, marks the public opening of the two-story Japanese artisan's house, shop, and garden.

Donated by Kyoto, Boston's Sister City, the Kyo-no-machiya ("Kyoto-style artisan's house and shop") was reassembled inside Museum Wharf last fall by a team of Japanese craftsmen.

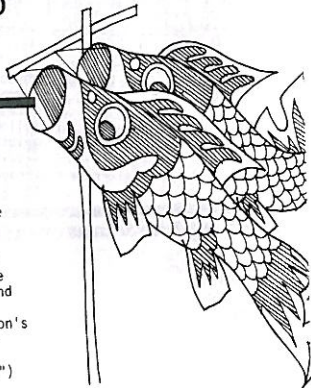
The Children's Day festival will include public tours of the house, fish printing, folk dancing, martial arts demonstrations, origami, kite making, and calligraphy. Ondekoza, the "demon drummers," will be returning with their drums, flutes, and string instruments to present a stunning combination of music and drama.

Kyoto Mayor Motoki Funahashi and his official delegation will arrive in Boston on April 15 for a

four day visit which will include a formal dedication, receptions, private dinner parties throughout the city, and the premier showing of a documentary film about the construction of the house.

The delegation will be hosted by museum staff, Boston Mayor and Mrs. Kevin H. White, and members of the Boston/Kyoto Sister City Foundation and the Japan Society of Boston.

(CONTINUED INSIDE)



What's Up?

April vacation week bonanza!
Tickets to Off the Wall movies are 75¢ in addition to museum admission; there's no additional charge for all other special events.

April 19820, 10am-5pm
Kodomo-no-Hi (Children's Day festival) and Japanese House opening (see story inside)

April 20, 2:25-4:30pm
Boston College Children's Theatre, "Storybook Dreams"

April 21, 2-4pm
Tom Smith, folk songs and stories



April 22, 2-4pm
Doug Tanner, music and entertainment for the whole family

April 23, 2-4pm
Northern Lights Shadow Players, shadow puppets

April 24&25, 1:25-3:30pm
Movies from Off the Wall

April 26, 2-4pm
Jerry Vovosko, songs, storytelling, and magic

April 27, 2-4pm
Larry Sayco, yoyo champ

Friday Night Performance Series
This popular series of puppet shows, folksingers, storytellers, magicians, and theater is back in the new Sit Around. To meet the demand, there are now two shows at 7pm and 8pm. Admission to each show is 75¢ in addition to museum admission; tickets go on sale at 6pm.

April 4
John Noolan, "Jup the Clown"

April 11
Tom Smith, folk songs and stories

April 18
Joel Brint, magic

April 25
Gerwick Puppets, "Inside the Haunted House"

May 2
Eileen O'Connor, "The Tale Weaver"

May 9
Tom Smith, folk songs and stories

May 16
Steve Shakespeare, "Fool-at-Large"

May 23
Doug Tanner, music and entertainment for the whole family

May 30
Gerwick Puppets, "Beauty and the Beast"

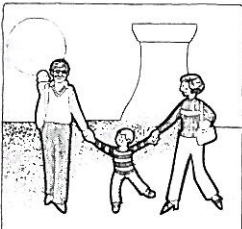
Current exhibits
Giant's Desktop, Playspace, Factory, Small Science, Living Things, City Slice, Grandparents' House, Work, Computers, How Movies Move, WKID-TV, We're Still Here, Ruth Harmony Green Hall of Toys, What If You Couldn't, and Meeting Ground.

April & May

Accessibility study

Resource Center Studies
Science Study, Ethnic Study, Child Study, and East Asian Study.

Hours
Tuesday-Sunday, 10-5; Fridays until 9. Closed Mondays except April 21 and May 26.



Signe Hanson

Admission
Exhibit Center: children, 3-15, and senior citizens, \$2; adults, \$3; children under 3 and members free. Friday night, 6-9pm, is free through April 25, \$1 per person thereafter. All groups of 10 or more must make advance reservations (426-6500). The Resource Center is free.

Travel
The museum is at Museum Wharf, 300 Congress Street, on Boston's waterfront. MBTA Red Line to South Station.

What's Up Line
Call 426-8855 for a complete listing of hours, exhibits, special events, and travel information.

How can the museum become more accessible to handicapped visitors? A study, sponsored by a grant from the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council, is now underway to find out.

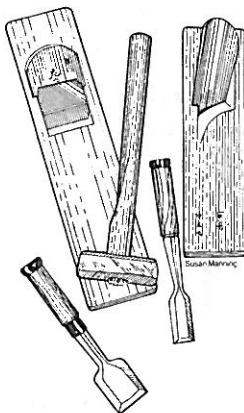
When completed, the report will enable the museum to improve handicapped access beyond the minimum standards mandated by current federal legislation (Section 504). The report will also be used by other private and public institutions throughout the United States.

Since the intent of the study is also to educate nondisabled persons about handicapped issues, the modifications in signage, structure, and directions that are made in the museum will be accompanied by signage explaining the changes.

The study is being directed by Janet Kamien, special needs coordinator and developer of the What If You Couldn't? exhibit, with assistance from Developer Susan Porter and Assistant Developer Amy Goldbas. The group wants to encourage organizations and individuals to take advantage of the museum's accessibility; if you'd like to be on the team's mailing list, send your name to Amy Goldbas.



Japanese house opening (continued)



For Karen Anne Zien, director of the museum's East Asian program, the completion of the house represents the result of seven years' planning and hard work.

The opening coincides with the 75th anniversary of the Japan Society of Boston and the 20th anniversary of the Boston-Kyoto Sister City relationship.

A photographic history of the Kyo-no-machiya project will be on display from April 17 to May 15 in the Concourse Gallery, State Street Bank, 225 Franklin Street, Boston. The exhibit follows the house from its original site in the silk weaving district of Kyoto through its renovation and installation in Museum Wharf.

Starting a new museum: here's how

Children's museums are springing up all over the country. Starting a new museum or moving or expanding an existing institution is a complex task and to provide some needed help, the Children's Museum is conducting a two-day institute, June 6 & 7.

"Museums for Children: Starting, Moving, Growing" will provide detailed information on philosophical and theoretical approaches and legal and practical steps in organizing a major move or change: exhibits, programs, materials, staff, funding, community support, budgeting, public relations, and other issues.

Maximum enrollment is 30, and the fee for the institute is \$100 which includes lunch and dinner.

Five scholarships are available. The institute is funded in part by a grant from the National Museums Act.

To apply or for more information, contact Anne Tribble at the Boston Children's Museum.

Roundup

Think summer

You may not be thinking of summer yet but the museum staff has already begun planning of summer. From the days of the museum's first days, AA (available source of ideas, resources, and information) will take place during the summer program. The center of summer program mark it down on your calendar now. For more

What If You Couldn't? exhibit travels

What If You Couldn't?, the museum's popular exhibit about handicaps, is going on the road this fall as part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES).

The exhibit has attracted national attention ever since the first version was mounted in Jamaica Plain, and museums from Washington state to Tennessee have already submitted requests even before SITES has listed the exhibit on its roster.

The exhibit, which will start its tour during the International Year of the Handicapped, will travel for 2 years to 15 museums, schools, and libraries.

The traveling version of What If You Couldn't? will be constructed by the museum's Design and Production Department this summer. At the same time, the permanent version of the exhibit will be revised and updated and will stay at the Wharf for two more years.



information, call 426-6500, extension 206.

Honorable mistake

It was certainly an honor when Sue Jackson was appointed as chairman of the Board of the Children's Museum, but the position is not an honorary one as reported in the last issue. In fact, Sue is just as active as ever in the museum as staff can attest.

Operation orientation

Would you like to know more about how the Children's Museum operates? Trustee Kyra Montagu is planning a general orientation program which will take place during two spring evenings. If you'd like to enroll, call Kyra at 482-8100 or 731-6727.

Spring workshops for adults: new kits; Recycle ideas

This spring series of workshops provides an inside look at several of the newly redesigned education kits and more creative ways to use Recycle materials. Preregistration is required. Return the registration form with payment at least one week in advance. For more information, call 426-6500, ext. 206.

AFRICAN ARTS -- traditional African arts are alive and

flourishing. This is a two-part workshop; register for one or both sessions.
AFRICAN ARTS: NIGERIAN CLOTH DYEING -- dye cloth using traditional Nigerian resist techniques and get ideas from authentic examples. Learn an African game that kids can enjoy while developing math skills.
Thurs, April 10, 4-6pm, \$5.
AFRICAN ARTS: BEADWORK -- examine examples of African

beadwork, then make your own Lesotho necklace. Play African instruments and listen to traditional and contemporary music. Artifacts from the museum's collection will be available, and multimedia resources will be examined and discussed.
Thurs, May 1, 4-6pm. \$5.



LEARNING ABOUT ESKIMOS -- using the newly redesigned kits, traditional and contemporary Alaskan and Canadian Eskimo lifestyles will be explored: from ivory lures to metal fishhooks, dogsleds to snowmobiles, storytelling to newspapers and radio. Fur clothing and hunting and fishing gear from our collections will be examined. Print and other media resources will be shown and discussed.
Thurs, May 15, 4-6pm. \$5.

New RC head

The Resource Center underwent a change in leadership in January when Jim Zien, the center's director since 1975, resigned and was succeeded by Pat Cornu.

The change will enable Jim to devote all of his time to the development of Detours, a museum-affiliated city touring center for teenagers, which begins operation this summer.

Pat joined the museum in 1967 as developer of "The Workshop of Things," a forerunner of what is now the Resource Center. Over the years, she's taught courses and developed curricula, administered the museum's school desegregation programs, and planned programs for children and adults. Since 1977, Pat's been the Resource Center's associate director.

Reflecting on the center's new emphasis on serving the general museum visitor, Pat says that for museum visitors who get excited by a particular exhibit, "the Resource Center offers opportunities for further learning in as many directions and as far as they want to go."

Registration form

Make check or money order payable to the Children's Museum and send it with the completed form to:
Resource Center, Children's Museum, Museum Wharf,
300 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210. Museum members receive a 10% discount.

African Arts: Nigerian Cloth Dyeing

Thurs, April 10, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

African Arts: Beadwork

Thurs, May 1, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Learning About Eskimos

Thurs, May 15, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Birds: Nesting, Migrating, and Winter

Thurs, April 17, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Animal Defense, Mammals, and Turtles

Thurs, May 8, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Recycle New Games Tournament

Thurs, April 17, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Small World of Recycle

Thurs, May 15, 4-6pm \$5 ☐

Museum member? YES ☐ NO ☐

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ ☐
ENCLOSED

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

BIRDS: NESTING, MIGRATING, AND WINTER -- see the newly redesigned kits and learn related activities.
Thurs, April 17, 4-6pm. \$5.

ANIMAL DEFENSE, MAMMALS, AND TURTLES -- see the newly redesigned kit and learn related activities.
Thurs, May 8, 4-6pm. \$5.

RECYCLE NEW GAMES TOURNAMENT -- have you ever played Prairie!? Come and try our noncompetitive contact games and invent some new ones using Recycle materials.
Thurs, April 17, 4-6pm.
\$5 (includes materials).

SMALL WORLD OF RECYCLE -- a dream house, a transparent mouse? No problem is too big, no undertaking too costly when you make a model of it using Recycle materials.
Thurs, May 15, 4-6pm.
\$5 (includes materials).

