



Cupcakes & Cocktails

Thursday, October 9, 2025



Benefitting
Long Island Children's Museum



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A LETTER FROM OUR Event Co-Chairs

Dear Friends,

As Co-Chairs of this year's Long Island Children's Museum's annual fundraiser, Cupcakes & Cocktails, we are filled with gratitude as we reflect on the immense support that has made this year's event possible. This year's theme, ***Saltwater Stories: We Need the Sea and the Sea Needs Me***, beautifully embodies the spirit of reciprocity—how we give to our community, and how our community gives back to us. Just as the sea sustains life, our collective efforts sustain the Museum and all that it represents, particularly in these challenging times.

We've set an ambitious goal for this year's event, aiming to make it our most successful fundraiser—and we're determined to achieve it. Every dollar raised will directly support the children in our community, providing them with the chance to engage in educational programs that foster creativity, critical thinking and a deep connection to the world around them. These young minds are our future, and your support ensures they have the tools to thrive.

We owe so much to our dedicated Event Committee. Their tireless work and unwavering commitment to this event—no matter what the obstacles—have been an inspiration. From curating our auction items to managing logistics, they have created an unforgettable experience that embodies the core of this year's theme. They've truly demonstrated the power of giving and receiving, and their efforts are the lifeblood of this event.

To our sponsors and auction partners, your generosity is vital to the success of this event, and we are profoundly grateful for your support. This year, your contributions have been even more critical, and your belief in LICM's mission is a testament to the importance of reciprocity in all our lives. The funds raised from your support will provide young people

with the opportunity to learn, explore and discover, while continuing to sustain our Museum as a vibrant center of learning and creativity for all our children.

We would be remiss if we didn't take a moment to recognize both the LICM staff and Board of Trustees, whose dedication drives everything we do. The staff through their engagement with visitors in hands-on learning experiences at the Museum or bringing exciting educational programs to schools and community centers, fosters creativity, curiosity and lifelong learning. The Board's leadership and support—especially in the development of the ***Saltwater Stories*** exhibit—ensures that LICM remains a vibrant and forward-thinking institution. Together, they create an environment where children and families thrive.

This year's event is more than just a fundraiser—it's a statement of what we can achieve when we come together. We know that every dollar raised will provide children with access to transformative learning experiences.

Thank you once again for your generosity, commitment, and belief in the power of play. We are so grateful to have each of you by our side as we continue to shape a brighter future for all. With deepest appreciation and excitement,



Lisa Warren
Event Co-Chair

Alexandra Marino
Event Co-Chair

Genevieve DellaFera
Raffle/Silent Auction Chair

A MESSAGE FROM THE Museum President & the Board Chair

It's truly wonderful to see so many friends, supporters and community members gathered in this space—a space that truly belongs to and serves the whole community. Your presence tonight reflects our shared commitment to providing children with safe, playful learning spaces that ignite creativity, curiosity and moments of discovery.

These are challenging times for cultural institutions everywhere. With reduced government funding and economic uncertainty, museums like ours face significant pressure. Every day, we make difficult choices about how to continue serving our mission with fewer resources.

Yet, despite these challenges, tonight is a celebration of something remarkable: the completion of ***Saltwater Stories: We Need the Sea and the Sea Needs Me***. This exhibit honors our maritime heritage, connecting us to the generations who shaped Long Island's coastal communities, and reinforcing the values of resilience, craftsmanship and environmental care that continue to define us.

This exhibit is the product of years of work and collaboration, made possible by the generous support of both public and private partners. Government funding has been crucial in bringing this project to life, but it's also thanks to the contributions from our donors, sponsors and advisors. This public-private support not only made this exhibit possible but also sustains vital community programs that reach beyond the Museum, connecting with families, children, and visitors across Long Island.

At the heart of LICM's mission is the belief that play, and learning are essential tools for growth. We strive to enrich the lives of children and families by offering hands-on experiences that foster creativity, curiosity and connection. We believe that when children are given the opportunity to learn through play, they build the skills they need to thrive—and that children who play together today, will live and work together tomorrow.



Erika Floreska

Scott Burman

Our new exhibit's tagline, "We Need the Sea and the Sea Needs Me," speaks to the principle of reciprocity—a relationship built on mutual care and respect. Just as the sea nourishes and sustains us, we must care for it in return. This same spirit applies to our relationship with you, our community. The Museum exists because of your support, and in turn, we hope it continues to enrich your lives and the lives of future generations.

If you believe in the power of play, in supporting children's development, and in celebrating the stories and traditions of our collective identity, we invite you to join us. Whether through donations, memberships, or simply spreading the word, your support ensures that the Museum remains a vibrant space for learning, creativity and community connection.

We are deeply grateful for the continued support from all our supporters, community partners and, of course, all of you. Together, we will ensure that this Museum not only survives but thrives for generations to come.

Thank you.

Erika Floreska
President

Scott Burman
Board Chair

About the Event

Cupcakes & Cocktails is the Long Island Children's Museum's premiere annual fundraising event, designed to unite the community in support of our vital educational resources, access initiatives, cultural experiences, interactive exhibits and dynamic theater presentations. This high-profile event attracts business leaders, educators, government officials, community partners, artists and performers from across the region, all coming together to network and collaborate on advancing the well-being of children through the power of play.

The evening revolves around a simple yet powerful concept—immersing guests in the same magic and wonder that children experience at Long Island Children's Museum (LICM) every day.

As attendees explore our two-story interactive exhibit space, they will be captivated by live performances, engage with creative activity stations designed to spark their imaginations, revel in the thrill of our gift basket extravaganza and savor gourmet treats and inventive cocktails. Don't miss out on our delightful dessert surprises!

At a time when cultural institutions face growing financial and operational challenges, this fundraising event plays a critical role in sustaining the Museum's ability to deliver innovative programs and ensure that all children have access to enriching, hands-on learning experiences.

This special night also offers LICM the opportunity to honor visionary leaders and corporate trailblazers dedicated to fostering brighter futures for children.



Mission, Vision & Values

Mission Statement

"Connecting all our communities' children, and those who care for them to one another and a life of wonder, imagination and exploration. Here, children discover their passions and their relationship to the world we share."

Vision Statement

Centering the well-being of children and families through the power of play.

Core Values

We value creativity and the importance of learning through the power of play.

We embrace diversity.

We are dedicated to respect and access for all.

We are committed to excellence.

We nurture cooperation and kindness.

We value the trust of our community and continually seek to earn it.

Event Sponsors

LEADERSHIP

The Beechwood Organization
Roni Kohen-Lemle & Robert S. Lemle
Debby & Scott Rechler / Rechler Philanthropy

NEIGHBORHOOD

Gay Thomas & Jeff Hanson

INNOVATION

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EXCLUSIVE COCKTAIL HOUR

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EXCLUSIVE TECHNOLOGY

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Event Sponsors

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20TH ANNIVERSARY TOGETHER TO KINDERGATEN

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Underwriters

OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

MUSEUMS FOR ALL

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Event Committee

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AWARD PROFILE:

Community Leadership

Selby Drummond & Steven Dubb



Selby Drummond and Steven Dubb lead lives rooted in purpose, creativity and community. As parents of two young daughters, they are deeply committed to building a brighter, more imaginative future—for their family and families everywhere. Whether through Steven’s transformative work in real estate as Principal of The Beechwood Organization or Selby’s groundbreaking leadership in brand, technology and cultural innovation, they have spent their careers creating space—for people to live, learn, connect and grow. United by shared values and devotion to children’s well-being, they represent the very heart of LICM’s mission.

Selby is a trailblazing leader in technology, media and venture capital, currently serving as Senior Strategic Officer at Plum Alley Ventures, where she invests in frontier technologies with the power to transform society. Beginning her career at Vogue, Selby bridged creativity and commerce—an approach she later applied in tech roles at Snap and Bumble, where she redefined how users interact with e-commerce and brand identity. Her work has consistently centered on the intersection of culture, innovation and equity, including board leadership roles with organizations like the 15 Percent Pledge and EMILY’s List.

Steven is a true builder—of homes, communities, and futures. As Principal at The Beechwood Organization, one of the Northeast’s leading real estate firms, he has spent nearly two decades leading projects that combine thoughtful design with a deep commitment to the people who live in them. Raised on Long Island, Steven learned early how neighborhoods shape lives, and after earning his degree in real estate from NYU, he embarked on a career that has left a lasting impact across the East Coast. From Saratoga Springs to North Carolina, his work has made Beechwood a national model for master-planned communities that prioritize sustainability, open space and architectural integrity.

Steven’s commitment to community extends beyond his professional work. Since 2017, he has been a member of the LICM Board of Trustees, where he plays a key role in supporting the Museum’s mission to inspire creativity and learning in children. This involvement reflects his dedication to the well-being of future generations.

Together, they bring complementary visions to the table: one focused on cultural relevance and innovation, the other grounded in place-making and sustainability. As parents of two young children, they support early learning through play, creativity, and hands-on exploration—fostering curiosity and imagination both at home and in the community.

Long Island Children’s Museum is proud to recognize **Selby Drummond and Steven Dubb** for their inspiring leadership, their philanthropic spirit, and their unwavering belief in the power of possibility when we invest in children.

AWARD PROFILE:

Great Friends to Kids

Gay Thomas & Jeff Hanson

Long Island Children’s Museum is proud to recognize **Gay Thomas and Jeff Hanson** as the recipients of the **2025 Great Friends to Kids Award**, honoring their outstanding commitment to enriching the lives of children and families through creativity, education and community engagement.

Together, Gay and Jeff have played a vital role in LICM’s growth and innovation. Their thoughtful support has strengthened the Museum’s internal operations, enhanced the visitor experience and supported the development of imaginative, educational programming that inspires curiosity in children of all backgrounds.

Gay Thomas, a children’s author and founder of GR Thomas Advisors, has dedicated her life to cultivating curiosity, compassion and creativity. Her storytelling sparks imagination, while her collaborative work in inclusive health sciences reflects a deep belief in the power of partnership. Her book, *Beezy County Fair: A Bee Tale*, served as the inspiration for an original LICM theater production, an exciting complement to LICM’s popular **Honey Hoopla** program—an engaging initiative that teaches children about honey bees and environmental stewardship. Gay’s passion for nature, theater and learning continues to guide her impact nationwide. She holds degrees from Oberlin College and the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Jeff Hanson brings more than 40 years of experience as a respected financial advisor, investor, and entrepreneur, with a strong focus on strategic philanthropy and long-term impact. Known for his strategic insight and values-driven philanthropy, Jeff champions hands-on, innovative education.

His belief in “**partnership in action**” has directly contributed to advancing LICM’s mission—from improving operational efficiency to enhancing the overall visitor journey. A graduate of Oberlin College and Cornell University’s Johnson School of Management, Jeff blends business acumen with a deep personal commitment to empowering the next generation of learners.

The honorees’ shared connection to LICM runs deep. Both are proud alumni of Oberlin College, as are LICM’s co-founders, Roni Kohen-Lemle and Robert S. Lemle. Their shared vision—a space where children can explore, grow and learn through play—has helped LICM blossom into a nationally recognized institution, welcoming over 300,000 visitors annually through hands-on exhibits, original theater, and immersive programming.

With deep appreciation, LICM congratulates Gay Thomas and Jeff Hanson—the **2025 Great Friends to Kids**.



RECOGNIZING

Inaugural Nonprofit Partner

Long Island Association



For nearly a century, the **Long Island Association (LIA)** has been a driving force in shaping the future of Long Island. As the region's leading nonprofit, nonpartisan business organization, the LIA has worked relentlessly to promote economic vitality, foster collaboration, and encourage sustainable growth to ensure a prosperous future for Long Island's residents and business community. The LIA has an unwavering commitment to shaping a region that is affordable, growing, and equitable for generations to come.

At the heart of the LIA's mission is the vision of a future where opportunities are abundant, where every child can dream big, and where economic success is paired with social responsibility. Through advocacy at all levels of government and its exceptional networking opportunities, the LIA has helped make Long Island a place where businesses, families, and communities can thrive.

This vision aligns seamlessly with the reality of the Long Island Children's Museum (LICM), a place where the future is always present. The Museum's audience—the children, families, and communities it serves—are the very foundation of Long Island's tomorrow. LICM is a singular place where all Long Island children come together to play, learn and grow, exchanging ideas and experiences with one another. It is here that young minds are inspired, creativity is nurtured, and collaboration flourishes.

The LIA's efforts to promote economic development and advocate for critical policies—such as more affordable and diverse housing opportunities and accessible, high-quality childcare—align closely with LICM's mission to create a vibrant, supportive environment where all children, regardless of background, can prosper through the power of play. The Museum is proud to serve as an economic driver, welcoming more than 320,000 visitors annually and employing more than 140 diverse staff members. By fostering opportunity and access, both organizations are helping to ensure the success and well-being of Long Island's next generation.

The LIA is dedicated to the principle that every person and every family on Long Island has a place and a voice. This mirrors LICM's focus on inclusivity, where children are given the chance to explore, learn, and grow in an environment that values their unique perspectives. Together, the LIA and LICM work to build a community where all children can succeed.

The LIA's leadership in creating clean energy jobs while prioritizing a healthy environment demonstrates that economic growth and environmental protection are both achievable. By advocating for sustainable practices, the LIA ensures that future generations will inherit a more resilient Long Island. Similarly, LICM fosters an understanding of sustainability in children, encouraging them to think about how they can make a difference for the planet.

Through innovation and collaboration, the LIA is laying the groundwork for a forward-thinking Long Island where people want to live and entrepreneurs want to start their business. Just as the future is always present

at LICM, so too is it being shaped in real-time by the efforts of the LIA and the Museum, making dreams a tangible reality.

Through the LIA's work of supporting the business community and job creation, our region's future is unfolding before our eyes, making it possible for our youth to achieve the same dream of building their life here like their parents and grandparents did. This vision strongly aligns with the Long Island Children's Museum's belief that children who play together today will live and work together tomorrow.

In recognition of this shared commitment to Long Island's future, Long Island Children's Museum is proud to honor the **Long Island Association (LIA)** as the inaugural recipient of the **Nonprofit Partner Award**.



Matt Cohen
President & CEO



Location Guide

FIRST FLOOR

- Check-in & Welcome Aboard Photo
- Grab-n-Go Loot!
 - Gift Bags
(sponsored by JP Morgan Chase Private Bank)
 - Cupcakes
(sponsored by Bank of America Private Bank)

SILENT AUCTION & PRIZE BASKETS

(closes at 9pm)

THE GALLEY FARE (6:45-9:30pm)

- Dinner, Cupcakes, Desserts, Coffee & Tea
- "The Happy Harbor" Bar
- "Bubbly Buoy" Bar
- "The High Tide" Dinner & Dance Lounge featuring Rum Tasting

ENTERTAINMENT (6:45-7:50pm)

(sponsored by PrimeX Title Agency)

- "WaveMaker Stage" with *Adventure Sound Trio*
- "Siren's Strings" – Violinist

Awards Program in Outer Lobby (7:55pm)

ACTIVITIES (7-9:30pm)

(sponsored by Jovia)

- "Lifting the Ocean's Lid" Serving Platters
- "I Need the Sea, and The Sea Needs Me" Tea Towels
- "Salty Solutions" Seafood Seasoning
- 360-Degree Photobooth

DANCE PARTY! (8:45-10pm)



SECOND FLOOR

New Exhibit Preview All Night!



COCKTAIL HOUR (6-7pm)

(sponsored by Raymond James)

- "Waves of Impact" Sponsor Wall of Fame
- "The Sandbar" Cocktails & Spirits
- "Nautical Nibbles" Food Bar
- Specialty Drink: The "Ocean Potion"
(sponsored by Haughland Group LLC)
- Photo Opp at the Step & Repeat
- The "Yeobie" Oberlin Alumni Suite
- "Siren's Strings" – Violinist

ACTIVITIES (6-9pm)

- "Toss Ahoy!" Play to Win a Mystery Bottle
- "Sea Yourself in a Sketch" Caricaturist Duo
- Visit The Hive and Meet our Beekeeper!
- "Tell Us Your Tales!" Red Carpet Interviews with LICM youth

**Scan to make a splash!
Donate tonight.**



(sponsored by Nerds That Care)

Post and tag your photos! #Cupcakes2025



Program

6 - 7 p.m.	Cocktail Hour & Preview of Saltwater Stories exhibit (2nd floor) Silent Auction & Prize Baskets (1st floor) (<i>Bidding closes at 9 pm</i>)
7 - 7:55 p.m.	Dinner Hour with Activities and Entertainment (1st & 2nd floors)
7:55 - 8:30 p.m.	Awards Program on the "WaveMaker Stage" (1st floor, Outer Lobby) "Under the Boardwalk" Composed by Kenny Young and Arthur Resnick Performed by Laura Martinez, Singer Welcome Remarks Erika Floreska, LICM President Acknowledgements Lisa Warren, LICM Trustee and Event Co-Chair Alexandra Marino, LICM Trustee and Event Co-Chair Genevieve DellaFera, LICM Trustee and Raffle/Silent Auction Chair Recognition and Awards Presentation Inaugural Non-Profit Partner Recognition: <i>Long Island Association</i> and Great Friends to Kids Award: <i>Gay Thomas & Jeff Hanson</i> Presented by Erika Floreska Community Leadership Award: <i>Selby Drummond & Steven Dubb</i> Presented by Scott Burman, LICM Board Chair Mission Moment Erika Floreska and Selby Drummond
8:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Cupcakes & Cocktails, Coffee and Desserts (1st floor) Silent Auction & Prize Baskets (closes at 9 pm)
9:30 p.m.	Winners Posted for Silent Auction & Prize Baskets and Door Prize
Until 10 p.m.	Dance Party!

Featured Entertainment & GUEST ARTISTS

Amanda Bremmer

Caricaturist

*Adelphi University Alumna, Queens College Student,
LICM Educator*

Bryce Larsen's Adventure Sound Trio

Featuring Bryce Larsen, Carlton Jay, and Eddie Venegas

Laura Martinez

Youth Singer

Jayden Romero

Youth Interviewer

Gary Solorzano-Ruiz

Caricaturist

Adelphi University Alumnus, LICM Educator

Victoria Sunhe

Youth Interviewer

Olga Tourkina

Violinist

Guest Artists



Amanda Bremer, Caricaturist

Amanda Bremer is a Long Island-based illustrator and educator. Her journey as a creator began in early childhood, inspired by her vivid perception of the world. She turned to drawing on paper to capture her interpretations, refining her craft and shaping her artistic voice. Amanda studied at Adelphi University, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts and is now further expanding her knowledge of art history at Queens College.

Victoria Sunhe, Youth Interviewer

Victoria is a bright and energetic 6-year-old girl, currently in the 2nd grade. She enjoys exploring a wide variety of interests and actively participates in Taekwondo, chess, Girl Scouts, ballet, and ice skating. She also represented her school in a recitation competition, where she proudly earned 3rd place, showcasing her confidence and talent on stage.

In addition to her many activities, Victoria has a strong passion for art. She especially loves drawing and often uses her artwork to express her ideas and emotions. Her creativity has been widely praised by both her teachers and classmates.

Victoria also participated in the Long Island Children's Museum's Together to Kindergarten program, where she developed a deep interest in both science and the arts. She loves LICM very much, as it gives her the chance to try new things, explore the world of science, and expand her imagination and understanding of the world around her.

Her dream is to become a Space Engineer — designing and building habitats on Mars, the Moon, and other planets, turning space into a place where people can live and thrive. Victoria is excited to continue pursuing her passions and to share her bright energy and talents with everyone!

Jayden Romero, Youth Interviewer

Jayden first developed a fascination with science in kindergarten when he was chosen to represent the Gribbin School's 2nd Annual Science Symposium with his project entitled "The Life Cycle of the Butterfly." Since then, he represented his grade in the next two symposiums. Last year, Jayden was selected to attend the Gifted Students Young Program at Hofstra University where he attended advanced classes in geology, math, and Spanish. He is a gifted artist whose work has been displayed in several art shows at Glen Cove High School.

His experiences at the Long Island Children's Museum have taught him to continuously expand his interests into many subjects. As a result, Jayden is an avid reader who enjoys many topics like American history, animal science, and biographies.



Laura Martinez, Singer

Laura Martínez is a 12-year-old mariachi singer from Long Island. With her talented voice and great stage presence she's been captivating audiences since she was 4 years old. She's well known in the tri-state area for participating in numerous Spanish music festivals, and even on a Spanish competition tv show!



Gary Solorzano-Ruiz, Caricaturist

Gary Solorzano-Ruiz recently graduated from Adelphi University with a degree in Art and Design Education and works as a permanent substitute in the Bellmore-Merrick High School District. He has been drawing and painting for as long as he can remember and plans to one day become a high school art teacher focusing on drawing, painting, photography, and animation. Gary is inspired by the young artists he works with and finds they motivate him to continue to be creative and try new things. During his free time, he likes to watch movies, play sports with friends, root for the New York Yankees, and of course, create works of art!



Olga Tourkina, Violinist

Olga Tourkina is an accomplished violinist with a distinguished background in performance and competition. A graduate of the esteemed Eastman School of Music, she has garnered numerous awards at international violin competitions. Born into a musical family in Mexico, Olga began her violin studies at the age of eight. By twelve, she was already captivating audiences as a soloist with multiple orchestras.

Her extensive experience performing across various musical ensembles in the New York area has enriched her ability to interpret a wide range of styles. Olga has also participated in numerous prestigious festivals across Europe and the United States, showcasing her versatility and dedication to her craft.

Passionate about sharing her love for music, Olga collaborates with top professionals to offer exceptional music and entertainment services. She resides on Long Island, where she continues to make her mark as a concert violinist, educator, and member of several orchestras throughout the Tri-State area and Pennsylvania.

In addition to her performing career, Olga is the Founder and Director of NY Music Entertainment, where she brings her vision and expertise to the forefront of the music industry.

Featured Entertainment



BRYCE LARSEN'S ADVENTURE SOUND LIVE TRIO

Tonight's entertainment features **Bryce Larsen's Adventure Sound Live Trio**. The group includes:

Bryce Larsen, a singer, guitarist, beatboxer, and live-looper who has performed with top event bands across the region and is the founder of Adventure Sound Live, a collective of world-class musicians who create custom ensembles for private events;

Eddie Venegas, a Venezuelan-born violinist and trombonist who has toured internationally with Marc Anthony, performed on Broadway in Ain't Too Proud, A Beautiful Noise, Hell's Kitchen, and more, and is currently a featured cast member in Buena Vista Social Club;

Carlton Jay, a pianist, music educator, and producer who has performed internationally with Trey Songz, Christian Guardino, and others, and whose elementary school choir has been featured performing for the Mayor of Yonkers and other officials.

Together, they bring exceptional artistry and the signature energy of Adventure Sound Live to the gala stage.



Silent Auction Items & Prize Baskets

READY TO BID?

Check out the amazing array of experiences, items, and shows in the Silent Auction and Prize Basket Gallery (First Floor - Inner Lobby)

- ♥ Set Sail in Style! - NY Harbor Tour
- ♥ Luxury Escape at Six Senses La Sagesse in Granada
- ♥ New York Islanders Pitchbook Box Suite Experience
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- ♥ East End Getaway

...and more!



Silent Auction Donors

**As of October 6, 2025*

THANK YOU TO OUR SILENT AUCTION DONORS!

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**As of October 6, 2025*

Active Kids	Hallockville Museum Farm	Press 195
Adventureland	Heckscher Museum of Art	Renee & Greg Hughes
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Bracco's Clam & Oyster Bar	Liz Venuti	Starbucks
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Duck Donuts	New York Football Giants	The Shed
Edoardo's Trattoria	New York Jets	Tilles Center
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Forea Boutique	Nostalgc	Tory Burch
Genevieve DellaFera	Omni Fitness Center	Two Cousins Fish Market
Glenn Tyranski & Sue	On Parade Diner	Vanderbilt Hotel
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GT Taste Crepe Café	Patricia Cadilla	



Saltwater Stories

Saltwater Stories began as an inspiring series of programs showcasing local maritime traditions that launched at LICM back in 2009. Building on the relationships and community interest established through these programs, we embarked on the exciting journey of developing this exhibit in 2019. Grant support enabled LICM to include a diverse group of paid advisors from the very beginning. Our advisory board has been an incredible treasure trove of knowledge, helping us shape a playful exhibit grounded in authentic history, science, and culture.

Uniquely Saltwater

Saltwater Stories showcases the remarkable work of artists and artisans whose exceptional craftsmanship adds richness and depth unique to this exhibit.

In the Bay House, visitors will discover an authentic duck decoy beautifully carved by award-winning carver George Rigby, Jr., and control time and weather outside a "magic window." The incredible footage seen in the window was captured specially for the exhibit by award-winning photographer Ikuo Nakamura at a tidal marsh in Freeport, rich with delightful details from sea birds to nighttime air traffic from NYC airports.

One of the most spectacular features is the gorgeous, hand-illustrated murals created by talented artist Susanna Chapman exclusively for this exhibit. Using watercolor paintings with a fascinating rock salt technique, she ironically created the *Saltwater Stories* illustrations using actual saltwater!

In the Fish Market, visitors can buy and sell fish native to Long Island waters. These beautifully crafted fish are custom-made using fabric printed with scientific illustrations from NOAA and expertly sewn into beanbags by NY-local seamstress Jennifer Chapman.

The magnificent "hero artifact" is undoubtedly **Lil Pine (Pewea Koowa)**, our extraordinary mishoon! This traditional dugout canoe was masterfully created under the leadership of Indigenous artisan Chenaë Bullock, with invaluable support from Darius Coombs (Mashpee-Wampanoag) and Shane Weeks (Shinnecock). Shaped using the traditional method of continually burning fire, it burned for three intensive days before being ceremonially paddled in Shinnecock waters and welcomed at the Museum this June. The entire process was beautifully captured by Rebekah Wise in a video that accompanies the boat.

Finally, we're absolutely thrilled to feature Long Island's own legendary Piano Man, Billy Joel, whose iconic music video for "The Downeaster 'Alexa'" is prominently featured on our Story Map wall, masterfully embodying baymen culture.

Thank you to all our incredible advisors, generous supporters, and passionate collaborators who created such an extraordinary exhibit. Truly a precious gift to Long Islanders, we're confident *Saltwater Stories* will become a cherished place for children to build their identities as proud Long Islanders for many years to come!



SALTWATER STORIES WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:



The Dubb Family

Roni Kohen-Lemle & Robert S. Lemle



National Maritime Heritage Grant administered by the National Park Service and distributed by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

2025 LICM Board of Directors



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WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING
ADVISORS WHO WORKED ON THIS EXHIBIT:

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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Balloon Mission
Denice Banks
Kevin Braunlich
The Boys & Girls Club of Shinnecock Nation
Chenae Bullock
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Shinnecock Nation
Dyashwa Sylvester
Kevin Thomas
Two Cousins Fish Market
Shane Weeks
Sue Wicks
Wuneechanunk Shinnecock Preschool

Staff Acknowledgment

*The Long Island Children's Museum would like to
extend our warmest gratitude to our staff.*

*This has been an exciting year of collaboration, creativity and connection
as we held steadfast to our vision, introduced new experiences, and
celebrated with our community in many ways.*

THANKS TO YOU ALL!

Development Team
Educational Programming Team
Events Team
Exhibits Team
Executive and Finance Team
Marketing and Communications Team
Theater Crew
Special Projects and Community Initiatives Team
Visitor and Support Services Team

**And every single LICM staff member who
contributed to the planning and execution of
Cupcakes & Cocktails 2025!**



Cupcakes & Cocktails

VENDORS:

Caterer: Elegant Affairs

Cupcakes Baker: For the Love of Frosting

Audio Visual: NVISION 360 Productions

Photobooth: Carl Guilbaud, Event Producer, Creative Designer, Next Level Events Group

Photography:

Jonathan Ortiz, Creative Focus Designs, Inc.

Guy Saint Elie, Sabliss Photography

Dale the Eagle: LI Nets

Touch Tank: The Waterfront Center

HONOREE VIDEO CREDITS:

Production: LICM Theater Crew

Producers: Austin M. Costello, Lisa Rudin

Editor: Kyle Mahoney

Camera Operator: Christina Litvaitis

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR IN-KIND SUPPORT

Dolce and Gelato (Gelato Donation)

Empire Spirits – John Casano (Rum Donor)

Gold Coast (Cleaning Services)

Bracco's Clam Bar (Percent Fundraiser)

Event Rentals

Looking for a venue that's vibrant, memorable, and one-of-a-kind? The Long Island Children's Museum offers a variety of rental spaces perfect for corporate or private functions:

Entire Museum: Transform the Museum into the backdrop for corporate events, galas, school reunions, graduations, filming, and more.

Studio: A private room ideal for seminars, meetings, and small gatherings.

LICM Theater: A 140-seat theater, perfect for corporate presentations, school plays, graduations, and independent productions.

Our Backyard: A garden location for outdoor events.

Nunley's Carousel: Host reunions, birthdays, corporate parties, or photo shoots with a touch of nostalgia.

All rentals are fully customizable, offering dynamic spaces and a memorable setting that will make your event truly stand out.

Contact museumrentals@licm.org or 516-224-5844.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Celebrate your child's special day with a party that combines fun, creativity, and a full day of play in the Museum exhibit galleries. Each party includes exclusive use of a private room, a themed activity led by LICM educators, invitations, paper goods, set-up and clean-up, and an LICM t-shirt for the birthday child. Guests enjoy hands-on experiences designed to spark imagination, while families can relax knowing every detail is taken care of. With a commitment to being a sensory-sensitive party space, LICM ensures every child can celebrate in comfort and joy.

Contact birthdays@licm.org or 516-224-5871.



Membership

GREAT REASONS TO JOIN!

- ♥ Enjoy unlimited free admission to the Museum
 - ♥ Exclusive Member Mornings
 - ♥ Discounts on Special Events
 - ♥ Reduced Rides at Nunley's Carousel
 - ♥ \$50 Discount on Birthday Party Packages
 - ♥ 10% Discount at the Museum Store
- ♥ ASTC Travel Passport - Free admission to more than 350 Science museums worldwide.

Questions about Membership?

Please visit licm.org/membership
or email membership@licm.org.

For information regarding Corporate Memberships,
contact us at development@licm.org.



RIDE THROUGH HISTORY ON

Nunley's Carousel



Long Island Children's Museum proudly operates
Nunley's Carousel in partnership with Nassau County, keeping
the magic alive for new generations of riders.

LOCATION

The carousel is located on Museum Row between LICM and the Nassau County Firefighters
Museum, accessible from the East Parking Lot. The carousel is enclosed by glass and heated
during cold weather, allowing the carousel to operate year-round.



Best
Local Tourist
Attraction
2023, 2024
2025!

Celebrate with friends and family with unlimited
carousel rides during your party, and
make special, themed crafts to honor the occasion!

Accessible Seats Available

Have Questions?
Email carousel@licm.org to inquire.



Together to Kindergarten

In the summer of 2025, LICM proudly celebrated the 20th anniversary of its award-winning *Together to Kindergarten (TTK)* program. This vital initiative helps children and their families develop the academic and social skills necessary for success in kindergarten and beyond. Best of all, TTK is offered free of charge.

Designed to support parents who have been educated outside the U.S., TTK provides workshops that help families navigate the American public education system and understand its culture.

The TTK curriculum includes a variety of workshops for parents and caregivers, equipping them with the tools and strategies needed to support their children's education and ensure their success in school.

LICM is committed to building lasting relationships with families. In addition to the TTK program, we offer free family memberships and host special events throughout the year, encouraging continued engagement and fostering a love for explorative, play-based learning.

Each summer, TTK serves up to 80 children and their caregivers. Throughout the year, we provide ongoing support through programs, workshops, and reunion nights to keep families connected and engaged long after the summer program ends.

For more information, visit: licm.org/TTK or contact KJoseph@licm.org.



LICM Theater's 2025-2026 season!

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!

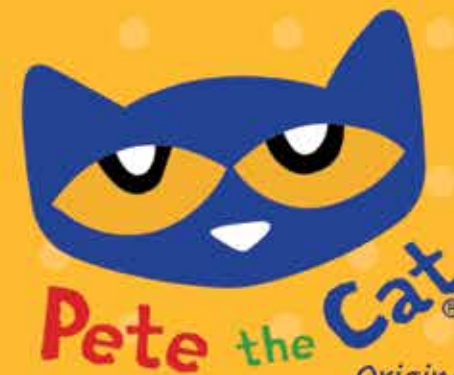
December 2025,
April-June, 2026

Based on the book "*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*" by Mo Willems
Published by Hyperion Books for Children

Script by Mo Willems and Mr. Warburton; Lyrics by Mo Willems
Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma; Dramaturgy by Megan Alrutz

This play was commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was first produced at the Kennedy Center during the 2019-2020 season.

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



Pete the Cat

February-April 2026

Script and lyrics by Sarah Hammond

Music by Will Aronson

Based on the "*Pete the Cat*" series of books by Kimberly and James Dean

Originally Commissioned, Developed and Produced

by TheaterWorksUSA

Music Orchestrated and Produced by Frank Galgano and Matt Castle

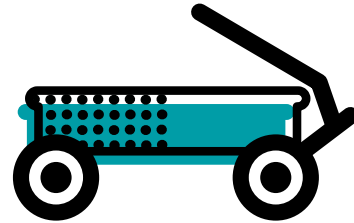
PETE THE CAT is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp. www.concordtheatricals.com

Ages: 3 and up. Fee: \$11 with museum admission (\$9 LICM members), \$15 theater only

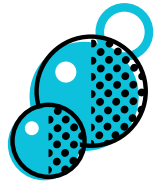
The LICM Theater is supported by the generosity of these foundations and corporations: Roni Kohen-Lemle and Robert S. Lemle • New York State Council on the Arts • Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation • Marilyn Lichtman Foundation • Theresa Alessandra Russo Foundation
Underwriters • Adrienne Robb-Fund & Jay Fund • Waiter Tyranski Family

Led by our trained museum educators, our outreach workshops embody the museum's philosophy that children learn best by seeing, touching, doing and having fun. Workshops last approximately one hour and are generally offered for groups of 25-30 children and their adult chaperones. Outreaches are designed to captivate children through exploration, demonstration and experiential activities.

Outreach Offerings



Bubble POP! — Nursery - Grade 5



Become a bubble scientist and learn more about the unique physical properties of bubbles as you experiment at our three interactive stations. Experiment making bubbles and take home your own bubble print.

Fee: \$325

All Abuzz — Pre-K-Grade 3

Junior entomologists will meet a hissing cockroach and discover insects that camouflage. They will learn what makes an animal an insect and the different body parts they have. Students will create their own bugs. Children will be provided with a field guide page about their bug that can be done after the program.

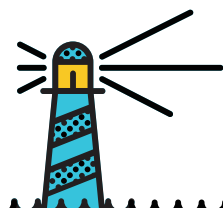
Fee: \$275

Build It — Pre-K - Grade 3

How did the Leaning Tower of Pisa get its name?

Explore the scientific forces behind structures such as bridges and towers as you apply building design concepts to construct a freestanding structure out of Magic Noodles and toothpicks.

Fee: \$275

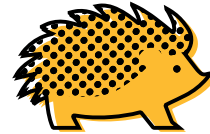


Catch Me if You Can! —

Kindergarten - Grade 5

Investigate the ways animals protect themselves from predators. Meet our live animals that use defense mechanisms in order to stay safe. Create your own animal by using the animal defense of your choice.

Fee: \$275



Up in the Air — Kindergarten - Grade 5



Explore the science of flight and dream BIG as you make your own gliders based on your observations of various AIR-MAZING experiments,

and learn about milestones in the history of aviation.

Fee: \$275

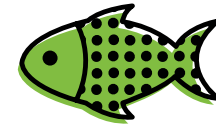
Spirit of Invention — Kindergarten - Grade 5

Learn about the special functions of historical inventions such as the telephone, toaster and hair dryer. Hear about the lives of famous inventors such as Thomas Edison and Marie Curie before rolling up your sleeves and creating your own futuristic invention using an assortment of recycled materials.

Fee: \$275



Fish Tales — Kindergarten - Grade 6



Learn about fish habits and their habitats, the maritime industry on Long Island and comparative anatomy by studying an actual fish dissection up close—including a taste sample after our instructor cooks it!

Fee: \$325

Lucky Fortune — Grades 1 - 5

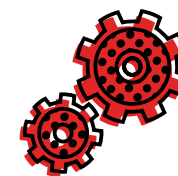
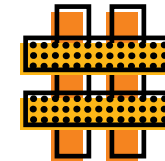
Discover Chinese Lunar New Year festivities, stories and traditions in this multicultural awareness program. Learn about the symbolism of the Lion Dance and create your own Lion Dance parade mask.

Fees: \$275

KEVA® CoLab — Grades 2 - 5

Explore ideas related to building construction and structural function based on LICM's popular KEVA® exhibit. Become junior architects and engineers as you make your own KEVA® structures, experiment with gravity and speed and engage in collaborative play!

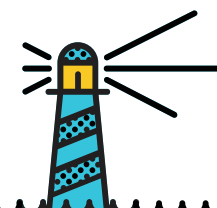
Fee: \$275



Game On — Grades 2-6

Step into the role of a game developer as you design your own game from the initial concept to a finished prototype, including materials such as cardboard trays, marbles, LED lights and your own graphics in this fun STEAM program!

Fee: \$325



Freedom Quilts — Grades 2-6

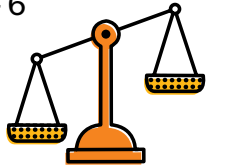
Discover the stories that quilts told in the days of the Underground Railroad to assist runaway slaves on their journey to freedom. Learn to "read" various quilt codes; then use mathematical patterns and fabric shapes to design a quilt that tells your very own personal story.

Fee: \$275

A Balancing Act — Grades 2 - 6

Learn about the cool science of gravity, speed and motion as we experiment with pennies and balancing toys in a fun way! Then, make a high-flying "acrobat" that can balance on a piece of string.

Fee: \$325



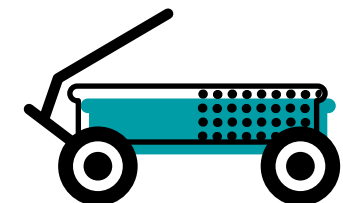
Ask about quantity discounts.

Virtual Outreach Options

The Museum offers Virtual Outreach options. Call (516) 224-5847 or e-mail outreach@licm.org. for more information on this resources.

How To Book

Choose your workshop theme(s) and fill out our online form at www.licm.org/outreach



LICM STEM PROGRAMMING

WESTBURY STEM PARTNERSHIP

Westbury STEM Partnership expands the district's science program beyond the confines of the classroom and makes the educational resources of the Museum available to students, teachers, and families. Through the program, LICM becomes an extension of the classroom and curriculum, and teachers become experts in using LICM's exhibits to enhance classroom learning, giving students an in-depth understanding of many STEM topics. The program serves all 1st – 3rd grade and K-5 self-contained classes in the Westbury School District. The program also provides teachers with professional development and families with Family Night and Community Night family learning events. All participants also receive a free LICM annual access pass.

GREEN TEENS

Since 2009, the Long Island Children's Museum's *Green Teens* program has engaged local high school students in creating and teaching interactive nature, science, and sustainability activities for visitors. The program builds leadership and teaching skills, fosters volunteerism, and inspires career pathways in education and environmental stewardship. Teens receive training in informal education and outdoor learning, then design and deliver hands-on programs that spark curiosity and promote conservation for families across Long Island. The Green Teens program has expanded to include alumni – past participants stay connected to the program by serving as a mentor to a teen in the current cohort and by sharing their experiences through alumni discussion panels.



Access at LICM

We strive to increase access to LICM for all Long Islanders by removing physical and financial barriers. Three of our access programs include LICM4all, Museums for All, and Military Family benefits.

LICM4ALL

We are committed to providing programs and services with maximum accessibility beyond ADA-compliance expectations to create an optimal environment that welcomes all children in our community. From Friendly Hours to Sensory Sensitive Performances in LICM's Theater, and LICM4all Tours to adapted outreaches, we offer a full range of accessibility and inclusion resources to reach, engage, and better serve visitors with disabilities

MUSEUMS FOR ALL

The Long Island Children's Museum proudly participates in *Museums for All*, a national initiative that expands access to high-quality museum experiences. Through this program, families receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) can enjoy admission to LICM for \$5 per person, simply by presenting an EBT card and photo ID at the box office. By reducing barriers to participation, LICM ensures that every family has the opportunity to learn, play, and grow together.

MILITARY FAMILIES

All year long, we offer free admission for one active-duty member, retired military member, or their spouse showing military ID, plus one child.

For more information on the Access at LICM programs, please visit:
<https://licm.org/access>



Leadership Sponsors



Congratulations to the
Long Island Children's
Museum on a fantastic
fundraising event!

Thank you for your
dedication to inspiring
creativity and curiosity in
young minds.

Your hard work and
passion are truly making
a difference in our
community!

Selby Drummond
& Steven Dubb

*"Play is the answer
to how anything new comes about."*

—Piaget



We are delighted to honor
Selby Drummond and Steven Dubb
and our dear friends
Gay Thomas and Jeff Hanson

Many thanks to our Cupcakes Co-Chairs,
Lisa Warren and Alexandra Marino
LICM Board Chair Scott Burman
and

Our brilliant, hardworking LICM Staff and Board!

*Roni Kohen-Lemle
& Robert Lemle*

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Congratulations

Steven & Selby Dubb
on their 2025

Community Leadership Award



From Everyone at



*"Play is the answer
to how anything new comes about."*

—Piaget



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Selby Drummond and Steven Dubb
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Gay Thomas and Jeff Hanson*

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and*

Our brilliant, hardworking LICM Staff and Board!

Roni Kohen-Lemle & Robert Lemle

RECHLER PHILANTHROPY

CONGRATULATES

**SELBY DRUMMOND,
STEVEN DUBB,
GAY THOMAS,
AND JEFF HANSON**

ON THEIR AWARDS

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of
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The Long Island Children's Museum

Congratulations to this year's
Community Leadership Award Recipients
Steven Dubb & Selby Drummond,
along with The Great Friend to Kids Award
recipients Gay Thomas & Jeff Hanson
and The Long Island Association for being the
Inaugural Non-Profit Partner!

Alexandra & Michael
Marino

RESORTS WORLD NEW YORK CITY PROUDLY SUPPORTS

The Long Island Children's Museum



@resortsworldnyc RWNewYork.com




Congratulations

to

*Selby Drummond & Steven Dubb
on their 2025 Community Leadership
Award. Your support empowers us to
create brighter futures.*

*We salute and thank our amazing staff for
their brilliant efforts, which enrich the lives
of families and children!*

Lisa & Lewis Warren

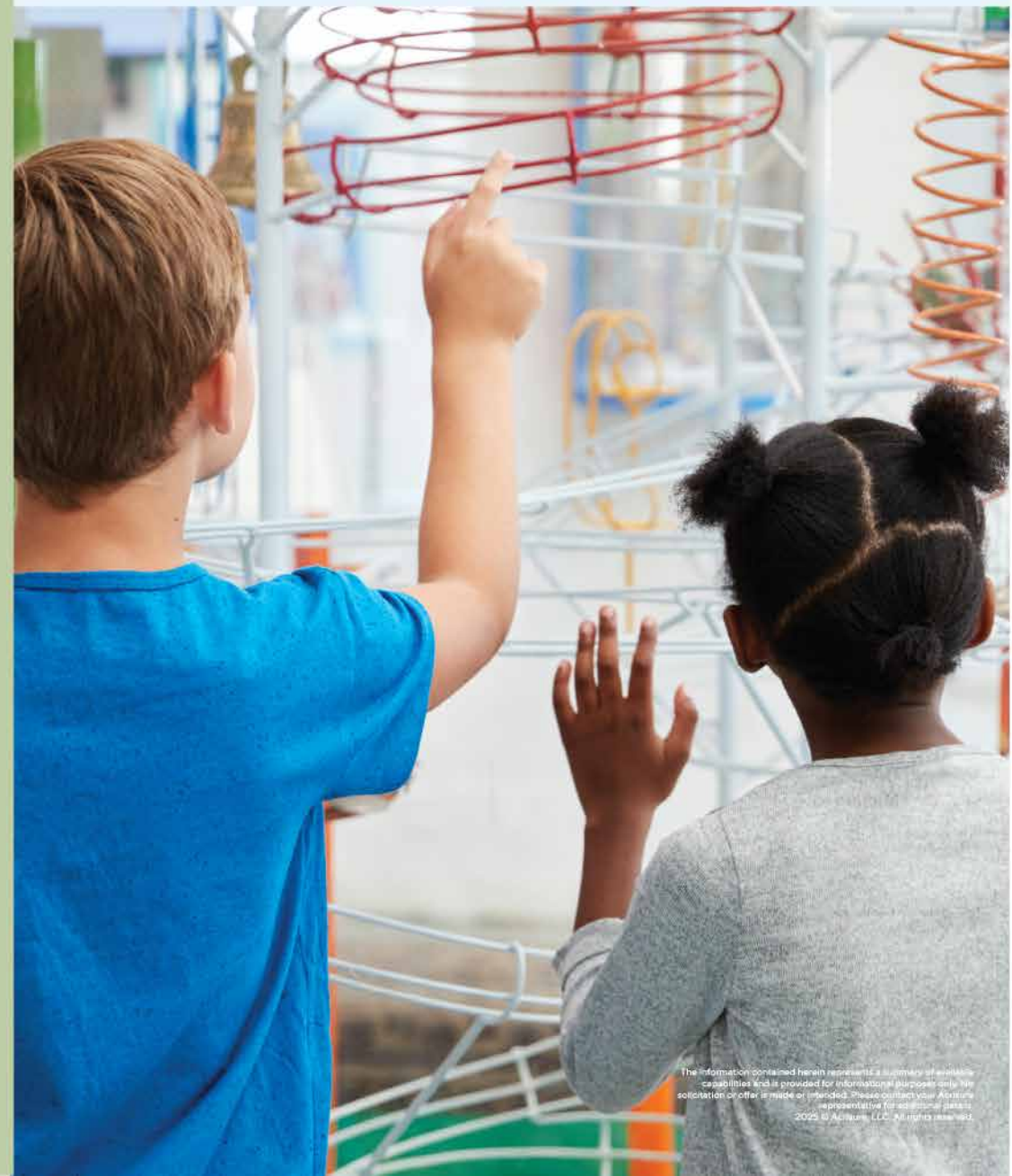
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Acrisure is proud to support the
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Steven and Selby Dubb!*



Bianca & Scott Burman

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That's why we're proud to support the **Long Island Children's Museum** in their mission to encourage collaboration and fuel our children's creativity, enabling them to discover personal passions of their own.

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whose programs
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The Bahnik Foundation

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Waste better.

Better innovation begins when
you reengineer waste into clean
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THANKS TO LISA WARREN, ALEXANDRA MARINO, GENEVIEVE DELLAFERA & THE ENTIRE GALA COMMITTEE FOR YOUR WORK TO MAKE TONIGHT A SUCCESS.

THANKS TO THE LICM BOARD FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE MUSEUM.

THANKS TO THE LICM STAFF FOR SPARKING IMAGINATIONS EVERY DAY.

LISA GREENE & RICHARD HAMBURGER

In honor of my brother
and sister-in-law,

Robert Lemle
&
Roni Kohen-Lemle

for their creative vision and tireless work
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A special congratulations to

Gay Thomas &
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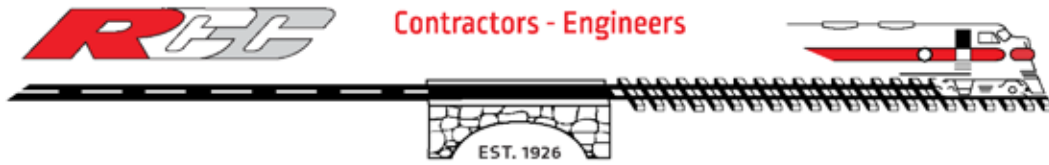
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We are proud to congratulate the esteemed honorees

Steven and Selby Dubb

Your dedication to the
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is an inspiration to us all.

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*Your Dedication and Devotion has been
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*Best Wishes,
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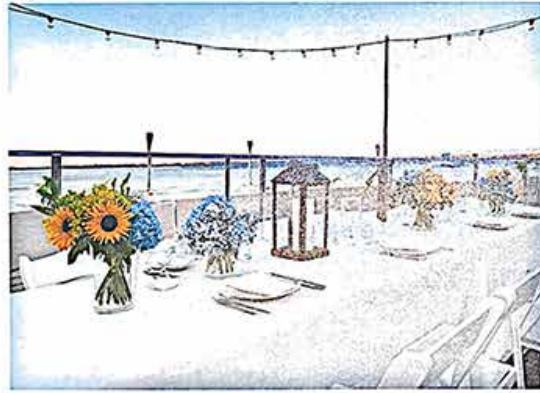
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Long Island Children's Museum

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