



Sarah Caruso President

For more than 25 years, the Minnesota Children's Museum has nurtured an environment where learning is a byproduct of children being children. As president of the Museum, Sarah is not only responsible for the overall management of the organization, but more importantly the stewardship of the Museum's mission of creating experiences that spark children's learning.

A mother of three, Sarah is a passionate believer that learning occurs in many ways and that play is an important component of child development. An active participant in the state and local discussion of early childhood learning, Sarah is a proponent of business community partnerships to advance a common goal.

Prior to joining the Museum in January 2004, Sarah was a strategic planning and marketing consultant at Northampton Partners, a firm she founded in 1999. Before starting Northampton Partners, Sarah spent 12 years at General Mills, where she was responsible for the management and marketing of consumer products including the company's flagship brands Wheaties and Cheerios.

Sara was drawn to the Museum because it was an opportunity to apply her leadership and business skills in a mission-based organization that serves children. Her leadership has had an immediate impact on the Museum's programming and heightened the Museum's role as a leader in early childhood development within the region.

Under Sarah's direction, the Museum entered its 25th year with unprecedented growth and a clear vision for the next quarter century. Key accomplishments include the completion of a \$10 million capital endowment campaign, expansion of the Museum's community partnerships, increased community participation in the Museum's access programs, renovation of the Our World Gallery and development of the several national traveling exhibits.

Actively involved in the Twin Cities nonprofit community, Sarah has served on Children's Theatre Company board of directors, chaired the PACER Center board of directors and currently serves on the Minnesota State Arts board of directors.

Sarah holds an M.B.A. from Stanford University and a B. A. in economics from Smith College.



Ann Boekhoff, Ed.D.
Director of Education and Exhibit Development

Through hands-on, interactive exhibits and activities that stimulate learning through experience, the Minnesota Children's Museum provides a balanced learning experience that supports the social-emotional, intellectual and physical development of children. As director of education and exhibit development at the Museum, Ann is responsible for the content development and evaluation of exhibits and programs.

With a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and extensive experience at a regular and special education public school, Ann has focused her career on fostering curriculum and learning experiences that nurture a child's full potential. An advocate for early childhood learning, Ann is keenly aware of the invaluable role experience and play has on the future success of a child. Impressed by how the Museum's programming "lets children take the lead in playful learning" and values learning through experience, Ann recognized that the Museum was a place where she could use her experience and passion to make a meaningful impact on Minnesota's children.

Ann joined the Museum in 2000 as the manager of school and group programs and in May 2006, assumed her current responsibilities. Since joining the Museum, her efforts have been instrumental in expanding the Museum's Head Start partnerships and services, expanding educational programming to address school needs and reviving the Museum's Summer Camp program for early learners to address.

An experienced educator, Ann has spent over 30 years working within the field of education, including extensive experience as a regular and special education teacher in the public schools, as well as the Museum Magnet School in St. Paul and teaching graduate courses in teacher education at Twin Cities universities. In addition to her Ed.D. from St. Thomas University, Ann has a M.S. in Education and a B.S. in Elementary Education from University of Wisconsin-River Falls.