



Arizona Museum for Youth

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## News Release

### TOYS: An Artistic Look of Playthings

at Arizona Museum for Youth

August 4 through November 25, 2007

Whether you are a toddler, child, teenager or adult, an important part of learning is playing with toys. Toys are more than amusement and have a profound influence on most aspects of life, including art. To highlight these whimsical masterpieces, AMY presents “TOYS,” an exhibition featuring paintings, sculptures, photographs and other artwork that depict playthings and games from the artist’s point of view.

Items on display include:

- Color photographs of the classic Troll doll in playful settings by Sue Cullumber of Chandler
- Nostalgic toy paintings by the late Apache Junction artist Bob Luby
- Oil painting by Phoenix artist Deborah McMillion Nering, depicting toys and humans in surreal situations

In the Art Gallery, art projects and age-appropriate Art Stops will allow visitors to play around with the ideas of art-making, toys and games.

Young artists and designers can:

- Learn an ancient African game involving counting and strategy
- Make and decorate their own spinning top or
- Create an original board game with game pieces and chance cards

“Toys connect us to our own past, providing meaningful memories of childhood interests, traditions and relationships that continue into adulthood,” says AMY Curator Jeffery Morris.

In collaboration with the Mesa Fire Department, AMY is collecting new toys for the annual Toys for Tots Charity Drive. Toys can be dropped off at the AMY front desk and the Mesa Fire Department will distribute them to children in December. The museum will also host a special exhibit preview event for members of the media Aug. 3 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Join us for “TOYS” and experience the fun and fancy of playthings!

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*Located at 35 N. Robson in downtown Mesa, the Arizona Museum for Youth (AMY) is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 12 p.m. through 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for everyone 1 and over. AMY is a fine art museum for children and families that hosts several changing exhibitions each year and features ArtVille, a special art-town for kids less than 4 years of age. Please visit [www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com](http://www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com) or call 480.644.2468 for current information.*