



**Arizona Museum  
for Youth Friends, Inc.**

A non-profit organization to benefit the Arizona Museum for Youth

**Do you believe? Do you believe in the power of imagination and creativity to change lives and develop young minds? We do at the Arizona Museum for Youth (AMY). We want to continue to be a place where children and their families can spend quality, creative time learning together. AMY Friends want to continue our legacy for another 30 years. We need your help now more than ever.** The national economy will take time to stabilize. Locally, the City of Mesa is cutting our budget by 30% starting Jan. 1, 2009 due to revenue shortfalls. Ironically this is occurring at the same time we launch our fourth decade and in the wake of the 50% budget cut we experienced in 2005. The Arizona Museum for Youth Friends and staff have truly valued your support and enthusiasm over the past 30 years. We want to be sensitive to the economics of our nation and how this crisis is affecting each of you individually. Despite the current local and national crisis however, we ask you to think about supporting the future of our children. With funding for arts in schools dwindling, there is an even greater need for children to receive the art education they deserve; art education which is essential to their neurological, cognitive and social development.

*Did you know...*



Family engaged in art activity at AMY

- The brain is the least developed organ at birth?
- 90% of the brain's growth occurs from birth to five years old?
- A baby's brain doubles in weight from birth to age three?
- Children who don't play much develop brains that are 20% to 30% smaller than normal?
- Hands-on interactive play and creative expression form connections in the brain that are the groundwork for future learning and "possibility thinking"?

**With your support,  
the Arizona Museum for Youth can continue to  
inspire children of all ages to experience their world differently  
through art, creativity and imagination  
for another 30 years or more!**

*We will continue to:*

- Offer world-class art exhibitions to children and their families
- Educate children and families about the basic principles and elements of art
- Be a place for children of all ages to discover more about themselves and the world around them through creative expression
- Provide an environment like no other in the world for families to engage in hands-on, interactive, and creative play together



Nic DeLisio with "Professor Cat"

- Provide tours to 10 ,000 school children annually
- Partner with the City of Mesa, local corporations, foundation and individual supporters such as you, since the need for the arts in a child's life is still significant.

**In honor of our 30 years please consider a gift of \$30, \$300 or \$3,000. Make your donation online at [www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com/friends.aspx](http://www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com/friends.aspx)**

Or if you'd prefer, mail it to us:

Arizona Museum for Youth Friends  
Attn: Lindsay Hochhalter, Development Assistant  
P.O. Box 77  
Mesa, AZ 85211



On behalf of the children and families whose lives are enriched by the Arizona Museum for Youth, thank you very much for your generosity.

Gratefully,

*Deb Dahl*

*Sunnee Spencer*

Deb Dahl  
Board Chair

Sunnee Spencer  
Executive Director

*P.S. Please consider giving as much as you can for those who are unable to donate.*