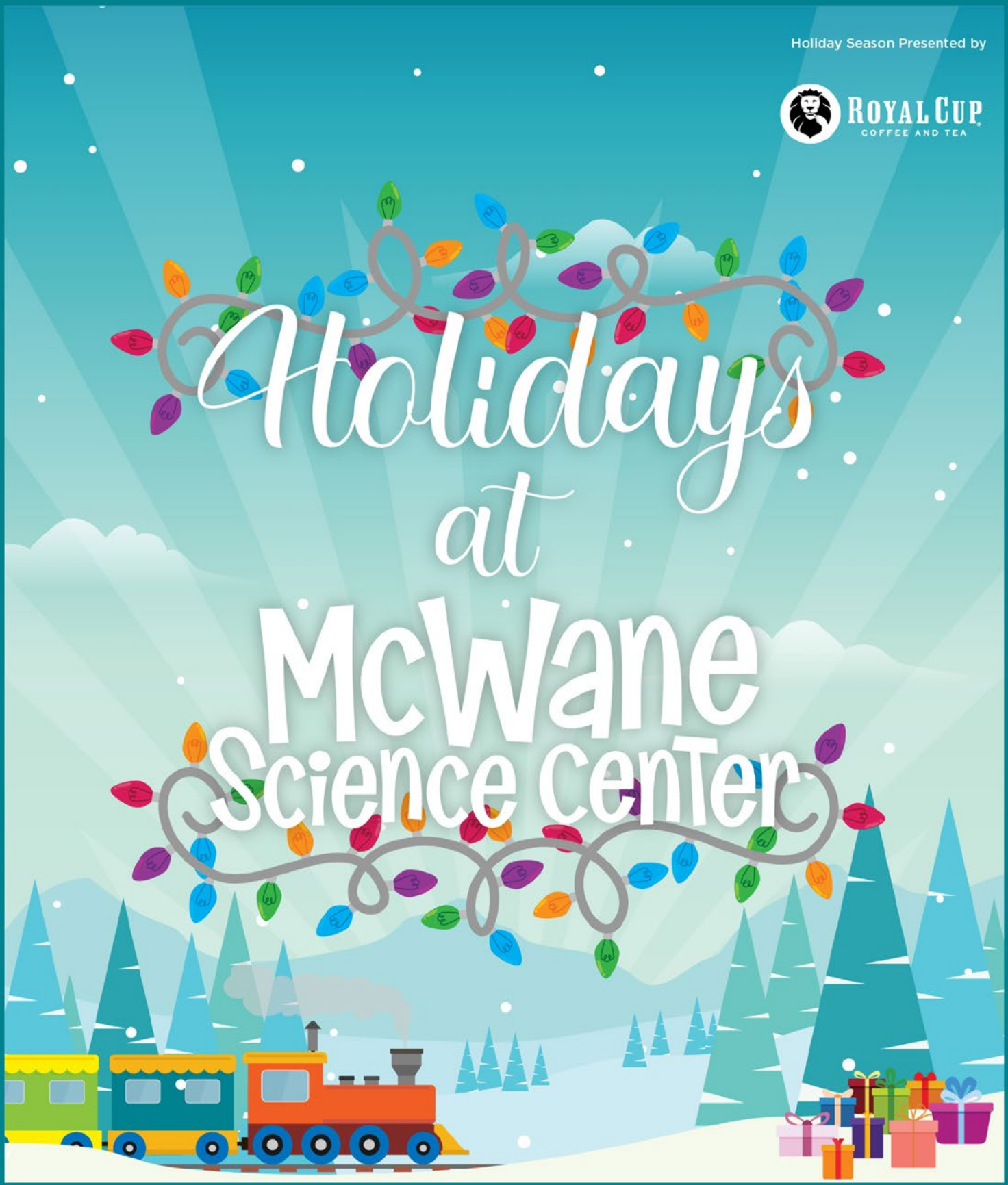
eureka!

WINTER ISSUE '22 & '23

Holiday Season Presented by

ROYAL CUP COFFEE AND TEA



McWane Science Center

200 19th Street North, Birmingham, AL 35203 ● (205) 714 - 8300 ● mcwane.org

Letter from the President

The holidays can be a magical time for families, but it can be stressful as well. There are parties at work and year-end activities at school. Holiday shopping for family, friends, teachers, coworkers, and others should be a pleasure but can often become a stressful time. We can become so caught up in the busy-ness of the holidays that we lose sight of the important things, like spending time with the people you love.

We invite you to take a break from the holiday stress and spend some "together time" with your family at McWane. We offer so many options, so choose one or more that appeal to your family and join us for a special day with the kids. Enjoy the Magic of Model Trains exhibit and test your observation skills by exploring the scenes along the railroads. Attend The Grinch's Jingle Bell Party for snacks and craft activities your kids will love. Take a family outing to watch The Polar Express or The Grinch in our IMAX Theater. A day at McWane can be a wonderful way to enjoy your nuclear family or to entertain extended family visiting for the holidays.

McWane can help with your gift-giving needs as well. Our Cool Stuff Store has many unique gifts for all ages that are both fun and educational. We have books, plush toys, dress-up ideas, science kits, model trains, dinosaurs, and so much more. For a gift that keeps on giving all year long, a McWane membership can be a wonderful surprise for grandparents, family, and friends.

Regardless of how you spend them, I hope your holidays are filled with the joy and magic of the season!

Amy

Amy Templeton
President and CEO

Contents

COMING SOON TO IMAX
Check out all the amazing movies we have in store for you to enjoy

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS
Find out how you can be a part of our wonderful non-profit!

NEW EXHIBIT SNEAK PEEK
Get a look at the new exhibit coming to McWane Science Center

HOLIDAYS AT MCWANE
It's the most wonderful time of the year for science, learning, & fun!

BEAKER BASH 2023
Explore Beaker Bash's new theme!

BUILD-A-MEMBERSHIP
Memberships at McWane get a revamp; Learn more today!

2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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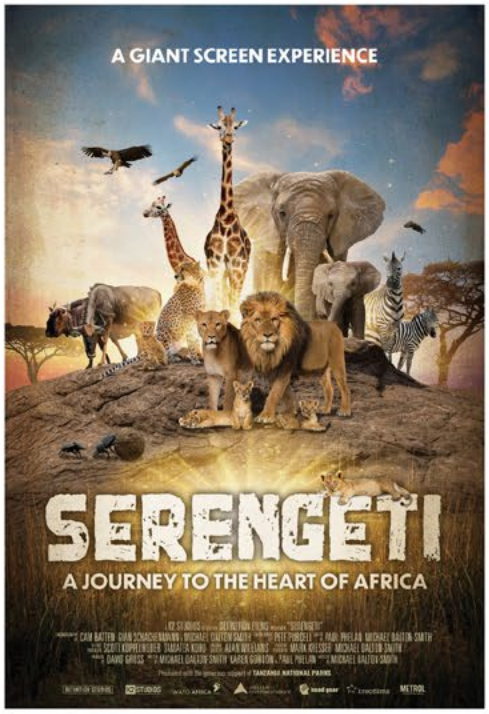
McWane Science Center is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to spark wonder and curiosity about our world through hands-on science experiences

NOW SHOWING IN IMAX

WINGS OVER WATER

Narrated by Michael Keeton, Wings Over Water comes soaring into the IMAX Dome Theater to tell the story of the epic journeys of three amazing bird families – the Sandhill Crane, the Yellow Warbler, and the Mallard Duck. Audiences will be captivated by the triumphs and challenges of these remarkable creatures that defy all odds and soar across mountains, deserts, cities, and forests as they head home to raise their young.



SERENGETI

Life happens on the Serengeti at an unprecedented scale. It's home to most of Africa's iconic animals, and hosts one of the world's greatest natural events — the annual wildebeest migration. Nature has orchestrated a perfect symphony in which every species has a very distinct role to play in a larger story — the balance of an entire ecosystem. We'll see it through the eyes of the youngest members of our animal cast as they imitate their parents, and learn about the mighty roles they'll play. Prepare to be awed by this film and learn how nature works in one of the world's greatest ecosystems.

UPCOMING FEATURE FILMS

Titanic 25th Anniversary Re-release in IMAX

February 10

Titanic is a 1997 American epic romance and disaster film directed, written, produced, and co-edited by James Cameron. Incorporating both historical and fictionalized aspects, it is based on accounts of the sinking of the RMS Titanic and stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet as members of different social classes who fall in love aboard the ship during its ill-fated maiden voyage. The IMAX release of *Titanic* will be digitally re-mastered into the image and sound quality of The IMAX Experience®. The crystal-clear images coupled with IMAX's customized theatre geometry and powerful digital audio create a unique environment that will make audiences feel as if they are in the movie.

IMAX® DOME

IMAX SEASON PRESENTED BY

REGIONS

THE GRINCH
DEC 2

THE POLAR EXPRESS
DEC 9

ARCTIC: OUR FROZEN PLANET
SPRING 2023

PLAN AHEAD

dec

Computer Science Education Week

Dec 7-11

It began with punch cards, dial-up modems, and AOL discs. Now, we carry computers more powerful than those used in the Apollo missions in our pockets. Coding and computer science have come a long way and learning about them is for everyone. This Computer Science Education Week, we'll chip in with plugged and unplugged hands-on programming and Hour of Code workshops.

Camp McWane

Holiday Camps Start

Dec 27-30

Bring your curiosity and sense of wonder for hands-on, minds-on, science and fun! McWane camps offer further inquiry into science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) topics for children 4 to 11 years old. Campers learn about the deep oceans, journey into outer space, build robots, spend time with our McWane animals and more. **Call 205-714-8414 to register today. For more information, visit mcwane.org/education/camps/winter**

Noon Year's Eve

Dec 31

What's a New Year's celebration without a little sparkle, some fizz, and an explosion or two? Ring in the New Year a few hours early at McWane's Noon Year's Eve celebration!

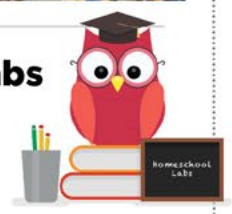
jan

Summer Teen Volunteer Applications Open

Jan 1

Spend an unforgettable summer as a Summer Teen Volunteer at McWane! Our teen volunteers share their passion for science through hands-on demonstrations at engagement stations throughout the Adventure Halls and in our summer camps. Applications open in January and close April 1st.

Homeschool Labs



Every Wed in Jan

Every Wednesday in January, McWane provides home school students with opportunities to explore science in unique and fun ways! **To register, call (205) 714-8414. For more information, visit mcwane.org/education/homeschool/labs**

Sci Cafe

Birmingham SciCafe

Jan 17

6pm at the Lumbar

The Last Generation to See the Night Sky: Spurring Home and Community Action Toward Healthy, Wonder-Inducing Nighttime Lighting by Dr. Michelle Wooten

Explore Your World Exhibit Opening

Jan 21

Complete a quest across land and sea as you explore the world with our upcoming traveling exhibit!

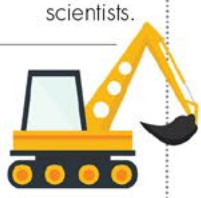
feb

History Makers: Black History Month

Every weekend in Feb

Celebrate Black History Month each weekend in February as we showcase the rich and diverse history of STEM and its even more diverse present and future. Hands-on programs throughout the day will highlight the lives and accomplishments of Black scientists.

Big Machines Day



Feb 11

Check out big machines supplied by Craneworks and learn the science behind them. We will also be celebrating women as the builders of strong foundations in our communities in honor of International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

Engineers Week

Feb 22-25

From medicine to space exploration, chemistry to architecture, engineers are the innovators meeting the challenges of the future. Build your engineering skills during a week filled with Engineering Design Challenges. What problems will you solve?

BEAKER BASH '23

Beaker Bash

Feb 26

Join us for a free, community event aimed at inspiring your inner scientist! Keep an eye out on our social media to learn how to register.

SUMMER TEEN VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS OPEN SOON

This fall, we welcomed some amazing volunteers into our School Year Teen Program. They balanced homework, ACT prep, extra-curriculars, and more to make time to volunteer at McWane. They have made such a huge impact and have gotten to work on developing their science communication skills.

School Year Teen applications may be closing soon, but students in 6th-12th grade will have an opportunity to apply to the 2023 Summer Teen Program early next year.

Summer Teen applications will be open from January 1st to April 1st and all interviews will take place in the month of April.

If you are interested in improving your communication skills, learning how to work with a team, and want to pursue your STEM related interests, you should apply for the Summer Teen Volunteer Program!

Applications will open on January 1st and can be found at mcwane.org/volunteer/teen

For more information, contact Anna Fuqua at (205) 714-8254 or email afuqua@mcwane.org

UPCOMING EXHIBIT

Explore your World

Join the quest across land, sea, and space.

January 21, 2023

Complete a quest across land and sea as you explore the world with McWane Science Center and our upcoming traveling exhibit, Explore Your World!

Maps are created using layers of data to help us understand the world around us and guide how we interact with it. Mapping and navigation have been at the heart of the human experience since the dawn of our species, underpinning advancements in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) over millennia. Explore Your World, an Imagine Exhibit, will arrive at McWane Science Center in January 2023 and will educate our visitors all the way through May. McWane Science Center is excited to spark an interest in geography, cartography, earth and space science, engineering, math, and physics. We look forward to exploring with you in 2023.

In Explore Your World visitors will use different navigational tools and techniques to:

- Learn about coordinates as you play a giant game of Battleship
- Navigate the earth using the stars
- Use sonar to scan your friends
- Investigate shipwrecks
- Pilot a simulated underwater vehicle
- Escape a virtual building during an emergency
- Create your own 3D globe or 2D Map
- Build your own town
- And so much more!

ittybitty MAGIC CITY CORNER

Bring Winter Indoors with This Snowman Craft!

Temperatures are dropping and fireplaces are glowing – it's a great time to stay inside and stir up some science! Using a few household ingredients, you and your little one can create a non-melting snowman from the comfort of your kitchen.

You Will Need

For Snow Dough:
- 1 cup hair conditioner (unscented)
- 2 cups corn starch
- 1-3 drops peppermint extract

For Decorating:
- Googly eyes
- buttons
- twigs
- ribbon
- orange pipe cleaner

Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, mix corn starch, peppermint extract, and hair conditioner until well incorporated.
2. Ditch the spoon and knead the dough until it is similar in feel to play dough. This dough will feel a bit softer.
3. Assemble and decorate your snowman using your choice of items.

Join us this season in the Tinker Shop as we mix sugar cookie slime, explore papermaking, and experiment with holiday light circuits!
The Tinker Shop is located in Itty Bitty Magic City and is open Thursdays and Saturdays from 2:30-3:30. Program themes vary. Museum admission required.

McWane Science Center

Save the Date!
February 11, 2023

BIG MACHINES DAY

CRANEWORKS

Your construction crew—McWane Science Center and Craneworks—are gearing up once again to bring Big Machines Day to Birmingham, Alabama. On February 11, 2023, visit McWane Science Center and build an incredible day of science, learning, and fun.

Big Machines Day is from 10 am to 4 pm, and participation is included with the cost of admission.

Holidays at McWane Science Center 2022

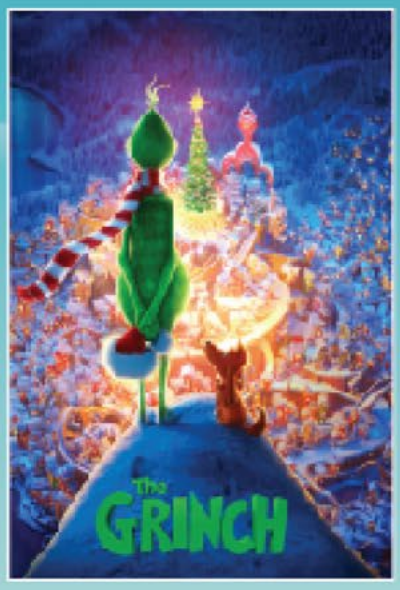
The Magic of Model Trains

All aboard once again for McWane Science Center's 17th season of the Magic of Model Trains exhibit. The Magic of Model Trains is a holiday tradition, and McWane Science Center is excited to invite you to ride along with us this winter. Discover trains of every shape and size inside this awe-inspiring exhibit of locomotive displays. No detail is too small for our miniature landscapes. Join us, and

- Be your own conductor
- Play "I Spy," the Magic of Model Train edition
- Fly through the air on the McWane Zipline
- Take a ride on the McWane train

Yes, you read that right.
The McWane Zipline and McWane Train are back! You will find the Magic of Model Trains exhibit now through December 31st on the 3rd floor. So don't miss it!

Holiday Movies in IMAX



The Grinch (2018)
Playing December 2-3 & 16-23

The Grinch (voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch) and his loyal dog, Max, live a solitary existence inside a cave on Mount Crumpet. His main source of aggravation comes during Christmastime when his neighbors in Whoville celebrate the holidays with a bang. When the Whos decide to make Christmas bigger and brighter, the disgruntled Grinch realizes there is one way to gain peace and quiet. With help from Max, the green grump hatches a scheme to pose as Santa Claus, steal Christmas and silence the Whos' holiday cheer once and for all.

The Polar Express (2004)
Playing December 9-11

Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis ("Forrest Gump"; "Cast Away") reunite for "Polar Express," an inspiring adventure based on the beloved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg. When a doubting young boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.

Other Holiday Events

The Magic of Model Trains is not the only holiday experience happening in December. **Register for our holiday day camp celebrations, visit the museum on December 31st for our fun and explosive Noon Year's Eve event, and get your tickets now for Grinch's Jingle Bell Party—occurring on December 3 at 11 am.**

McWane Science Center's 2022 Magic of Model Trains exhibit and holiday celebrations are presented by Royal Cup Coffee and Tea. Together with you, we are sparking wonder and curiosity through science.

Holiday Season Presented by

ROYAL CUP COFFEE AND TEA

McWane Science Center

BEAKER BASH '23

i am a scientist

Save the Date: Feb 26, 2023

It's the A-HA moments when a child connects with a science topic; the WOW moments when a child explores science with all of their senses; the AWE moments when they witness science in action; and the WOOHOO moments when they complete a science challenge. These are the moments that inspire tomorrow's leaders in science, and together, we will create these moments during Beaker Bash 2023.

Beaker Bash 2023 will be a little different. This event will be a community event offered at no charge to individuals throughout our community, but registration will be required.

Registration will open in January 2023. Stay tuned to McWane Science Center's social media platforms and our website for more information on this new Beaker Bash experience, including how to register you and your family to attend.

Contact Miranda Springer at (205) 714-8219 or mspringer@mcwane.org for questions, and we look forward to helping you discover your inner scientist this February.

Get More Out of Membership at McWane!

With our new Build-a-Membership packages, you can create the membership that works best for you and your family. Some of the benefits of being a member at McWane Science Center includes:

- **FREE admission** to all four floors of the Adventure Halls for a full year
- **FREE PARKING** in McWane Science Center's parking deck (when attending MSC events)
- **20% DISCOUNT** on sweet gear in our gift shop, the Cool Stuff Store
- **10% DISCOUNT** on hip, healthy food in the Bean Sprouts café
- **FREE or DISCOUNTED ADMISSION** to over 300 science centers worldwide (ASTC*)
- **FREE SUBSCRIPTION** to Eureka, McWane Science Center's quarterly newsletter
- **FREE EMAIL UPDATES**
- **$1 OFF** all guest admission tickets
- **$1 OFF** all IMAX feature-length movies
- **$2 OFF** IMAX Educational Documentaries

Membership Types

Base Membership | $85
For **One Individual** to receive the member benefits listed on the left.

Movie Lovers Membership | $160
For **One Individual** to receive the member benefits listed on the left **AND** 18 free educational documentary IMAX credits.

Add-Ons

The Companion | $25
Add one named guest 18 years or older. ASTC Eligible. **MAX: 1**

The Tagalong | $30 (per additional guest)
Must be 18 years or older & accompanied by the Member. Not ASTC Eligible. **MAX: 2**

The Au Pair (Caregiver) | $35
Must be 18 years or older. Not ASTC Eligible. **MAX: 1**

Bringing the Kiddos | $5 (per child)
Must be under 18 years old. **MAX: 8**

To learn more about membership, email membership@mcwane.org or call (205) 714-8220

*ASTC Eligible: The ASTC Travel Passport program affords member benefits such as free general admission when you travel outside of your local area to other participating institutions.

Give the Gift of Science

It's the most wonderful time of year- to give gifts. But where do you start? McWane Science Center wants to make it easier on you this year. We have gifts that everyone will LOVE!

The Cool Stuff Store

The Cool Stuff Store has all your STEM gift giving needs this holiday season. From train sets & stuffed animals to science experiment kits, you can find something for everyone at the Cool Stuff Store. The best part is that you don't have to purchase admission to the museum to visit the Cool Stuff Store. **So stop by today for your holiday gifts!**

Gift Memberships

Give the gift of science, learning, and fun for a full year with a McWane membership. You can't go wrong with a McWane membership—it always fits, batteries never die, and memories last a lifetime! **Check off that gift list today and give the smartest gift in town.**

beansprouts®

A hip, healthy cafe at McWane Science Center

NOW OPEN!

Organic espresso bar • Soups, salads & sandwiches • Pizza
Award-winning kids' menu • Smoothies • Grab-n-go snacks

The beansprouts' PhilosoPEA:

SPARK KIDS' APPETITES FOR YUMMY, GOOD-FOR-YOU FOOD;
AND DELIGHT GROWN-UPS WITH A HAPPIER MEALTIME!