

## It's Finally Here: Adventure Forest Opening Date Announced by Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus

*The already-iconic outdoor adventure course, viewable from I-25, gives families a new place to play that embodies the Colorado outdoors with challenging physical elements and immersive art.*



DENVER, Colo. (May 6, 2019) – Drumroll please... After much anticipation, the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus is thrilled to announce their major new exhibit, Adventure Forest, will officially open to the public on June 3, 2019 at 9 am. The nationally recognized organization can't wait to welcome guests to this wholly unique outdoor experience that embodies their mission to champion the wonder and joy of childhood like never before.

Construction on the \$2.3 million exhibit began in June 2018. The Museum's exhibit design team worked in collaboration with Bonsai Design, a firm specializing in aerial adventure courses, Denver Parks and Recreation and artist, Wes Sam-Bruce, to bring the 500 ft. long outdoor aerial course to life.

The bright, bold, *enormous* structure is begging to be explored by kiddos - as long as they're at least 5 years old or 44" tall - and their grown-ups. Various climbing routes, rope swings, a glass and log bridge, 70 ft slides and a tippy top 360-degree lookout that sits over 90 feet above the banks of South Platte River are just some of the ways that children can challenge themselves and enjoy free-spirited play inside Adventure Forest – all in Colorado's fresh air and sunshine.

“We wanted to create something unlike anything in the city with Adventure Forest. We know it has taken longer than expected, but we promise, it will be well worth the wait,” says Mike Yankovich, Museum President and CEO. “This breathtaking experience will inspire kids to be brave and believe in themselves, get their hearts pumping and remind them that outdoor play is way more fun than looking at a screen.”

In addition to the physical and mental challenges, Wes Sam-Bruce’s fully immersive art installation, “a world within a world,” is inspired by the interconnectedness of the natural world and humankind, and creates a rich, visually stunning environment for curiosity, discovery and wonder.

“My work is a tribute to the natural world, specific to Colorado. I hope it acts as a seed for children to be more inquisitive, open, to listen, and inspire them to treat Earth like a friend,” Wes Sam-Bruce said.

The Adventure Forest experience will be included in Museum admission, free for members. Leading up to the public opening on June 3, there are exclusive members-only, rsvp-required sneak peeks from May 18 – 28. **Children must be 5 years old or 44” to climb** and everyone should come dressed to scramble, crawl, swing and slide in closed-toe shoes. To fully prepare for a visit, the Museum recommends guests review the Adventure Forest rules and frequently asked questions available on their website.

### **About Bonsai Design**

Bonsai Design is a Design-Build firm based out of Grand Junction, Colorado, with 15 years of experience in the Aerial Adventure Course Industry, having designed and built over 65 installations serving over one million individual participant experiences. Adventure Forest is a unique, artistic and unconventional project that fulfills the demand for creating something new and experiential. Participants will have a completely new experience navigating this park that utilizes visual and tactile elements to stretch the imagination and engage the senses.

### **About Wes Sam-Bruce**

Wes Sam-Bruce’s favorite things to create are exploratory installations which act as living metaphors to reveal the deep connections and mystery between ourselves, others and with nature. His work is a blend of fact and fiction, and he likes to describe himself as a “magic maker” or “professional kid.” Recent projects include an exhibition titled, *Cavernous: The Inner Life of Courage* at Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (Mass Moca) and the permanent exhibit, *The Wonder Sound* at The New Children’s Museum in San Diego. See more of his artwork and adventures on Instagram @wes\_sam\_bruce or on the web at [www.livethecuriouslife.com](http://www.livethecuriouslife.com).

### **About the Children’s Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus**

The mission of the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus is to create extraordinary experiences that champion the wonder and joy of childhood. They believe in kid-powered learning and every day, their expertly designed exhibits and programs open doors for Colorado's curious young minds to express what they know and to discover, create and explore more - on their own terms.

Since 1973, the Children’s Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus has served the metro-Denver community as a learning institute dedicated to the education and growth of young children and their

caregivers. The Museum provides rich play experiences and a dynamic learning environment for children to joyously learn through innovative and interactive hands-on exhibits, engaging daily programming and year-round special events. Last year, they served 558,000 children and their grown-ups.

The Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus is a 501(c)(3), private non-profit organization, and a Tier II SCFD member.

Note: Please use "Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus" in all publications on first reference and Children's Museum or Museum thereafter.

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