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Explora will welcome back visitors on June 1, 2021!

Designated a “recreational facility” on the State’s red/yellow/green framework, Explora has been waiting patiently to re-open its doors to New Mexico students and families. Closed since March 14, 2020, the re-opening has been a long time coming! Now, with the recent move of Bernalillo County to “green” and now “turquoise,” Explora is putting the finishing touches on its indoor and outdoor exhibit spaces and increasing staff, in order to safely welcome back visitors in a limited capacity on June 1, 2021 (50% capacity if the County remains “turquoise.”) Visitors can expect to see a brand new exhibition, called *Nature’s Notes*, along with their earlier favorites, like the bubble table, the air rockets, and the *Studio Inventivo* Maker Space.

Currently, the Explora team is wrapping up a suite of spring semester programs they’ve been holding for early childhood learners, home schoolers, community partner organizations, and more. Explora Summer Camp will begin on-site at Explora on June 7, 2021, and virtual programs will continue to be offered, as well. Explora also will host summer camps at the Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum and at the Larry P. Abraham Agri Nature Center. All in all, Explora summer camps will provide summer-rich STEAM learning for over 1,500 children.

Explora executive director, Joe Hastings, says, “The Explora team can’t wait to see our visitors and members back in the building and to hear all of the joyous sounds of discovery and learning!”

A lot has been happening at Explora while the museum was closed—including a major construction project along 18th Street. When you return for your next visit, you’ll notice a big change as Explora prepares to open X Studio, a new 8,000 square foot STEM workforce development center, designed specifically for teens. Kristin Leigh, Explora deputy director and director of administration and advancement, explains that X Studio is Phase One of Explora’s master plan to develop a Cradle through Career STEAM Learning Campus around its Sawmill/Old Town location. X Studio will be a one-stop shop for teens to explore, hang out, and discover pathways to futures that only they can imagine. Programs and initiatives at the new STEAM Learning Campus will improve educational outcomes, drive economic development, and boost family and community prosperity.

About Explora: Explora is a science center and children’s museum in Albuquerque, with a mission of creating opportunities for inspirational discovery and the joy of lifelong learning through interactive experiences in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). Explora serves thousands of people of all backgrounds each year and is dedicated to improving New Mexico’s educational and economic outcomes. For information, visit www.explora.us or contact explora@explora.us.