



Ideas You Can Touch
Ideas que puedes tocar



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Acclaimed 2022 Montezuma Ball Benefits Explora:

Albuquerque, NM– [Explora](#) is honored to partner with [Heritage Hotels and Resorts](#) as the primary beneficiary of its annual gala event, the Montezuma Ball. Junior Achievement of New Mexico will be the secondary beneficiary.

Joe Hastings, Executive Director of Explora, says, “Explora is thrilled to partner with Heritage Hotels and Resorts and Junior Achievement to highlight and celebrate the power of hands-on learning for changing outcomes for students and families in New Mexico. The Ball allows us to celebrate with our generous supporters and lean in to make change possible.”

The Montezuma Ball is steeped in local tradition, having begun over a century ago in 1902 as part of the New Mexico Territorial Fair. This celebration continued annually until the last historic Ball of 1968, held at the Alvarado Hotel in Albuquerque. 32 years later, Heritage Hotels and Resorts restored this New Mexico affair to inaugurate its new Alvarado Ballroom at Hotel Albuquerque. Since then, Montezuma Ball has raised millions of dollars for deserving nonprofits across New Mexico, including Accion (now DreamSpring), Museum of NM Foundation, WESST, Animal Humane of New Mexico, KIMO Foundation, and countless others.

This year’s event takes place on November 19 at Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town and includes an exquisite dinner prepared by Chef Gilbert Aragon, an exciting live auction and raffle, after-party dancing, and authentic mission moments that promise to inspire guests with the power of providing our children access to high-quality STEAM learning opportunities.

Attendance at this year's event will support Explora's *Next Great Minds* campaign to develop a Cradle through Career STEAM Learning Campus in the Old Town/Sawmill neighborhood. The Campus will include Explora; X Studio, Explora's new STEAM workforce development center for teens (opening January 2023); and Brillante Early Learning Center (currently in development). Planned with community input and strategic partnerships, Explora's Cradle through Career STEAM Learning Campus will improve educational outcomes, drive economic development, and improve family and community prosperity.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.explora.us/about/montezuma-ball

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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.