



Amythyst Marciano, Marketing/Communications Mgr
amarciano@explora.us, 505.582.9720

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 2023

**Explora Celebrates 20th Anniversary with two months of festivities
for families of all ages!**

Albuquerque, NM– Explora: New Mexico’s beloved science center and children’s museum renowned for progressive STEAM engagement through creative exhibits, programming, camps, events, partnerships, statewide outreach and more celebrates its 20th anniversary together with the community in a delightful series of events scheduled during December 2023 through January 2024. We welcome first-time visitors, lifelong residents, and families of all ages to enjoy this wide array of festivities together:

- *Friday, December 1, 2023: 5-9 pm. Old Town Holiday Stroll*, sponsored by the City of Albuquerque. Explora helps you get into the holiday spirit by joining local vendors to celebrate the season. Stop by Explora to enjoy hot cocoa and unique exhibits as you browse one-of-a-kind, 20th-anniversary Explora branded gifts in our STEAM-themed shop! Free with admission.
- *Saturday, December 2, 2023: 10-1 pm. Meet A Scientist at Explora*: engage with local scientists of different backgrounds and disciplines from your community, learning how STEAM has helped Albuquerque thrive for 20 years and beyond! Free with admission.
5:15 pm. Nob Hill Twinkle Light Parade. This free, family-friendly event illuminates a mile-long stretch of Route 66 in Nob Hill. Cheer on Explora’s specially decorated entry, themed, “Twinkling into Twenty!”
- *Wednesday, December 13, 2023: 3-5 pm. Explora’s 20th Anniversary Celebration!* Commemorate the occasion with special 20th anniversary STEAM activities, fun, and hands-on demonstrations for the whole family to enjoy. Join Maker In Residence Amy Maestas for compelling art collaborations, create laser-cut custom 20th-anniversary party glasses, partake in our giant celebratory cookie treat, add photographs to our Memory Wall, and be sure to share new Facebook and Instagram moments with your friends! A \$2.00 donation gets your star or story slip added to our donation wall for all to see. Free with admission.

- *Friday, December 15, 2024: 6-9 pm. Teen Night at X Studio.* It's a Winter Wonderland Extravaganza featuring crafting, cocoa, 3-D printing of a 20-sided die, decorations galore, the coolest STEAM projects and holiday camaraderie for teens ages 13-19 at our new 8,000 square foot studio designed for teens, by teens! Free.
- *Sunday, December 31, 2023: 10-2 pm. Noon Year's Eve Celebration!* Bring on the New Year in a whole new way with a special celebration just for families at Explora. Join us for the balloon drop of 2024 with a 20th-anniversary theme tucked in, a special MC, and loads of fun! An annual favorite of the city! Advanced tickets only.
- *Sunday, January 7, 2024: (time needed). Explora Big Birthday Bash!* A special morning of festivities awaits members and donors as our way of saying "thank you!" Also, stay tuned for Explora member specials all throughout December and January, featured on our website, Facebook, Instagram, and weekly newsletter!
- *Friday, January 19, 2024: 6-9 pm. Adult Night, 20th Celebration with Complex Contraptions!* Join us for an extra special night highlighting steps and process. We will explore the science behind kinetic movement, energy transference, and all things Rube Goldberg. Can you make a 20-step contraption for our 20th birthday? Ages 18 and older only, advance tickets available.

Over these two months of gathering, celebration, learning, and fun, Explora aims to raise \$10,000 in event and donation proceeds to direct towards our ongoing and future Cradle Through Career, STEAM, and educational endeavors for both visitors to and residents throughout New Mexico.

###

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). Housing over 250 exhibits in 38,000 square feet of museum space, Explora serves thousands of people of all backgrounds each year and is dedicated to improving New Mexico's educational and economic outcomes