



Minnesota Children's Museum



April 20, 2020

Honorable Carla Nelson and Carrie Ruud  
Minnesota State Senate  
Room 3235 and 3233 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Honorable Jim Davnie and Leon Lillie  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
Room 443 and 367 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

Dear Senators Nelson and Rudd and Representatives Davnie and Lillie,

I am writing to you today to ask for your support in updating the respective education and legacy bills in both the House and Senate in order to maintain the legislative intent of funds going to a children's museum in Rochester.

In July 2020, our satellite museum in Rochester will formally separate from Minnesota Children's Museum (MCM) and become its own legal entity to be known as the Children's Museum of Rochester (CMOR). MCM is proud of having fostered a vibrant children's museum in Rochester and excited for CMOR's readiness to best serve their local community.

Both the MCM and CMOR boards have been thoughtfully planning this transition over the course of the last several years. Foremost in our joint priorities has been to ensure the success and future sustainability of CMOR.

The biannual education and legacy budgets appropriated funding to MCM to be used for the museum in Rochester. To maintain legislative intent, we are respectfully requesting an update to the bill language to redirect already appropriated funding from MCM directly to CMOR. Specifically, the funding contained in each of these bills are:

Department of Education Funding

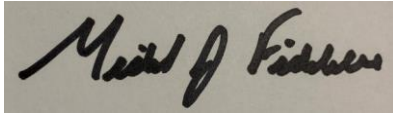
- \$50,000 in fiscal year 2021 to CMOR

Legacy Funding

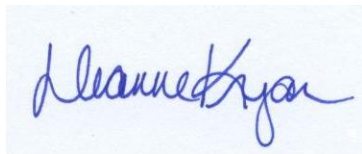
- \$150,000 in fiscal year 2021 to CMOR for interactive exhibits and outreach on arts and cultural heritage
- Under a separate grant, \$50,000 in fiscal year 2021 to CMOR to develop and fabricate a permanent STEM exhibit

Please let us know of any questions you may have as well as any other documentation you require.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light brown background. The signature reads "Michael Fiddelke" in a cursive script.

Michael Fiddelke  
Board Chair, Minnesota Children's Museum

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light blue background. The signature reads "Dianne Krizan" in a cursive script.

Dianne Krizan  
President, Minnesota Children's Museum