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**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF SANTA BARBARA
SELECTS DESIGN TEAM FOR NEW DOWNTOWN PROJECT**

April 21, 2008, Santa Barbara, CA:

The Board of Directors of the Children's Museum of Santa Barbara has selected the Design Team for its museum project proposed to be located at 125 State Street in the Central City Redevelopment Project Area. "We are very proud of this Design Team," said Board President Paul Selwyn. "Each is an award-winning professional that will bring prestige to our efforts. This is a Gateway Project for the City, on a very significant site, and this is the ideal Design Team for the job."

Barry Berkus and B3 Architects will design the building. His firm has designed more than 600,000 residences, resorts, master-planned communities, and commercial and institutional projects. Berkus projects have received over 450 design and planning awards from regional, national, and international competitions. His work has been featured in *USA Today*, *Architectural Record*, *Progressive Architecture*, *Art News*, and *Architectural Digest*, which named him one of the world's "Top 100 Architects" in 1991. In 2007, he was inducted into the California Building Industry Foundation's Hall of Fame. "B3 Architects is honored to participate in the visioning and design of this wonderful new museum dedicated to the children of Santa Barbara," said Mr. Berkus.

Arcadia Studio was selected to do the landscape design for the Children's Museum. President Bob Cunningham, upon learning the news, said: "All of us at Arcadia Studio are very enthusiastic about the prospect of helping the Children's Museum become a reality in the very near future. On a more personal note, I have visited many children's museums in the last few years and I can't wait to visit the Children's Museum of Santa Barbara with my grandsons." With offices in Santa Barbara and Arizona, Arcadia Studio has won hundreds of awards for landscape design featuring innovation and sustainability.

The Children's Museum Board of Directors conducted a nationwide search for just the right exhibit design firm. They sent out a Request for Proposals to 40 exhibit design firms and received proposals from 19. They narrowed the list to four firms, which were invited to Santa Barbara to make a presentation to the Board. After much deliberation, the design/build team of Gyroscope, Inc. and Creative Machines was selected.

Based in Oakland, Gyroscope is a full-service museum planning and exhibit design company with experience designing exhibits for science, natural history, and children's museums around the world. Relevant projects include the Chicago Children's Museum, Boston Museum of Science, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Bay Area Discovery Museum, Bishop Museum Science Adventure Center in Honolulu, and the California Science Center Amgen Center for Science Learning in Los Angeles. Upon learning Gyroscope had been selected, President Maeryta Medrano said: "We are impressed by the Board's vision for this project."

Creative Machines is a small Tucson firm that designs and fabricates interactive exhibits that encourage creativity, support social interaction, and inspire self-confidence. Creative Machines has teamed with Gyroscope, Inc. on the Bishop Museum Science Adventure Center and the Amgen Center for Science Learning at the California Science Center in Los Angeles. Other relevant projects include the Discovery Science Center in Santa Ana and the Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert in Palm Springs. After learning Creative Machines was selected, Founder Joe O'Connell said: "I look forward to pushing the envelope to design some very unique exhibits for the children of Santa Barbara."

Executive Director Sheila Cushman has been busy working out the details of a long-term ground lease for the site with the City's Redevelopment Agency. "Once the lease is signed, this amazing Design Team will get started creating a world-class Children's Museum that will make the entire community proud." To learn more, contact the Children's Museum at 805-680-7235 or sbchildrensmuseum@gmail.com or visit their website at <http://www.childrensmuseumsb.org/>.

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