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THADDEUS AND EMILY WONG DONATE \$900,000 FOR ART TO BE CELEBRATED AND COME ALIVE FOR CHICAGO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM VISITORS

Chicago, IL (March 24, 2021) — Today, Chicago Children's Museum announces a \$900,000 gift from Thaddeus and Emily Wong to realize the delivery of a new, immersive art experience, created in collaboration with Hebru Brantley and to ensure that art programming will remain vibrant and alive when the museum reopens to the public and continuing in the future.

“We could not be more grateful to Thad and Emily for their generous support of the cornerstone of Chicago Children’s Museum mission,” said President and CEO Jennifer Farrington. “Their transformational gift will provide children the opportunity to develop their own creativity and self-expression through artistic exploration.”

The gift will support the reimagination of the art studio space in collaboration with Hebru Brantley, an internationally recognized artist whose experiential and fine art installations feature childlike heroes inspired by his South Side of Chicago childhood. The museum’s Art Studio, to be renamed the Thaddeus and Emily Wong Art Studio, will be designed to reflect the artistic vision of Mr. Brantley. The museum’s educational staff will develop and offer engaging programming for children and families to complement this unique space.

Thaddeus Wong, the co-founder and co-CEO of @Properties and his wife Emily have been longtime friends to the museum. Mr. Wong has served on the Chicago Children’s Museum Board of Directors since 2014. This gift will be the Wongs’ largest donation to a single institution.

The collaboration between the museum and the Hebru Brantley studio is already underway to unveil the Thaddeus and Emily Wong Art Studio in the coming year.

About Chicago Children’s Museum

The mission of Chicago Children's Museum (CCM) is to improve children’s lives by creating a community where play and learning connect. CCM is dedicated to young children and the important adults in their lives. While the museum is closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, CCM continues to reach children and their caregivers through innovative partner programs like, Play Together, Learn Forever play kits distributed through Chicago Public Library branches, quality online play-filled programming, including the [Parenting Playbook](#) filled with tips, tricks and play-filled exploration for parents and caregivers, the

[Illinois Play Channel](#), a programming collaboration among Illinois children's museums, and live virtual programming hosted by our play and learning specialists on the museum's YouTube channel. For the latest information, visit chicagochildrensmuseum.org.

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