

Welcome back

BIRTHDAY PARTIES



We are so excited to have you visit the Museum of Life and Science as a part of our birthday party program! Starting on August 15, we will begin hosting parties. We have evaluated and updated our birthday party program to make celebrations as safe as possible for everyone. Please read the following carefully to ensure that your visit will be fun and enjoyable!

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE MUSEUM?

- The Museum has instituted new cleaning and sanitization procedures in accordance with guidelines by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
- We have added new sanitization stations around campus and encourage you to wash your hands frequently during your visit.
- We replaced Museum restroom faucets and soap dispensers with touch-free models.
- We removed highly tactile indoor exhibit elements where achieving sanitation standards is not possible.
- All staff and volunteers will be following the CDC and state of North Carolina's guidelines for face masks and are not allowed on-site if they have a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above or if they are feeling ill.
- We installed plexiglass dividers behind each train seat.
- We upgraded all main building Museum air filters to high efficiency, Merv-11.
- For a full list of what is different at the Museum and what to expect when you visit, please visit lifeandscience.org/museum-reopening-what-to-know#safety

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A BIRTHDAY PARTY PROGRAM?

- We've updated our birthday party procedures to increase the cleaning and sanitization of all high touch surfaces in the party room between groups.
- Materials and equipment used for deluxe programming themes will be cleaned and sanitized after every use.
- Deluxe and Standard birthday parties prior to June 1 will be held in an outdoor location. Effective June 1, all birthday parties will be held in one of our indoor classrooms and our outdoor locations will be available as an upgrade option on a first come first serve basis.
- There will be physical-distancing, hand-washing, and face-covering reminders spaced throughout the party room.
- Face coverings are allowed to be removed while actively eating and drinking indoors.
- Employees are not permitted to handle any food items or assist with close contact programs where physical distancing is not possible.
- For Deluxe parties only: Due to lack of social distancing, face masks are required to participate in the 30 minute educational program regardless of location and vaccination status.



WHAT TO EXPECT OF OUR VENDORS?

- Our exclusive vendors for pizza, cake, and other food items have all acknowledged and agree to abide by local health and government recommendations and restrictions as well as updated Museum policies.
- All vendors have completed trainings through Count On Me NC (a public health initiative developed by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, NC Restaurant & Lodging Association, NC State Extension, and Visit NC). These trainings focus on best practices and procedures recommended by local health officials for reopening businesses.
- All vendors on campus will be following the face-covering policy as required by law.



WHAT DOES THE MUSEUM EXPECT OF BIRTHDAY PARTY GUESTS?

- In accordance with the state of North Carolina's mask mandate and recommendations from the CDC, face masks for fully vaccinated guests are optional while outdoors. Face masks for non-vaccinated guests over the age of 5 are required when unable to distance 6 feet away from other groups.
- Face masks covering the nose and mouth are required indoors for everyone ages 5 and up regardless of vaccination status. Guests are expected to wear face masks unless they are actively eating or drinking indoors.
- If you, or anyone in your group, feels sick, has a fever, cough, or shortness of breath, please stay home.
- Please respect six-foot distancing between groups of guests and others while on campus. While in the party room, please keep six-foot distancing between people who are not in your family unit.
- Please be kind and respectful to others during your visit. New rules can be difficult to follow, especially for young children. That said, please try to cooperate with our rules to help make the reopening of the Museum and our birthday party program positive and enjoyable for everyone.



WHERE DO WE ENTER FOR THE BIRTHDAY PARTY AND OUR ALL-DAY ADMISSION INTO THE MUSEUM?

- Admission to the Museum on the party date will coincide with the party times listed below:
 - Parties at 9:30AM will receive admission to the Museum after the party is complete.
 - Parties at 12:00PM will receive admission beginning at 10AM on the date of the party.
 - Parties at 2:30PM will receive admission beginning at 12PM on the date of the party.
- All birthday party guests will enter the Museum through the middle doors of the main building. Please follow the signs for birthday parties!
- You will **NOT** need to reserve a timed ticket in advance of the party. Instead, please walk straight to our birthday party concierge in the main lobby and check-in with them at your correct entry time listed above.

***All policies are subject to change with reopening guidance set forth by the state of North Carolina, Durham County, and the City of Durham.**

Scientific evidence indicates that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending or hosting a birthday party at the Museum of Life and Science, you and any guests including minors in your care voluntarily accept all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree not to hold the Museum of Life and Science or any of their directors, officers, employees, or volunteers liable for any injury or illness.

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