# THE AAR DLES STORY

# Our mission is to spark imagination, discovery and learning through play.



### **How the Magic Began**

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF MARBLES,
WHERE WE CREATE ENVIRONMENTS AND EXPERIENCES
FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PLAY.

Like food or family, we believe play is one of the most important things in the world. When we opened Marbles Kids Museum in 2007, it was with the intent to bring more play into the community and humanity. We act as play's daily cheerleader, providing playful experiences that energize the human spirit and support children in developing the skills they need for facing challenges in childhood and into adulthood. Our exhibits and programs are created with a sense of fun, joy, innovation and originality, stimulating positive development, motivating learning and powering connections with others.





# Why Play?

PLAY IS SOMETHING THAT ALL CHILDREN HAVE IN COMMON, ACROSS ALL AGES AND ABILITIES.

Through play, children (and adults!) can find moments of connection, collaboration and understanding. Play and childhood go hand-in-hand, and there's magic–and research–that shows learning through play empowers children to become creative, confident and critical lifelong learners.



Play builds intellectual, social and emotional skills for success in learning and life.

Ready, set,

Connect

Play fosters
friendships,

AT MARBLES WE

PLAY

play leads to chriousing.

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### Why Marbles?

Here at Marbles, we design our exhibits and programs through a rigorous process that explores the ways that play and learning overlap and inform each other. When we say play, this can mean many kinds of experiences, from play that gives children the freedom to explore and discover, to programs and camps that are more structured. Regardless of whether a Marbles activity falls closer to free play or guided play, it will always embrace fun and the fundamentals that inspire a child's motivation to learn.





# **Equal Access to Play**

PLAY IS A GIFT WITH WIDE BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY.

Thanks to donor and membership support, Marbles has the honor of trying to spread this gift as far and wide as possible by keeping admission low so children can visit—and visit more often—and by providing free museum visits that uplift kids in need of support. We're proud to subsidize field trips to ensure that every child can attend, award camp scholarships to children at-risk and provide exclusive support and programming to children with special needs. Everything we do and every community organization we support is to is to empower ALL kids through





















# **Community at Play**

Marbles welcomes you to Raleigh's downtown district. We've become the place for downtown community gatherings and a focal point for community spirit.

Our bustling campus brings together people of all kinds. Our theater is a place to experience a feature film or a documentary. Our café is a place to grab a coffee or a healthy bite to eat. Our Corner Store retail shop on the ground floor contributes to the busy life of the neighborhood. We're a beloved place for people and a beloved place for play.



