



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
April 3, 2018

CONTACT
Shanna Sheline
(801) 456-5437, x124
ssheline@discoverygateway.org

DISCOVERY GATEWAY IS THE FIRST CHILDREN'S MUSEUM TO BE CERTIFIED SENSORY-INCLUSIVE BY KultureCity

Salt Lake City, UT – KultureCity, a non-profit organization dedicated to effecting change in the community for those with sensory needs, has partnered with Discovery Gateway Children's Museum to make all of the programs and events that the museum hosts to be sensory inclusive. This partnership will promote an accommodating and positive experience for all guests with a sensory issue visiting the museum.

The certification process entailed the staff at Discovery Gateway being trained by leading medical professionals on how to recognize those guests with sensory needs and how to handle a sensory overload situation. Sensory bags, equipped with noise canceling headphones, fidget tools, verbal cue cards and weighted lap pads will also be available to all guests at the museum who may feel overwhelmed by the environment. Families also have access to a dedicated sensory room for those who may need a quieter and more secure environment.

Sensory sensitivities or challenges with sensory regulation are often experienced by individuals with autism, dementia, PTSD and other similar conditions. One of the major barriers for these individuals is sensitivity to over stimulation and noise, which is a part of the environment in a venue like Discovery Gateway Children's Museum. With its new certification, Discovery Gateway is now better prepared to assist guests with sensory sensitivities in having the most comfortable and accommodating experience possible when visiting the museum.

"Our communities are what shape our lives and to know that Discovery Gateway Children's Museum is willing to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone, no matter their ability, is included in their community is amazing." Traci Johnson, Executive Director, KultureCity. *"This partnership embodies our mission to inspire children of all ages and abilities and builds on and expands our work to be inclusive of the whole community"*, Laurie Hopkins, Executive Director, Discovery Gateway Children's Museum.

About KultureCity:

KultureCity is a leading non-profit recognized nationwide for using their resources to revolutionize and effect change in the community for those with sensory needs; not just those with Autism. In the past year alone, KultureCity has created several sensory inclusive venues and events including the NFL Pro-Bowl, NFL Super Bowl, 16 NBA arenas, 5 NFL stadiums, 5 NHL arenas and countless zoos, science centers and aquariums across the nation.



About Discovery Gateway Children’s Museum:

Discovery Gateway Children’s Museum is located in downtown Salt Lake City at 444 West 100 South and is a contemporary discovery center offering 60,000 square feet of interactive, hands-on fun. The engaging workshops, programs, and exhibits invite the whole family to create, learn, and play together. It is the mission of Discovery Gateway to inspire children of all ages and abilities to imagine, discover, and connect with their world to make a difference. Join Discovery Gateway for monthly Autism Afternoons on April 24, May 29, and June 26 sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Foundation and experience this sensory awareness program in action. For information, please call (801) 456-5437, or visit us at www.DiscoveryGateway.org

###