Now Open

The Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience® at The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis is a new national model for family learning in health and fitness. The 7.5-acre, $38.5-million initiative offers hands-on indoor and outdoor sports-related experiences to inspire families to be active together—now and for a lifetime. It brings generations together to explore, in a noncompetitive way, a variety of sports and fitness activities using specially designed equipment and facilities that encourage people of all ages and abilities get into the game. (All Children’s Museum exhibits meet or exceed the standards set forth in the Smithsonian’s Accessibility Standards Manual.)

Addressing a National Challenge
The need for a fresh approach to encouraging physical activity is clear. Today, only one in three children is physically active every day, yet children spend, on average, seven and a half hours in front of a screen (e.g., TV, video games, or computers). Serious health risks, including inactivity, Type 2 diabetes, and heart disease are on the rise nationwide; meanwhile, 30 percent of school-age children are overweight or obese.

A World-Class Partner: Riley Children’s Health

The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis sought an expert partner that could help inspire all ages to adopt healthy habits, and found that partner in Riley Children’s at Indiana University Health. Nationally ranked as a top children’s hospital by U.S. News & World Report and the only nationally ranked children’s hospital in Indiana, Riley Children’s Health believes in the core values of keeping children and families healthy, which can be done by showing the impact physical activity has on health and well-being through interactive experiences that get everyone moving.

Hours

The Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience is open from mid-March through early November (depending on weather) whenever the museum is open. Indoor exhibits are open year-round.

The Seymour and Rheta Holt Tennis Center
Using special equipment on shorter courts designed especially for children, families can learn the fundamentals of tennis and practice serves, forehands, and backhands.

Wiese Field donated by Elizabeth Bracken Wiese and J. Frederic Wiese Jr.
Children and grown-ups are able to step up to the plate and learn the basics of pitching, hitting, and fielding.

Jane and Steve Marmon Run-Walk Experience
People of all ages can get their steps in on this running or walking track.

Dr. Cory SerVaas Fitness Path
This circuit is filled with unique family fitness stations to exercise upper body, lower body, and core.

The Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience® is made possible through lead gift support from The Enid Goodrich Educational Initiatives Fund; Riley Children’s at Indiana University Health; The Herbert Simon Family Foundation/Pacers Foundation/The Herbert and Bia Simon Foundation; Old National Bank; Lilly Endowment Inc.; Efroymson Family Fund; Henry and Christine Camerford; The Children’s Museum Guild; Elizabeth Bracken Wiese and J. Frederic Wiese Jr.; Indianapolis Colts; NCAA; Ice Miller LLP; Dr. and Mrs. George Rapp, Dr. and Mrs. John Rapp, and Mr. James and Dr. Patricia Rapp; White Oak Foundation (John and Sarah Latchefsky); Church Brothers Collision Repair; Central Indiana Honda Dealers; The LeRoy Neiman and Janet Byrne Neiman Foundation, Inc.; Jane and Steve Marmon; Gina and Jim Bremner Family; Indy Fuel; Subway®, Soxeats, The Saturday Evening Post Society, National Art Museum of Sport; Kohler Co., Katharine and Richard Kruse; Indianapolis Motor Speedway/Hulman George Family; Hans and Milo Steck; Indianapolis Indians; Boris and Marion Meditch*; The Atleta Family; Seymour and Rheta Holt; Fern Rhoest*, Pepsi, Susan and Steve Haines, Dorothy and Philip Genetos, Smurr Family Foundation; Shiel Sexton Company, Inc.; Randy and Janet Belden; Bruce and Jamie McCoy; Lewis/Slife Family, Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Memorial Foundation; Lacy Testa; Jamie and Colleen O’Brien, John and Kathy Ackerman; Cashier Family, Susie and Jack Sager; John H. Holliday*; and Donna and Richard DeW."
Indoor and Outdoor Experiences
At Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience®, children and families are invited to become immersed in the world of health and fitness through the lens of sports legends. Outdoor and indoor experiences reinforce active, healthy lifestyles through sports.

The indoor portion of the Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience is open year-round. The outdoor portion operates during eight core months each year from mid-March to early November. Major components include:

Efroymson Pavilion and Plaza
At this year-round indoor venue, visitors learn about sports players, owners, game history, and sports milestones through changing interactive exhibits. Experiences include the permanent exhibit The World of Sport, the National Art Museum of Sport (NAMOS), and a gallery devoted to temporary sports exhibits, such as History of Hoops and First & Goal.

Old National Bank Sports Legends Avenue of Champions
On this winding path, visitors can pose for photos alongside 12 life-size sculptures of 16 sports legends and learn about their accomplishments.

Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever Basketball Experience
Shoot hoops, practice passing, and take the shot clock challenge with baskets graduated in size for toddlers to adults.

Indianapolis Colts Football Experience
Families can pass, catch, run, and kick field goals on this unique field. Step-by-step graphics explain basic football mechanics.

Indy Fuel Hockey Experience
Pass, shoot, stick handle, and score on an artificial street hockey surface.

Subway® Soccer Experience
Young children and adults can practice passing and shooting goals and work on their dribbling skills.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway Pedal Car Racetrack Experience
Visitors drive and compete in people-powered pedal cars in sight of a model of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Pagoda.

Church Brothers Collision Repair Pedal Car Drag Strip Experience
Families experience the thrill of racing on a pedal car mini track.

Central Indiana Honda Dealers Winner’s Circle
Winners can celebrate their big victory with a photo opp in the winner’s circle!

Pete and Alice Dye Golf Experience presented by Henry and Christine Camferdam
Golf legends Pete and Alice Dye designed this golf experience, which replicates some of their famous hole designs. Kids and grown-ups can practice putting or play on one of four 9-hole putting courses sized for everyone from toddlers to grown-ups.

Kohler Pavilion in Honor of Pete and Alice Dye
This pavilion is the place to pick up free golf equipment, and also a spot to grab a snack, beverages, or a picnic meal.

The Children’s Museum Guild’s Fantasy Tree House of Sports
This iconic sculpted fantasy tree house of sports, inspired by Disney’s Tree of Life, lets children scale the heights of sports among giant pieces of sport equipment.