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Southern California Children's Museum Welcomes Inaugural Executive Director
Renee Garcia joins SCCM to lead the museum into a new chapter ahead of its 10th-year anniversary.

PASADENA, CA.: Ahead of its tenth anniversary, the Southern California Children's Museum (SCCM) Board of Directors has named Renee Garcia its first Executive Director. This position marks the beginning of a new era for the museum, with the intention to grow and expand the museum's reach, capacity, and programming for the benefit of Southern California children aged 8 years old and under.

Previously the Director of Communications and Development at Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef), Garcia's social justice nonprofit management experience and business expertise will help to shift the Museum into a new phase. As a mother of two, she brings a seasoned perspective and a goal of increasing impact by expanding programming and exhibits rooted in cultural awareness, equity, creative learning, and social-emotional wellness. Over the last 10 years, Southern California Children's Museum has grown from a "museum without walls" to a cornerstone in Pasadena's educational play community. The Museum opened with its first permanent exhibit, Wild California, just before the onset of the COVID pandemic in early 2020.

"We couldn't be more excited to have Renee leading us into this next chapter for the Museum. Her unique experience will help us further our mission and vision of serving the children and families in our local community," said **Catherine Welch, board president and co-founder of Southern California Children's Museum.**

"I'm elated to join the team at SCCM and grateful to continue building upon the strong foundation laid before me thanks to the museum Board and staff. As a mother, I made many happy memories through creative play and programming at the museum and I look forward to continuing that tradition for others. I believe deeply in the potential of the Museum as a place that celebrates our many identities through creative exploration and expression, and look forward to securing it as a must-visit location for Southern California caretakers." said **Renee Garcia, executive director, of Southern California Children's Museum.**

For more information on SCCM, please visit socalkids.org.

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About Southern California Children's Museum (SCCM)

Southern California Children's Museum (SCCM) is located at 459 East Colorado Blvd., in Pasadena, CA. Catering to children 7 and under, the mission of SCCM is to cultivate a child's wonder, stimulate curiosity, and motivate learning through interactive exhibits, creative experiences and dramatic play – all while promoting the diverse cultures of Southern California. With nearly 9K square feet of space to explore, the museum features permanent and rotating exhibits that help develop a child's gross and fine motor skills. SCCM's regular programming and collaborations with local artists allow children hands-on opportunities to explore arts and culture. Admission is \$8 for adults and children. Free for children under one year. For more information, visit socalkids.org. SCCM is a 501c3 non-profit organization.