FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Marbles Kids Museum upgrades modern farming exhibit with support from NC State and NC Soybean Producers Association

RALEIGH, N.C - Marbles Kids Museum is excited to reopen the On the Farm exhibit with new features in collaboration with the NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the NC Soybean Producers Association.

On the Farm is on the museum's first floor in the Around Town gallery, a bustling community where kids take charge. The exhibit's newest additions invite children of all ages and abilities to experience the daily life of a North Carolina farmer through hands-on play.

In On the Farm, kids can operate a custom-built combine where they identify and learn about North Carolina's major crops. The enriching play will build curiosity and highlight the significance of agriculture in their daily lives.

PHOTO AND VIDEO GALLERY

"Play in On the Farm enables kids to learn about modern agriculture, careers in farming and where our food comes from. As they collaborate to harvest crops and transport them to the grocery store, kids immerse themselves in a key industry in North Carolina," says Hardin Engelhardt, Marbles' Chief Learning Officer.







"This partnership showcases the dynamic evolution of North Carolina agriculture and NC State's commitment to fostering STEM learning, promoting agricultural literacy and inspiring the next generation of North Carolina's agricultural leaders," says Dr. Rich Bonanno, NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Associate Dean & Director of NC State Extension. "Through interactive play, children will explore the connectedness of modern farming and understand the farm-to-table journey."

The vision of updating On the Farm began in 2023 after 10 years of successful farm play. Marbles recognized the opportunity to enhance the exhibit while simplifying the science and technology of modern farming with their unique approach to play-based learning.

"With support and expertise from [our] generous partners, Marbles has taken On the Farm to a new level," says Chris Alexander, Marbles' Vice President of Exhibits. "The fully functioning conveyor belt and crop counting technology that we've built will provide real-life farming experiences that encourage collaborative play."

On the Farm is open for play. Marbles is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on Thursdays until 7 p.m. Members can enter early at 9 a.m. All visitors are required to purchase tickets in advance online.

About Marbles

Located in downtown Raleigh, Marbles Kids Museum is a community-based nonprofit children's museum with a mission to spark imagination, discovery and learning through play. Creative, play-based experiences at Marbles contribute to children's intellectual growth, social and emotional well-being and healthy development.

Marbles is committed to ensuring its unique, award-winning museum experience is available and accessible to every child. Marbles also offers Raleigh's only certified giant screen IMAX movie experience as well as a robust line-up of enriching programs and events for children, families, students, and adults, united in the power of play to promote positive outcomes and connect our community.

For more information on Marbles Kids Museum, visit MarblesKidsMuseum.org or follow us on Instagram, X (formerly Twitter) or Facebook.