XOXO
AN EXHIBIT ABOUT
LOVE &
FORGIVENESS
ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh created this exhibit to encourage visitors to have meaningful experiences and conversations about love and forgiveness, to gain insight into the various ways people express feelings, and to make visitors aware that they control how they choose to respond to those feelings.
Since the tour began in 2014, the exhibit has traveled to 12 venues, reaching hundreds of thousands of people across North America. Past host sites include the Mohammed Ali Center in Louisville, KY, The Canadian Museum of Human Rights in Manitoba and the Children’s Museum of Atlanta.
thing we can do
is let people know
that they are loved
and capable
and loving.

How wonderful is that nobody needs to wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.
NEXT STEP: POP-UP XOXO

In 2018, CMP created a smaller, pop-up version of the XOXO to make the experiences more accessible to more people and provide communities with the framework and resources they need to discuss kindness and empathy whenever they needed it.
RESPONSE WALL

Writing is an important way to express your emotions. Answer questions about love and forgiveness, and then stick them to a wall for others to read. The result is a constantly changing collection of post-its that form an emotional narrative of thoughts and feelings.
RELEASE THE NEGATIVE

Write or draw something that makes you angry, sad, or afraid on a piece of paper. Then, place it into a shredder to shred. Shredding the paper helps release the negative thoughts or feelings and turn the negative into something positive – a colorful display of the shredded paper in jars.
KINDNESS BUTTONS

Spread kindness by recognizing acts of kindness around you. Take a button for yourself. Let this encourage you to be kind throughout your day. Make a button to share with a friend or new acquaintance you catch being kind!
LOVE LETTERS

Take a moment to write a letter to someone you care about letting them know how you feel. Perhaps to a friend that is nice to you or a family member that takes care of you. Mail or deliver your letter to the special person.
Dear Aunt Laureice

I wanna say Thank you for driving me to school in the morning. Also wanna say I love you because you are a Great Aunt to me and my brother.

Sincerely,
Dominique

Dear mom I know you miss dad and I do too. I hope you will still remember him though he is dead. I hope we fill your heart with our love of dad's Shoe. I love you very much.

Love Braden

Dear Children's Museum,

We love that each everyone of you provided hours of joy and happiness for this place because of you, I absolutely love it.

Love Always,
XOXO PHOTO-OP

Pose with a loved one and props, take a picture, and share your photos on social media to spread the love.
Let us forgive each other – only then will we live in peace.

-Leo Tolstoy