

# The State

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## Chagall's colorful world comes alive

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### IF YOU GO

“Chagall for Children”

WHEN: through Jan. 4, 2009

WHERE: EdVenture, 211 Gervais St.

COST: \$6.95-\$8.95

INFORMATION: (803) 779-3100 or [www.edventure.org](http://www.edventure.org)

Bright colors and whimsical figures are synonymous with the modernist works of Marc Chagall. His flagrant disregard for the bonds of reality, such as perspective, make Chagall's works particularly appealing to children.

This weekend EdVenture opens a new exhibition, “Chagall for Children,” which uses 15 of the Belarusian artist's works to introduce young minds to the creative process.

“Chagall,” on loan from the Kohl Children's Museum in Illinois where it was created, will be at EdVenture through Jan. 4, 2009.

“Children relate to the playfulness of the colors, the themes and the fact that strict norms of perspective and the real world are not necessarily a concern for (Chagall),” said Richard Lyon, director of exhibits at Kohl. “That's very similar to how kids draw and conceive things.”

Each station in the exhibition is a reproduction paired with an interactive illustration of some aspect of artistic expression. For example, Chagall's work “The Rooster” is placed beside an interactive display that allows children to rearrange the rooster's fluffy tail feathers.

“It is not your typical art exhibit,” said Greg Nagel, EdVenture's director of museum experiences. “It's a wonderful opportunity for children to become part of the process as well as become an artist themselves. They have an opportunity to use more than just their sense of sight. They can feel the artwork and see the inspiration behind the creation of the artwork.”

Some other stations include “The Birthday,” where kids can create a rubbing of a bas relief engraving of the work and “The Juggler” where an interactive touch screen allows them to manipulate elements of the painting. Other works used are “America Windows,” “At the Circus,” “Green Violinist” and “The Poultry Yard.”

In addition to the exhibit, EdVenture will also provide budding artists with the chance to create their own art in the studio at Art Alley. The painting sessions are from 2-3:30 p.m. on weekdays, 11-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 2-3:30 p.m. on Sundays on a first-come, first-served basis.

Chagall, who died in 1985 at age 97, was greatly influenced by his Jewish upbringing in the Russian Empire during the early 1900s. As a tribute, local musician Marvin Bienstock will perform Jewish folk tales and songs at 1:30 and 2 p.m. Oct. 12 at the museum.

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