



New Building Fact Sheet

Project Description	In partnership with architecture firm FXCollaborative and design studio Local Projects, the Children's Museum of Manhattan is revitalizing and transforming 361 Central Park West into a state-of-the-art museum to engage and inspire New York City's youngest citizens. The new museum building enables CMOM to meet increased demand for its program and resources, with triple its existing programmatic space, and marks CMOM's first expansion in over 40 years. The initiative restores the landmarked building, originally designed by Carrère and Hastings and abandoned in recent years, as it reintegrates the former church back into the fabric of the community.
Architect	FXCollaborative
Location	361 Central Park West (between 96 th and 97 th Streets) New York, NY 10025
Project Timeline	Following the acquisition of the deconsecrated church in late 2017, CMOM began working with FXCollaborative on the renovation and revitalization of the building and received unanimous approval on its plan from Landmarks Preservation Commission in June 2020. Additional updates on the project timeline and design plans will be made in 2021.
Total Square Footage	86,000-square-foot building with 68,000 square feet of occupiable space, including 41,300 square feet of exhibition and programmatic space
Museum Features and Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restoration of the grand barrel vault interior, creating points of connection at entrance, throughout museum and expansive interior space• Four interconnected floors of gallery and programmatic space, nearly tripling CMOM's current programming space, with installations designed in partnership with Local Projects• New and restored windows and skylights to imbue museum with light, including reveal of previously concealed skylights and restoration of the original stained-glass windows, with religious iconography removed from the cartouches and replaced with clear glass• Workshop space on building's reimagined attic floor for special programming, performances, and classes, and an adjacent rooftop terrace providing sweeping views of the Park• Increased visitor amenities, including expanded stroller space, updated ticketing systems, and flexible food service

Building History	361 Central Park West was originally designed by Carrère and Hastings and opened to the public in 1903 as The First Church of Christ, Scientist. The building was designated a New York City landmark in 1974. It was decommissioned and abandoned in 2014. CMOM purchased the building in 2017.
FXCollaborative Project Team	Sylvia Smith, FAIA, Senior Partner (Partner-in-Charge) Steve Mielke, AIA, Senior Associate (Project Architect) Cameron Ringness, AIA, Associate (Project Designer)
Project Collaborators	Local Projects – Exhibition Design IDEO – Exhibition Consultant Gardiner and Theobald – Owner’s Representative
Project Consultants	Cerami & Associates – Acoustical / Audiovisual Consultant Code Consultants, Inc. – Code Consultant DeSimone Consulting Engineers – Structural Engineer Kohler Ronan – MEP Engineer / Technology Consultant Li/Saltzman Architects – Preservation Consultant / Historic Architect Langan – Civil and Geotechnical Engineer Romano Gatland – Food Service Consultant Steven Winter Associates – LEED / Sustainability and Accessibility Consultant Tillotson Design Associates – Lighting Designer VDA – Vertical Transportation Consultant
About FXCollaborative	FXCollaborative leverages its broad experience in architecture, interiors, and planning to enrich the world with responsible, intelligent, and beautiful design. The firm’s holistic approach integrates client aspirations, urban sensibilities, and a celebration of the craft of building. Its work ranges from the scale of individual buildings and interiors—cultural facilities, K-12 and higher-education institutions, office towers, multi-family residences, and workplace—to the planning of the city, addressing infrastructure and transportation. Recent notable projects include The Statue of Liberty Museum; the David Rockefeller Creative Arts Center; the SUNY Purchase Center for Media, Film, and Theatre; and the new Columbia Business School.
About CMOM	Established in 1973, the Children’s Museum of Manhattan is a vital destination and resource for New York City children and their families, dedicated to cultivating life-long learners across backgrounds and boroughs. A steward of early childhood education and development, CMOM offers imaginative and enriching exhibitions and programs that support, challenge, and inspire. Beyond the Museum walls, CMOM mounts outreach programs in 60 sites across the city, forges long-term partnerships with community organizations, schools, and nonprofits; equips colleagues through professional development training programs, and shares its award-winning content through traveling exhibitions and online offerings.

Media Contacts

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