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## **Star Studio reopens with all new features at Newfields 11/19**

*Interactive studio space includes collaboration with DrawTogether artist, Wendy MacNaughton*

**INDIANAPOLIS**, Nov. 15, 2021— [Star Studio](#) is set to reopen inside the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields on November 19. The interactive family space has been redesigned with new features connecting art and nature in purposeful ways. This space was a collaboration between eight departments at Newfields and has taken three years to complete.

"We were two months from opening a redesigned Star Studio when COVID hit in March of 2020 and the museum closed. We knew we had to rethink the activities to make it safe for kiddos and their grownups, so we went back to the drawing board. It feels incredible to finally share this reimagined space with the public," said Wednesday Rees, Interpretation Planner who spearheaded this project.

Star Studio will be home to a Digital Garden, Birds at Newfields and the *DrawTogether* activity space. The Digital Garden will feature content that changes with the seasons. Guests will be able to engage with animations and audio that showcase artwork from the IMA collection in a new way. In the Birds at Newfields area, guests will learn about shapes and patterns through an imaginative bird search area.

The third and final component within Star Studio is the *DrawTogether* Studio. The area is a collaboration between Newfields and *DrawTogether* creator, Wendy MacNaughton. [DrawTogether](#), an interactive art class and creative learning universe, was created by MacNaughton during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic when many children were at home. MacNaughton's goal is to provide accessible hands-on art making that focus on imagination, community and confidence-building through drawing. She has used her signature style to create a Newfields specific art class that will be played for guests to follow along and create with her. MacNaughton's video will focus on shapes found in nature and in The Garden at Newfields. She combines imagination, growth mindset and the occasional silly dance to teach drawing, while also instilling creativity, emotional self-awareness and confidence.

"The DrawTogether studio experience at the IMA introduces the creative, joyful, attentive practice of drawing as a vehicle to help kids slow down, focus and connect with the natural world. We hope the experience inspires kids (of all ages) to pay attention and engage with the world inside and outside the museum. Bonus: kids get to hang their artwork in a national museum. Pretty awesome." said Wendy MacNaughton.

Star Studio is a permanent gallery located on Floor 2 of the IMA Galleries and is included with general admission to Newfields.

Support for Star Studio is provided by The Lacy Foundation and BKD LLP. Generous in-kind support for the Digital Garden experience is provided by Epson America Inc.

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### **About Newfields**

Newfields: A Place for Nature & the Arts, offers dynamic experiences for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic mansion, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the Indianapolis Museum of Art Galleries, to concerts in The Toby, and a stroll through The Garden with a glass of cheer, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 30 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse

and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind.—one of the nation’s most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information visit [discovernewfields.org](http://discovernewfields.org).

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