

AVAILABLE LIGHT

Muzeiko, Children's Museum of Sofia

Sofia, Bulgaria



Muzeiko, the Children's Museum of Sofia, represents the power of teamwork in realizing a vision to build the first children's museum in Bulgaria. A true collaboration between American and Bulgarian firms, the project spanned many years before opening in 2015 to much excitement throughout the country and abroad. Muzeiko was awarded the 2015 Bulgarian Building of the Year in the Education/Infrastructure category.

The exhibits transition through time and space, from archaeology play & discovery on the basement floor, to nature & science in our present day on the ground floor, to new technologies & space travel on the upper level. Throughout, children are learning via interactive and immersive exhibits, each of which required thoughtful lighting to evoke just the right atmosphere. On the basement floor, shadows play throughout to place the child directly in the cave they are excavating; the technology areas, on the other hand, called for colored lighting to play with the futuristic feel. Lighting around video screens and projections required special focusing to ensure a lack of glare. The Rube-Goldberg Tree, running vertically in an atrium space from basement to roof, was lit to evoke the whimsy and excitement surrounding the museum's mission.



Architecture & Exhibits: Lee Skolnick
Architecture + Design Partnership
Consultant: POW • Paul Orsell Workshop

Fabricator: Maltbie
Local Architect: A&A Architects
Completed: 2015