



For Immediate Release

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Andy Marquart named EdVenture CEO

Andy Marquart has been named CEO of EdVenture Children's Museum. Dwayne Porter, Chair of the Museum's Board of Trustees, announced the selection, adding that Mr. Marquart, who has served as the President and CEO of The Hands On! Discovery Center and Gray Fossil Site Museum since 2013, will begin his tenure on June 27, 2022.

"Andy comes highly qualified with extensive museum experience," said Dr. Porter. "He recently oversaw the merging, re-location, and re-branding at his current museum by strategically bringing the stakeholders together and developing a comprehensive plan of action and implementing it; and that's the kind of leader that we want at this time for EdVenture."

A native of Washington, Missouri, Marquart brings over eighteen years of seasoned experience to the position. Prior to joining the Hands On! Discovery Center, he worked as the museum manager at the Discovery Center in Springfield, Missouri; executive director of the Mid-America Science Museum in Hot Springs, Arkansas; and CEO of Golisano Children's Museum of Naples in Florida.

"I am excited to join EdVenture and be part of an organization with such a rich legacy of engaging and impactful experiences for children and their families," said Mr. Marquart. "Museums like EdVenture are critical pieces of an enhanced quality of life in thriving, well-rounded communities."

"EdVenture appreciates the dedicated leadership of Willie Calloway, who stepped in to serve as the Interim CEO in January," added Dr. Porter. "His experience contributed greatly to the organization during this transition, and we will be welcoming him back as a member of our Board of Trustees."

EdVenture Children's Museum, a nonprofit education institution in Columbia, opened in November 2003, and has locations in Hartsville and Myrtle Beach. Last week, the organization re-opened its Myrtle Beach satellite located in The Market Common to provide three times the space for children and their families to engage in hands-on, interactive experiences. Next month, EdVenture Hartsville, located at 146 West Carolina Avenue, will be celebrating its fourth anniversary, having opened in 2018.



EdVenture is a 501c3 registered non-profit educational institution dedicated to creating new generations of lifelong learners through museum experiences, school and group programming, and camps. Helping shape a new generation of people who love to learn is at the core of all we do. In fact, our mission is to inspire children, youth, and the adults who care about them to experience the joy of learning as individuals, as families, and as a community.

Follow EdVenture Children's Museum for the latest updates.

