



Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin

The Factory!









- KidSenses Children's Interactive Museum opened in 2004
- 30,000 visits per year
- Additional 30,000 children engaged through STEM-themed educational outreach programs
- A favorite destination for families with children from infants to those age ten
- Infusing downtown Rutherfordton with vitality.
- Brings needed revenue to the community Over \$300,000 per year for area businesses
- Over 56% of visitors from **outside Rutherford County**





- The FACTORY, KidSenses and Discovery Garden will comprise a **27,000 square-foot campus**
- Double attendance to 60,000 visitors
- A place for youth age eleven into their teens
- Vital asset in recruiting businesses and corporations to the region
- Widespread support Town of Rutherfordton, the RHI Legacy Foundation, Stonecutter Mills Foundation, and the State of North Carolina
- Complements the Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority's county-wide strategic plan
- The expansion and enhancement of **Kiwanis Park**, the continuation of the **Purple Martin Trail**, and connectivity to the county-wide **Thermal Belt Trail System**



Help prepare our children develop the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to succeed in the modern workforce

- Employees who are curious, imaginative, innovative, and passionate
- Good at critical thinking, problem solving, have passion for what they do
- Work well in teams
- Ownership of projects they have not just designed but defined.
- Whole family (community) engagement
 - Mentoring, enabling us to utilize the skills and knowledge of Rutherford residents
 - Corporate team building events
 - o Coding, 3-D printing, laser cutting, robotics, the culinary arts, CAD design, computer-coded machining and more
 - Community/family events
 - Access to internet
- New and Existing Partners: Area schools and libraries, Isothermal Community College, NC State University







Make It Place



Food Studio

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Mary Haizlip Principal	Reb Haizlip Founder & Principal	Stephens Farrell Director of Sustainable Architecture

Planners, architects, designers and tinkerers who create distinctive places of learning, imagination, enrichment, and play. Since 1997, we have helped clients worldwide inspire audiences, tell memorable stories, and achieve lasting success.





Based in Columbus, North Carolina, Michael Champion Construction is a father-son team that has been serving western North Carolina and upstate South Carolina for 20 years. Michael is licensed in both North Carolina and South Carolina.



PHASE ONE Construction

Renovations CommencedApril 1, 2019Anticipated CompletionJune 30, 2019















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