

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

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Nathan Sawaya, a certified LEGO professional, spends his days building awesome things out of LEGOs. A new exhibit of his large-scale sculptures is now showing at OMSI.

## Creations from LEGO Blocks

### OMSI presents The Art of the Brick

Playing with LEGO® blocks is taking on a whole new meaning to visitors at the Oregon Museum of Industry with The Art of the Brick exhibition.

The new show features large-scale sculptures created exclusively out of LEGO toy building blocks by well-known artist Nathan Sawaya. LEGO stylings from other local artists are also on display, along with a variety of hands-on activities, demonstrations and challenges.

Sawaya's creations comprise one of the largest and most popular art exhibits currently touring the world. Based in New York City but raised in Veneta, Oregon, Sawaya transforms the popular plastic construction toy into amazing showcases of creativity, innovation and fine art.

Like most young kids, Sawaya began playing with LEGO blocks at a young age. Unlike most, he never stopped building, creating and exploring his own

imagination.

"I use LEGO bricks as my medium because I enjoy seeing people's reactions to artwork created from something with which they are familiar," says Sawaya. "Everyone can relate to it since it is a toy that many children have at home. I want to elevate this simple plaything to a place it has never been before."

OMSI visitors will have the opportunity to try their own hand at LEGO brick ingenuity. In addition to "free-build" play areas for all age-groups, a series of interactive demonstrations ranging from engineering challenges, artistic endeavors and even robotic programming and testing will take place.

Exhibition elements from Sawaya include life-sized statues, portraits, giant chess pieces, representations of the solar system, Mount Rushmore and many more artistic renderings of both real objects and abstract concepts.

The Art of the Brick will be open to OMSI visitors through April 29. The price of the exhibit is included in general admission. For more information, visit [omsi.edu](http://omsi.edu).



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