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Kid-friendly exhibit breaks boundaries in famous art



Charlotte Johnson, 7, becomes the Mona Lisa in an interactive display.



Pearl Tessmer, 4, and her sister Ocean, 9, play on the chicken ride.

By Leslie Shaw, Hi-Desert Star

YUCCA VALLEY — Kids can step into famous paintings and play inside them at the latest exhibit at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum. “Framed: Step Into Art” will run until Sept. 24.

Kids can replace their faces with Leonardo da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa,” ride a giant chicken pulling a cart like in the Clementine Hunter painting “Big Chicken,” or hang felt corn husks on Diego Rivera’s “Corn Harvest.”

The exhibits are interactive and kids were having a blast playing in them during a recent visit.

“When it was time to leave the exhibit and go to the summer camp, the kids kept asking for five more minutes,” said Museum Director Stefanie Ritter, who confessed to riding the giant chicken herself when nobody is around.

Admission to the museum is free, but donations are accepted. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.