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# Oh Hanukkah: A festival of light and joy

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GIANT  
ROOM

GIANT Storybook







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# Oh Hanukkah: A festival of light and joy



A storybook written by The GIANT Room  
In collaboration with GIANT families & The Jewish Museum in New York City



Dec 3, 2023



We are extremely honored to partner with The Jewish Museum in New York City to bring GIANT creative STEM experiences to the museum's community. To celebrate Hanukkah, we highlighted the "Light Through the Darkness" by constructing bold and vivid lightboxes, adorning celebratory figurines in jewels and expressive finery and creating a community mural that was quite literally an explosion of joy in the form of drawings, confetti, and a rainbow of paper strips. Sparked by the vibrant hues and bold patterns of the artwork of Marta Minujin, we embarked on an art making party with the families who participated in The Jewish Museum's special Hanukkah Family Day.

The lightboxes, a symbolic representation of the Hanukkah menorah, became illuminated works of art as families played with embellishments and vivid colors. The act of crafting these boxes served as a metaphorical beacon of hope, echoing the theme of finding light in the darkest of times—a sentiment deeply ingrained in the Hanukkah tradition.

More than 80 participants joined, celebrated, illuminated, dreamed, created, and shared during this special Family Day. In this book, we feature the lyrics of the classic Hanukkah song, originally written in Yiddish in 1912 by Mordkhe Rivesman, alongside a "remix" of the magical creations crafted by The Jewish Museum and The GIANT Room community! We hope you enjoy this delightful presentation and share it with friends and family in the uplifting spirit of the Festival of Lights!

We want to thank the staff from The Jewish Museum, and Director of Family Programs, Rachel Katz Levine, for spearheading this partnership and making the event so special!

The GIANT Team



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# SPARK

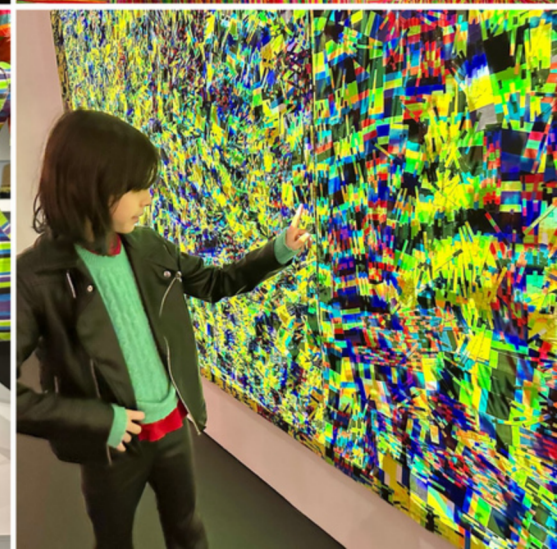
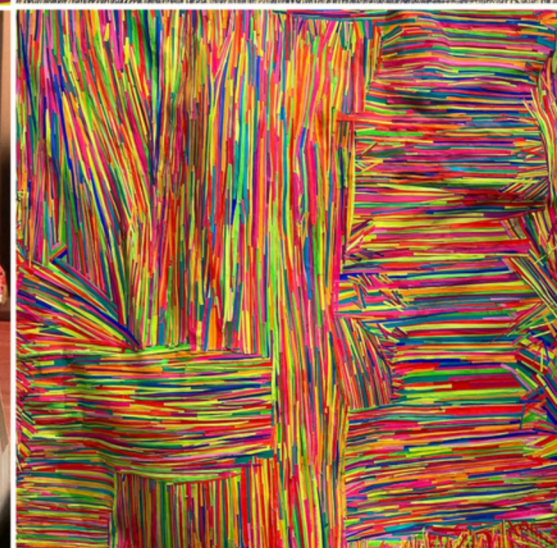
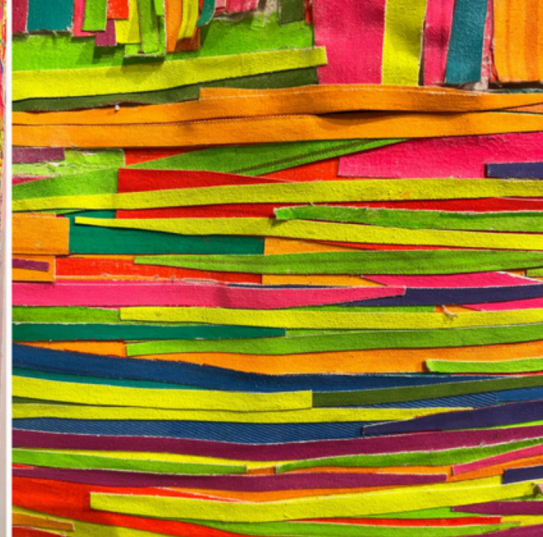
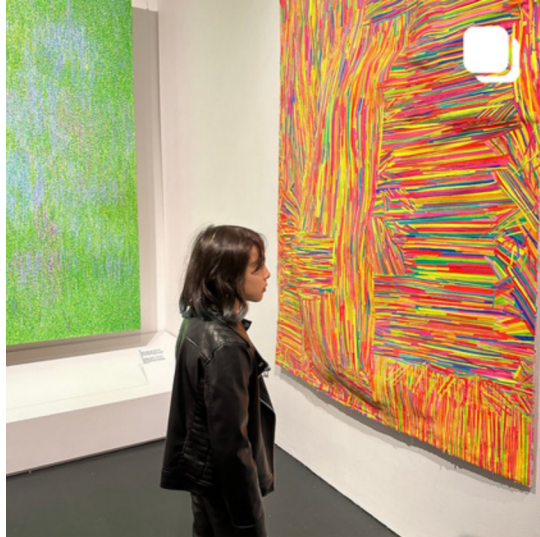
Marta Minujin's artwork is a captivating kaleidoscope of colors, shapes, and imagination that invites young minds into a world of creative wonder. Her pieces are a delightful blend of whimsy and innovation. They served as the perfect spark for a playful and lively lightbox-making workshop for our GIANT friends, both old and new, at The Jewish Museum on Hanukkah Family Day.

In the spirit of Hanukkah, creating light boxes can be a joyful and meaningful artistic activity for children. The traditional Festival of Lights is a time to celebrate miracles, and crafting light boxes becomes a delightful way for young artists to express their creativity while embracing the festive atmosphere. Guided by Marta's unique approach, we encouraged families to explore their own creativity, inspiring them to incorporate a medley of textures, shapes, and colors into their own lightboxes.

Alongside our lightbox making station, families had the opportunity to add their own colorful signature atop a bright and reflective canvas, creating a community mural with a rainbow of paper strips and Posca paint markers. Like Marta, families were able to use vibrant hues and bold patterns to express themselves. Kids drew, splashed, pasted, and danced their way across the mylar canvas while stretching their imaginations, and leaving their artistic mark!



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A dark, reflective surface, possibly a mirror or polished metal, is the background. It is covered with numerous colorful streamers in red, yellow, blue, and black, some of which are tangled and draped across the surface. Handwritten in yellow marker are the words "LET THERE BE LIGHT!" in a casual, slightly slanted font. The text is arranged in four lines: "LET", "THERE", "BE", and "LIGHT!". To the right of the word "LIGHT!" is a large exclamation mark. The surface shows some reflections and a small, dark, circular mark near the bottom right.

LET  
THERE  
BE  
LIGHT!

Hanukkah, oh Hanukkah,





CUT HERE



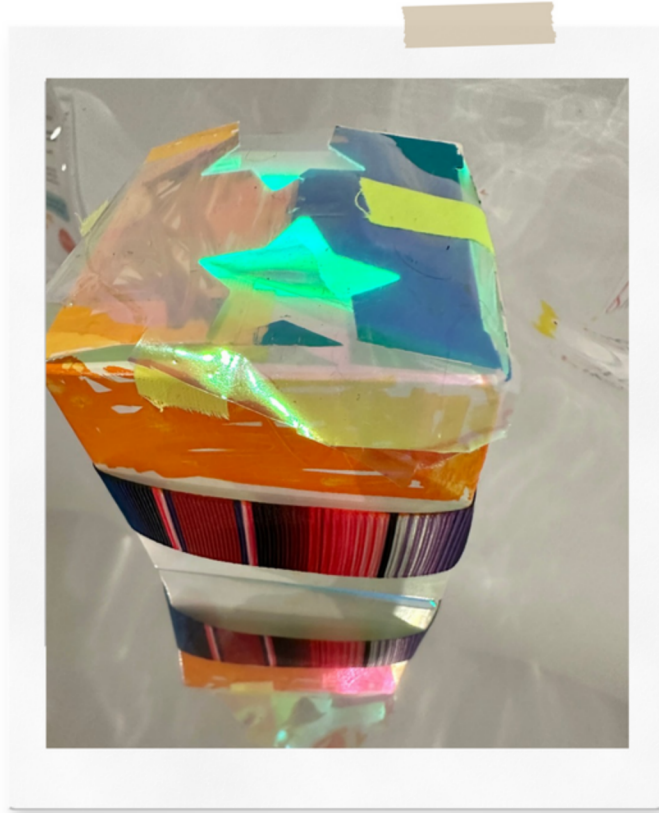
come light the menorah







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**Let's have a party**





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we'll

all

dance

the

horah

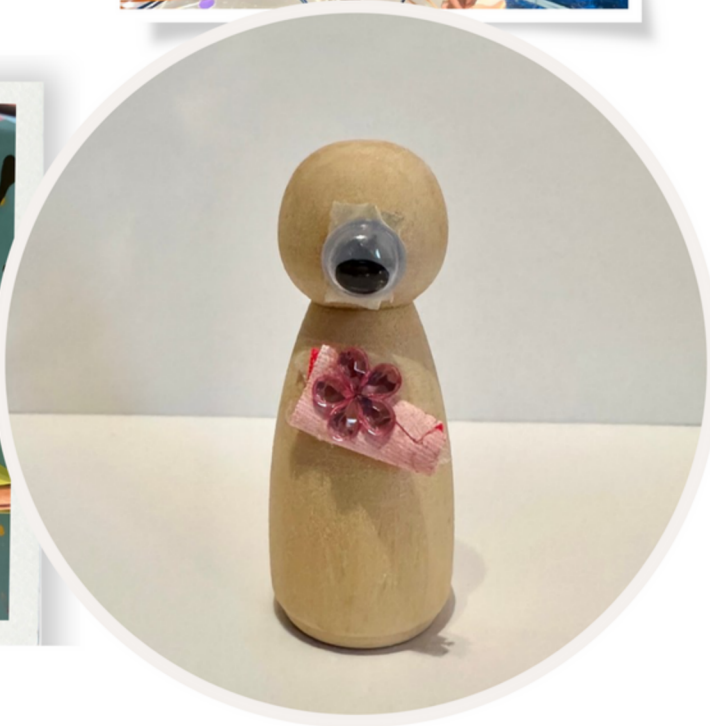




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Gather 'round the table





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we'll give you a treat





# Dreidels



to  
play  
with





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And while we are playing



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the  
candles are  
burning low



One for  
each night





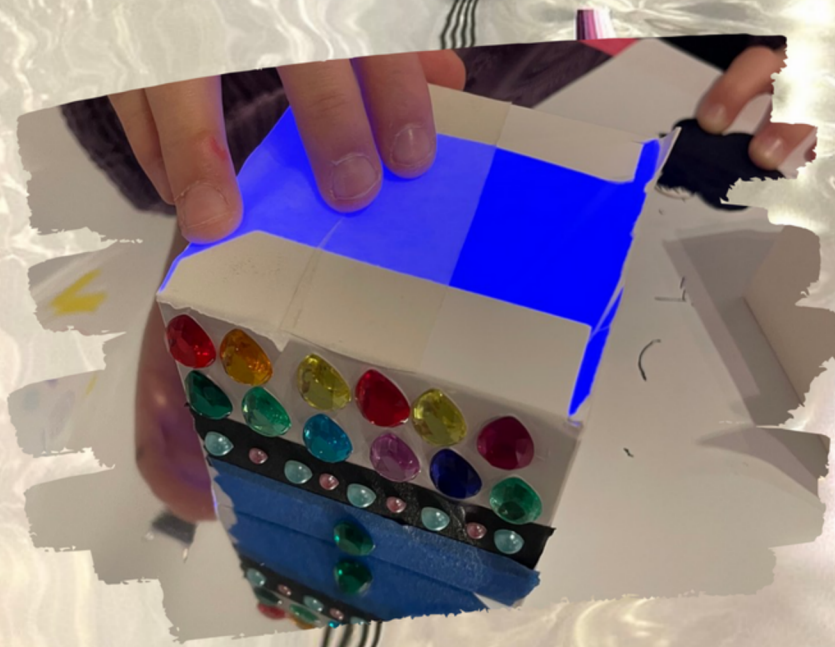


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they shed a  
sweet light



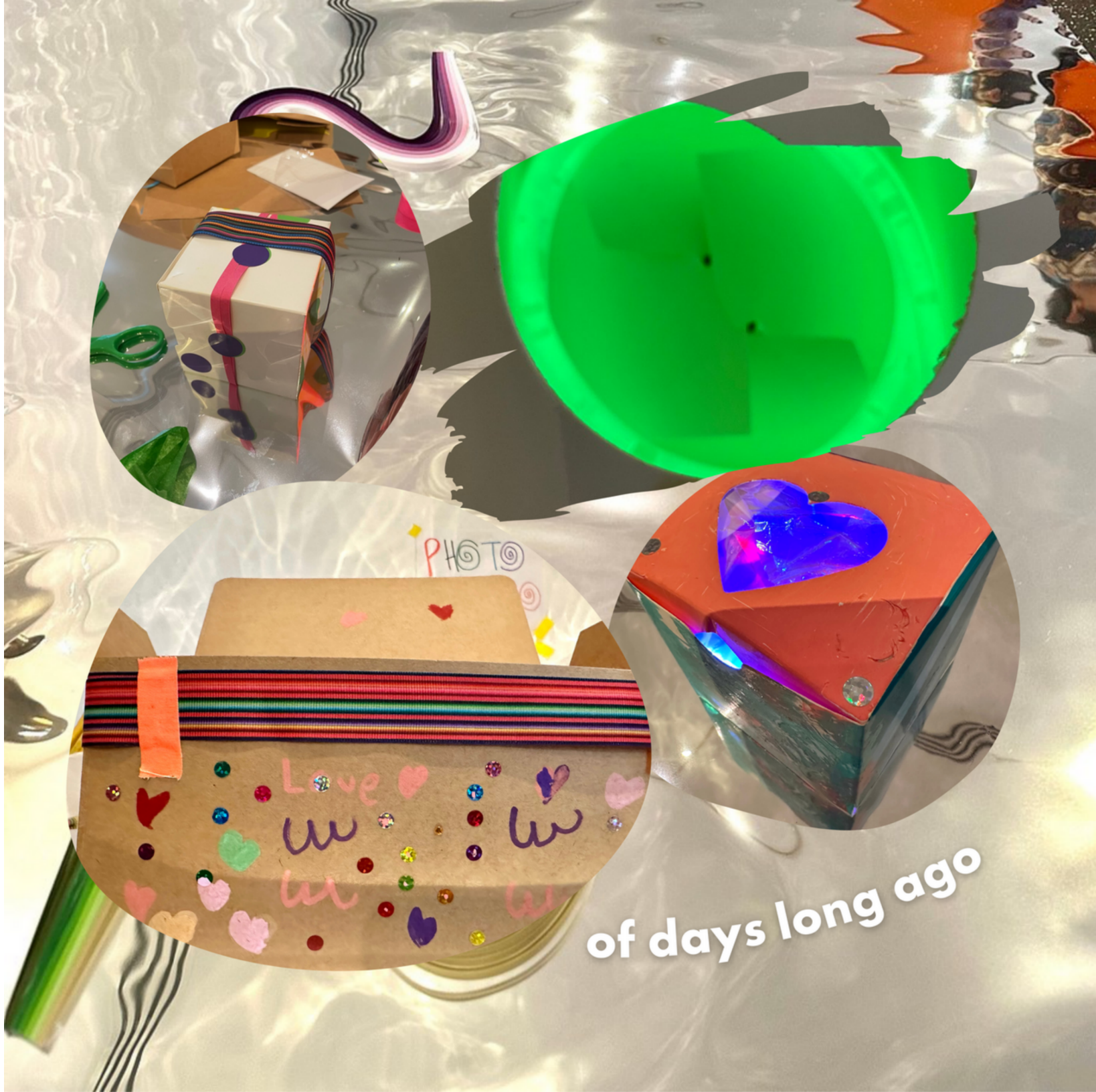


to remind us





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of days long ago





one for each night



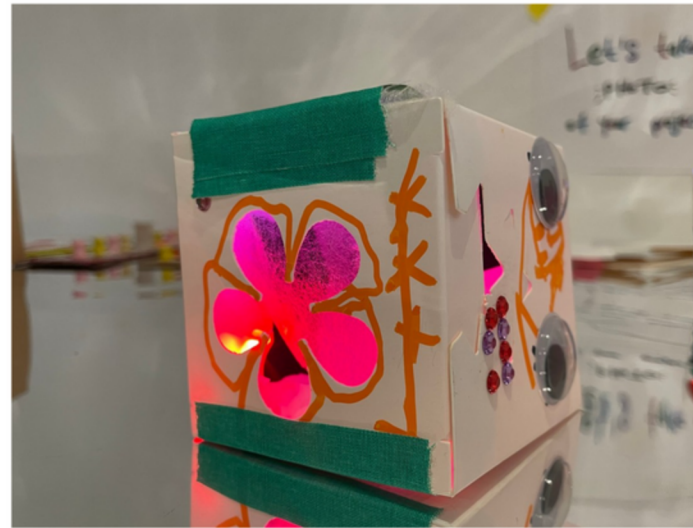
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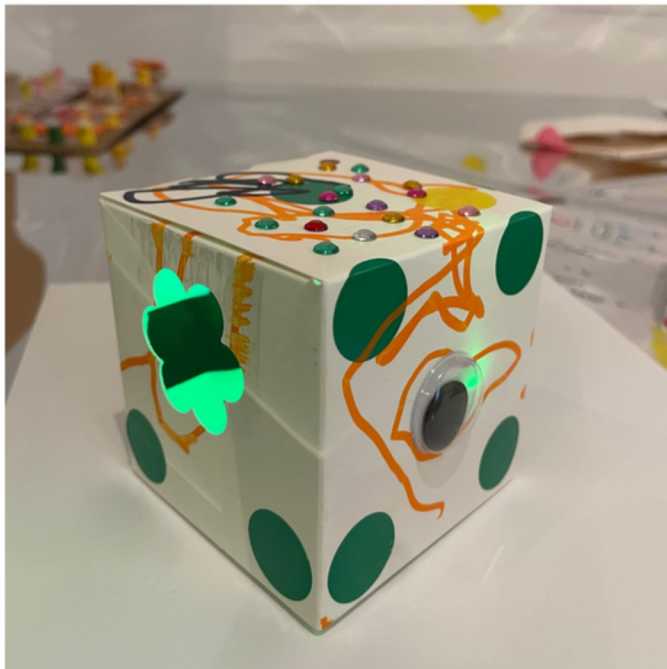
they shed a sweet light







to remind us





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of days long ago...





Happy Hanukkah





# A GIANT thank you to the GIANT team members and The Jewish Museum who made this publication possible.

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## Photography

Event mentors and instructors from The GIANT Room







# ABOUT The GIANT Room


The GIANT Room is a creative STEM hub for kids with GIANT dreams who dare to act on them. We empower young minds to unleash their imaginations and turn their dreams into reality through the wonders of STEM, using it as a tool for self-expression, fostering creativity, and encouraging collaboration.

The GIANT Room offers after school programs, camps, family events, specialized co-design workshops with industry designers, and online creative bootcamp memberships. Kids may join our programs online, in-person at our studio, or off-site at one of our partner locations in museums and schools.

Founded by two women with PhDs in education and backgrounds in science and engineering, we dream of a world where every child has the confidence to voice their ideas, have access to mentors and resources they need to build prototypes of their ideas, and the opportunity to share those ideas with their community. Much like the GIANT kids who collaborated to publish their creative work in this captivating storybook, inspiring millions of families around the world..



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Jewish Museum

## **ABOUT The Jewish Museum**

The Jewish Museum is an art museum committed to illuminating the complexity and vibrancy of Jewish culture for a global audience. Through distinctive exhibitions and programs that present the work of diverse artists and thinkers, we share ideas, provoke dialogue, and promote understanding.

The Jewish Museum was the first institution of its kind in the United States and is one of the oldest Jewish museums in the world. The Museum maintains a unique collection of nearly 30,000 works of art, ceremonial objects, and media reflecting the global Jewish experience over more than 4,000 years. Located on New York City's Museum Mile, in the landmarked Warburg mansion, the Jewish Museum is a welcoming home to an ever-changing and dynamic range of opportunities for exploring multiple facets of the global Jewish experience.





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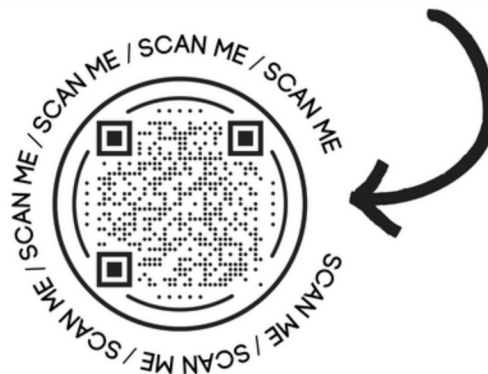


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