

# MUSEUM OF WONDER & DELIGHT

TOYS + FOLK ART + HOLIDAY

THE DOLPH GOTELLI COLLECTION



In Historic Folsom

905 Leidesdorff Street, Folsom, CA 95630

916.985.4871







*This new  
museum has the  
potential to be  
a huge cultural  
attraction.*

*- Kerri Howell,*

*Former Mayor of Folsom*



# A Unique Museum for the Whole Family

The Museum of Wonder & Delight, located in Historic Folsom, California, is a one-of-a-kind cultural attraction for all ages, providing a museum experience unlike any other in the region or state.

The Creative Director and Curator of the museum is Dolph Gotelli, who is an internationally renowned collector and lecturer on the subject of play, childhood toys and games, as well as celebrations and rituals, including his expertise on all aspects of Christmas.

The museum features intriguing 19th and 20th century toys, global folk art, ephemera, ornaments, games, dolls, books, and more from Gotelli's vast collection. Creative displays accentuate the whimsical and entertaining aspects of the pieces that are sure to captivate and delight.

*Once Upon a Time* and *Christmas Dreams* are the two permanent galleries that showcase Gotelli's collections. Exquisite vignettes, filled with mesmerizing displays of antique, toys, figures, and artifacts, are arranged in Gotelli's story telling, awe-inspiring, signature style. A third gallery features rotating exhibits of unusual and rare toy and folk art collections brought in from all parts of the country. The museum gift shop offers unique items, including some specially selected pieces from Gotelli's own collection.

Various educational programs and special events offered at the museum also support Gotelli's goal to "inspire and rekindle the imagination".

The museum, one of three sponsored by the Folsom Historical Society, is conveniently located in the space adjacent to the Folsom Historic District parking structure at 905 Leidesdorff Street, Folsom, CA 95630. Additional information, photos, videos, and hours of operation can be found on the museum web site: [museumofwonderanddelight.org](http://museumofwonderanddelight.org).

This extraordinary attraction is a "must see" destination for residents of the greater Sacramento area, as well as for visitors from far and wide.

## CONTACT:

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*“To know is  
nothing.  
To imagine  
is everything.”*

*- Dolph Gotelli*



## About Dolph Gotelli

A curator, designer, and artist, DOLPH GOTELLI navigates a broad range of disciplines, developing his ideas through object-based installations. In contrast to many collectors, Dolph feels the importance to display his collections for the enjoyment of others. He has displayed his collections with a myriad of themes to create new visions and connections with his whimsical artifacts, including toys, international folk art, and traditional objects used in international festivals and celebrations.

An international expert and lecturer on the subjects of Christmas, holiday rituals, and Santa Claus, Dolph's exhibitions have documented design in cultures around the world.

As professor emeritus of Design at the University of California at Davis, where he taught for 35 years, Dolph's enthusiasm for cultivating the creative spirit and promoting fantasy to solve problems consistently filled his design classes and public presentations. As Director and Founder of the Design Museum at the University of California at Davis, he was responsible for developing the national reputation of the gallery as an innovative and dynamic space that is on the cutting edge of presenting themed exhibitions from a global perspective.

Dolph has designed and installed major displays in retail settings such as Neiman Marcus and Macy's, and in museums including the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, Los Angeles Craft and Folk Art Museum and Canadian Craft Museum in Vancouver, BC.

His groundbreaking exhibition, *The Santa Show*, at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento in 1977-1978 was a catalyst that energized Santa collecting throughout the United States.

Dolph's work has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Newsweek*, *Smithsonian*, and more. He has appeared on national television and radio shows, and lectures nationally and internationally on his areas of expertise.

He is also the author of the book *Wonder & Delight, A Dolph Gotelli Christmas*, which documents his collections, exhibitions and installations.

To learn more about Dolph Gotelli, visit [dolphgotelli.net](http://dolphgotelli.net).



*Help secure the  
future of this  
one-of-a-kind  
museum...  
donations and  
docents  
are needed!*



## Public Support

The Museum of Wonder & Delight was initially developed as a partnership between the Folsom Historical Society and the City of Folsom. However, aside from the provided museum space, this is a grass roots project that will be able to thrive only through the generous support of the community, as well those around the world who know and love Dolph Gotelli's inspired collections.

You can help by donating money and/or time. Both are needed to secure future exhibits and educational programs that will benefit the entire community.

### Donate

Any amount of donation is much appreciated, even \$5 or \$10. Special benefits are available for donations of \$500 and above, such as recognition on the benefactor wall, free museum admission, advance notice of special events and openings, and much more.

Donations can be made online at [folsomhistorymuseum.org](http://folsomhistorymuseum.org). Donation checks should be made payable to the Folsom Historical Society and mailed to: 823 Sutter Street, Folsom, CA 95630.

***Indicate that your donation is for the Museum of Wonder & Delight., and include your name, address, phone, and email.***

The Folsom Historical Society is a 501c3 nonprofit organization so your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tax ID# 94-2840367.

### Volunteer

Be surrounded by wonder and delight when you volunteer as a docent at the museum! You choose the days you want to volunteer, and you get to see the exhibits for free! As a docent, you'll have the fun of introducing museum guests to the whimsical world inside this very special and fantastical place.

For more information, or to place your name on the list for docent training, email your contact information to [admin@folsomhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:admin@folsomhistoricalsociety.org), or call 916.985.2707.