

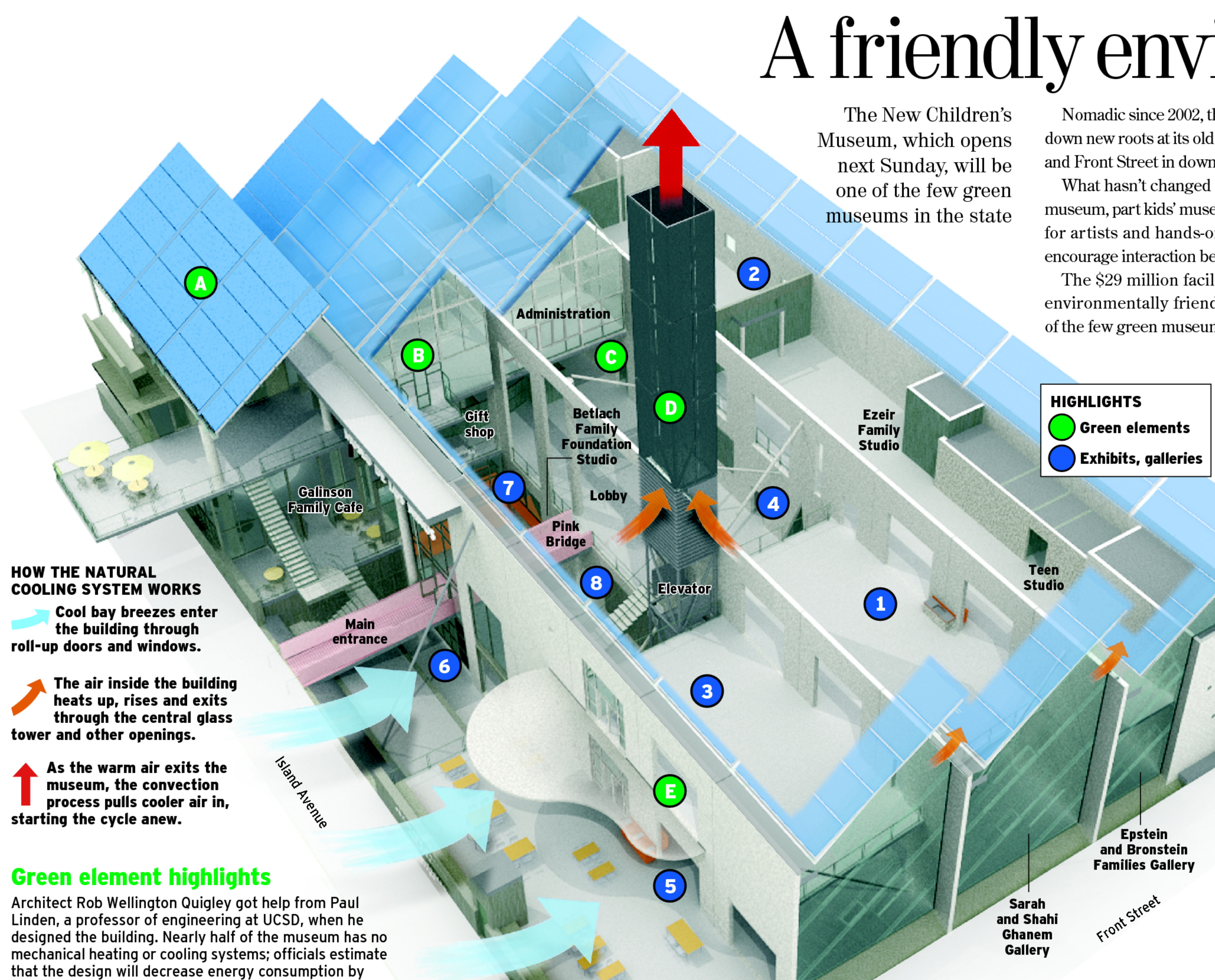
# A friendly environment

The New Children's Museum, which opens next Sunday, will be one of the few green museums in the state

Nomadic since 2002, the New Children's Museum is ready to put down new roots at its old home at the corner of West Island Avenue and Front Street in downtown San Diego.

What hasn't changed is the museum's hybrid function: part art museum, part kids' museum. The building will be both a workspace for artists and hands-on learning center for children, and will encourage interaction between those two groups.

The \$29 million facility is touted as the "greenest," or most environmentally friendly, public building downtown and one of the few green museums in the state.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Green elements
- Exhibits, galleries

## Exhibit, gallery highlights

Here is a level-by-level look at some of the exhibits visitors can expect to see.

### UPPER LEVEL



**1. Morris Family Gallery:** "The Rain House" features "rain" clattering on the tin roof of a kid-size house. Children power the rainfall by pedaling a modified bicycle.

**2. Greenhall Family Gallery:** The room's floor and walls are covered entirely in mattresses, and it features "the biggest, weirdest tire-pillow fight in town."

**3. Sheryl and Harvey White Foundation Studio:** Kids can design their own bubble-making tool – and then test it – in this indoor/outdoor design studio.

### MAIN LEVEL



**4. Sulpizio Family Gallery:** Billed as an enchanted forest of textures, this space is geared for the youngest visitors.

**5. Woods Family Studio:** Kids can create their own artwork in this painting and clay studio, or take a paintbrush to a Volkswagen Beetle parked outside.

**Marino Family Gallery:** The "Tent City" exhibit turns kids into architects of their own cities.

### LOWER LEVEL

**6. Sculpture Garden:** The inaugural exhibit, "A Bird's Playground," is made of wood, metal and marbles.

**7. Arts Education Center:** An education center for visiting schools includes five classrooms, performance studio, cooking area, stage and activity space.

**8. Cricket Wireless Level:** This space features a street-theater performance studio. The opening exhibit is "Don't Put That in Your Mouth..." (left), which allows kids to make their own shadow puppets.

**Studio Q by Qualcomm:** A video installation, "Delphine," surrounds audiences with a school of dolphins.



## HOW THE NATURAL COOLING SYSTEM WORKS

→ Cool bay breezes enter the building through roll-up doors and windows.

→ The air inside the building heats up, rises and exits through the central glass tower and other openings.

↑ As the warm air exits the museum, the convection process pulls cooler air in, starting the cycle anew.

## Green element highlights

Architect Rob Wellington Quigley got help from Paul Linden, a professor of engineering at UCSD, when he designed the building. Nearly half of the museum has no mechanical heating or cooling systems; officials estimate that the design will decrease energy consumption by about half. Here is a look at some of the green features:

**A. Solar panels:** The saw-tooth roof was designed in part for solar panels. The photovoltaic system will produce 145,000 kilowatt hours per year.

**B. Recycled building materials:** Carpet, bathroom tiles and toilet partitions are all made of recycled products.

**C. Water-saving devices:** The waterless urinals save 1.5-3 gallons per flush.

• **Clerestory windows:** The windows allow sunlight in and warm air out.

• **Natural lighting:** Windows are placed to maximize sunlight on all levels; a sunken exterior sculpture garden allows natural light into the lower level.

• **Climate system:** A computerized system monitors weather conditions and makes adjustments, such as opening or closing louvers, to keep indoor temperature comfortable.

**D. Central glass tower:** Rising 92 feet, the tower is the building's cooling chimney. At the tower's base, louvers take in warm air; at the tower's peak, louvers vent it outdoors. The sun heats black panels within the upper portion of the tower, pulling warm air up and out.

**E. Roll-up doors:** The doors serve as the main air intake for the building.