



**#MuseumFromHome
with the
Elmhurst Art Museum**

Welcome!



Designers Zack Morrison and Joseph Altshuler

COULD BE
ARCHITECTURE
McCormick AfterParti

January 24-April 11, 2020

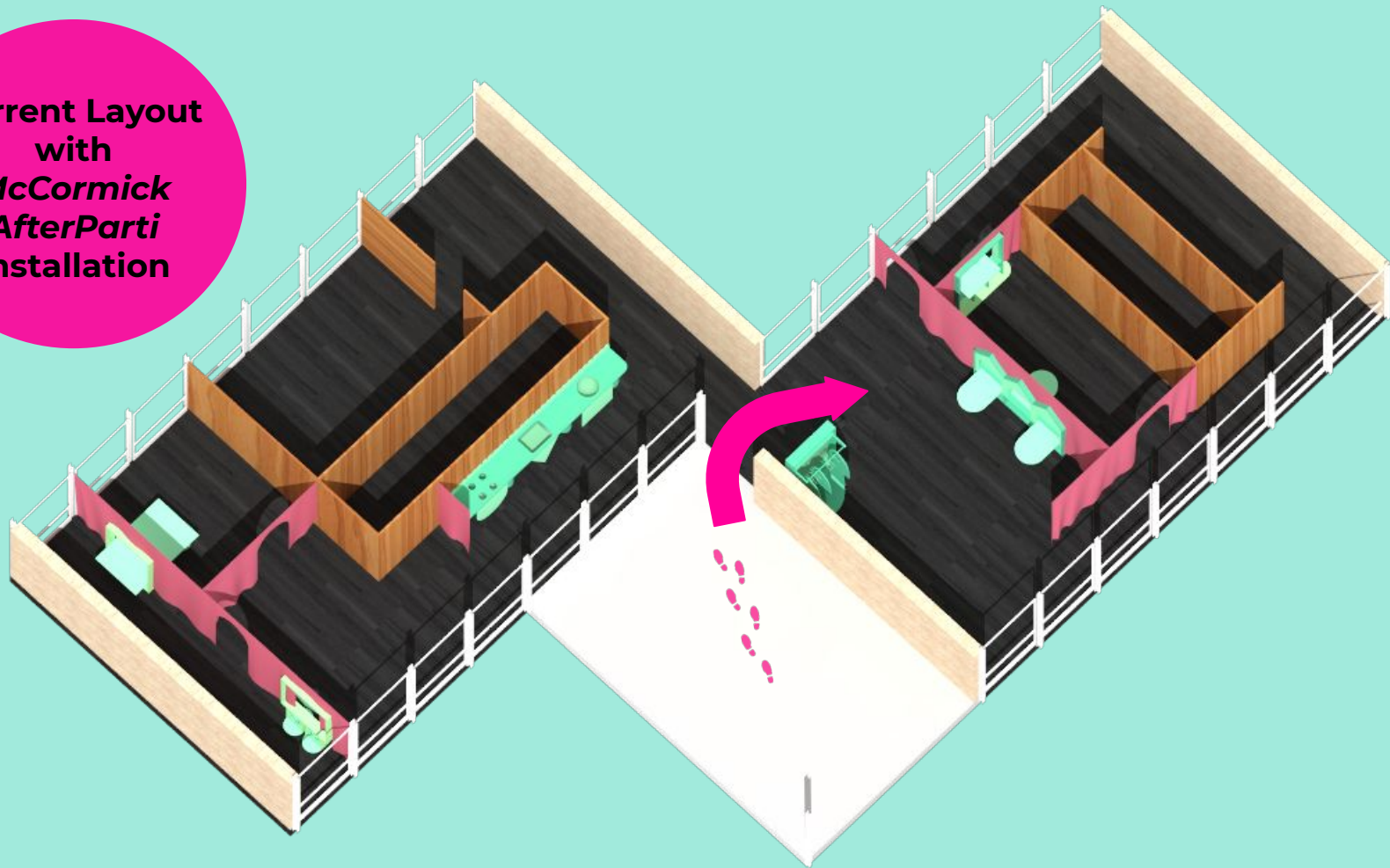
ELMHURST ART MUSEUM

ART, EDUCATION & ARCHITECTURE

McCormick AfterParti invites new and unexpected interactions that reference the original 1952 floor plan of Mies van der Rohe's historic McCormick House. Pink curtains reenact the original wall partitions that were removed when the home was renovated to become part of the museum, and playful, furniture-like interventions invite you to participate in the original domestic functions of each room. For example, lounge on the playful pull-out seating in the living room, challenge your companions to a game on the chess table in the parlor, taste a treat from the shapely countertop in kitchen, or put on a show at the puppet theater in the children's playroom!

During its three-month run, McCormick AfterParti will host numerous participatory events and audience interactions, highlighting the space as one of continual inspiration, while also initiating open discussions about past and future preservation efforts. Much like a home, the installation will not be a corded off space, but rather, it will be filled with movement, activity, food, conversation, and much more.

**Current Layout
with
*McCormick
AfterParti*
Installation**





Could Be Architecture McCormick AfterParti

McCormick AfterParti invites new and unexpected interactions that reference the original 1952 floor plan of Mies van der Rohe's historic McCormick House. Curtains reenact the original wall partitions that were removed when the home was renovated to become part of the museum, and playful, furniture-like interventions invite you to participate

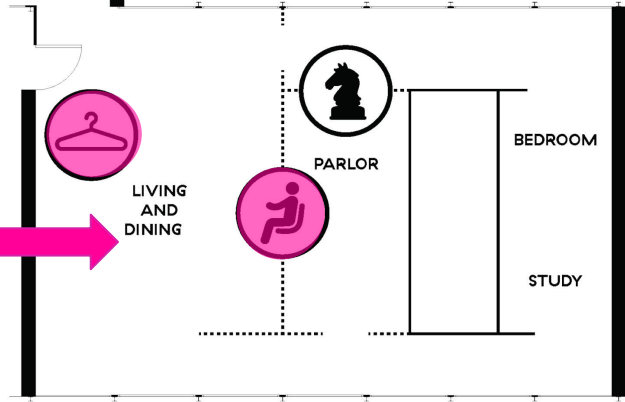
in the original domestic functions of each room. For example, lounge on the playful pull-out seating in the living room, challenge your companions to a game on the chess table in the parlor, taste a treat from the shapely countertop in kitchen, or put on a show at the puppet theater in the children's playroom! Learn more: www.couldbearchitecture.com



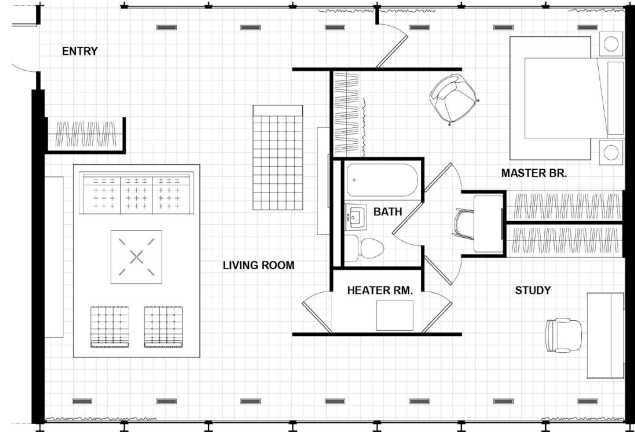
**YOU
ARE
HERE**
in the Living
& Dining Room



2020 McCormick AfterParti



1952 McCormick House



HANG YOUR COAT

Welcome to the McCormick House. As you step into the house you are invited to hang your coat and make yourself at home.

When you get home from your adventures, do you take your coat off and kick off your shoes? Do you head to the fridge for a snack? Do you share your stories of your day?





Living Room
Photograph by Hedrich-Blessing, 1955
Courtesy of Chicago History Museum

SIT AND CHAT

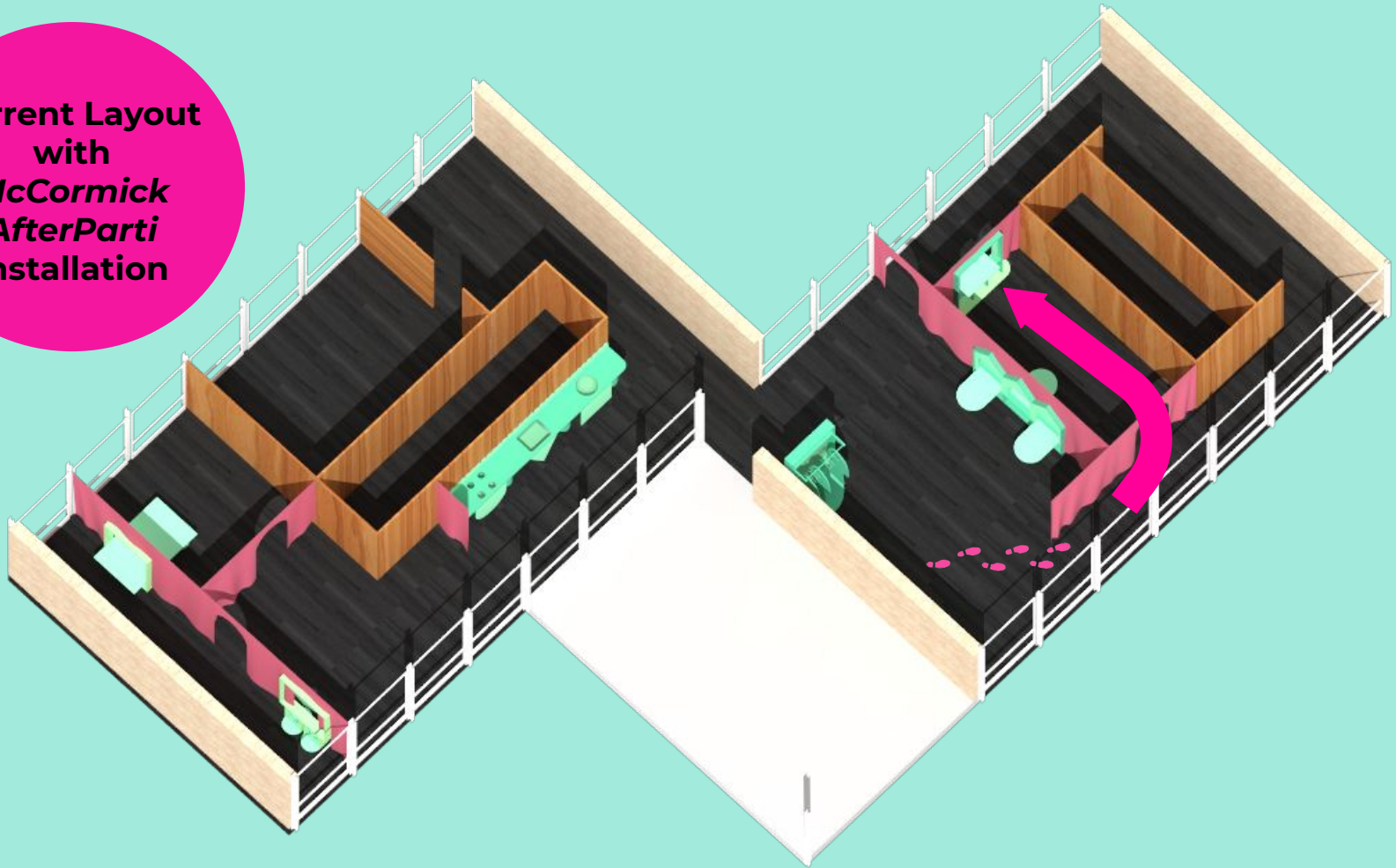
In 1952, this used to be the living room. Just like the families that used to live here, *McCormick AfterParti* invites you to have sit and chat.

What do you like to talk about with your family and friends in your living room?

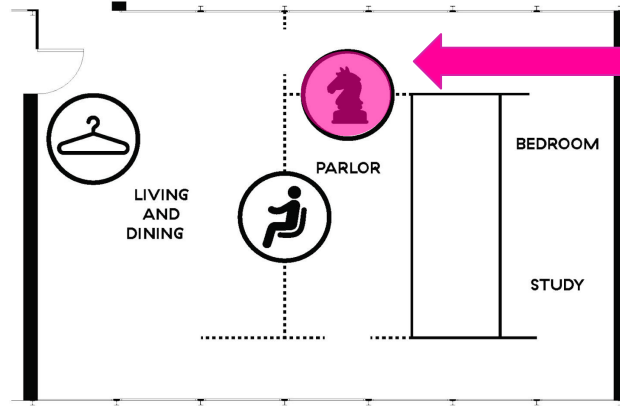
What other activities take place in the living room?



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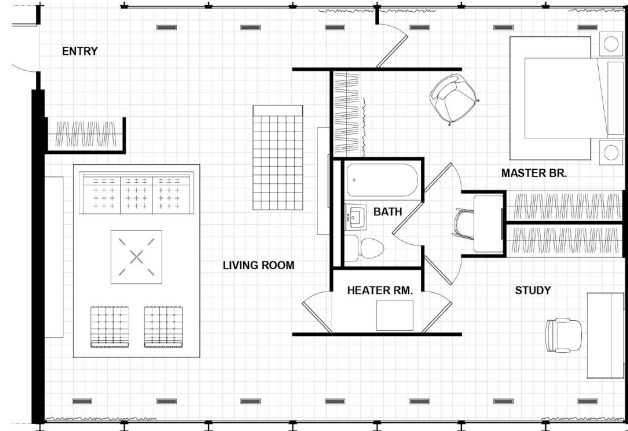


2020 McCormick AfterParti



**YOU
ARE
HERE
in the Parlor**

1952 McCormick House







PLAY A GAME

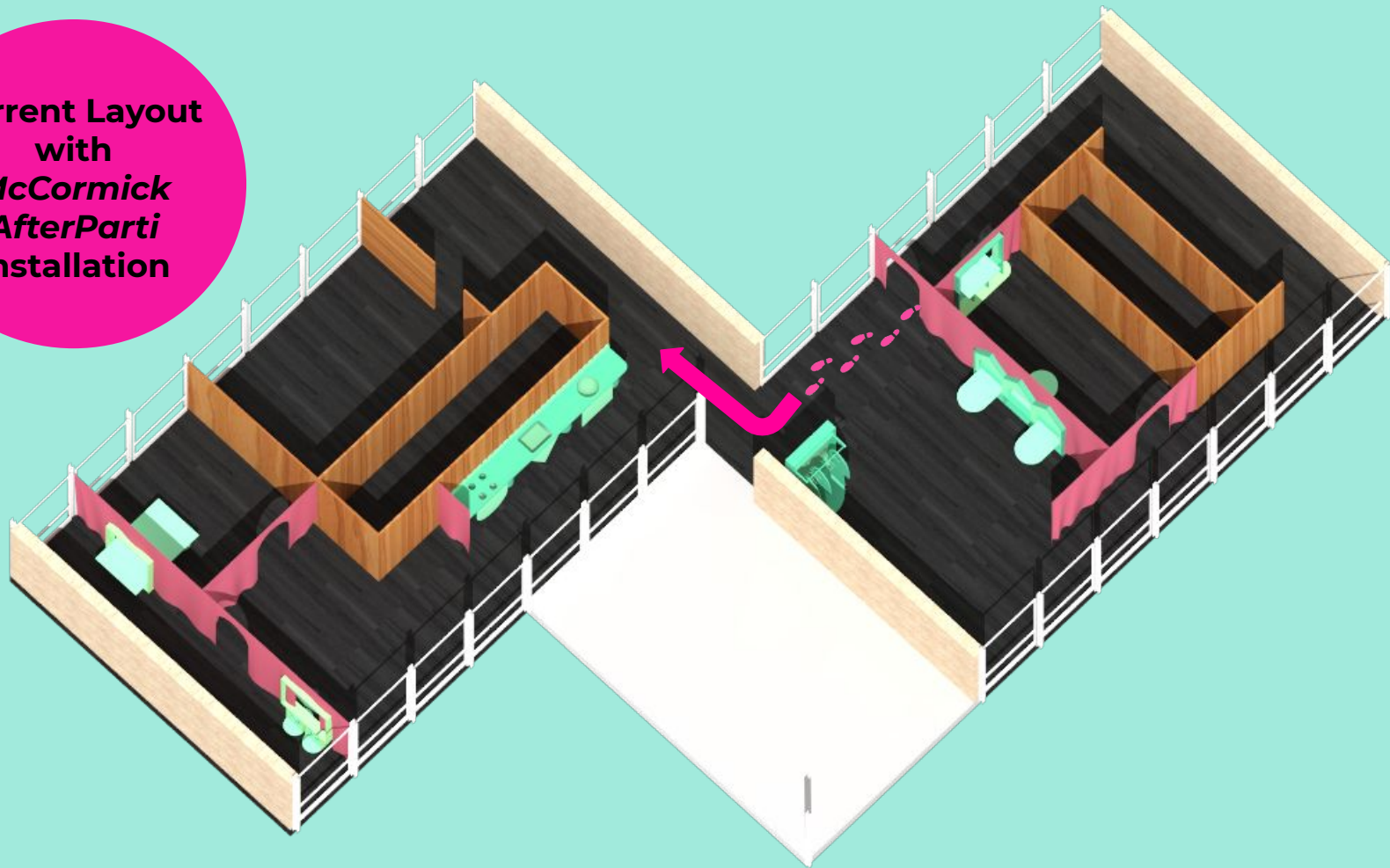
The McCormick House is over 60 years old, can you imagine how many games have been played here?

Do you enjoy playing board games, cards, doing puzzles? What is your favorite one to play? Are you competitive? Do you have game night? Do you enjoy designing games to play with friends and family?

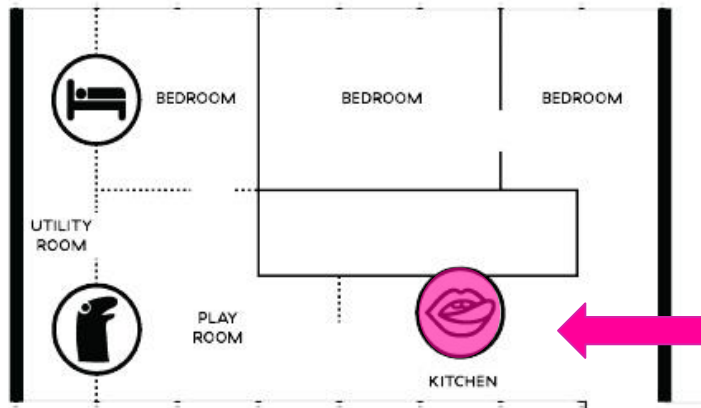
Share your game time on social media with #EAMgametime



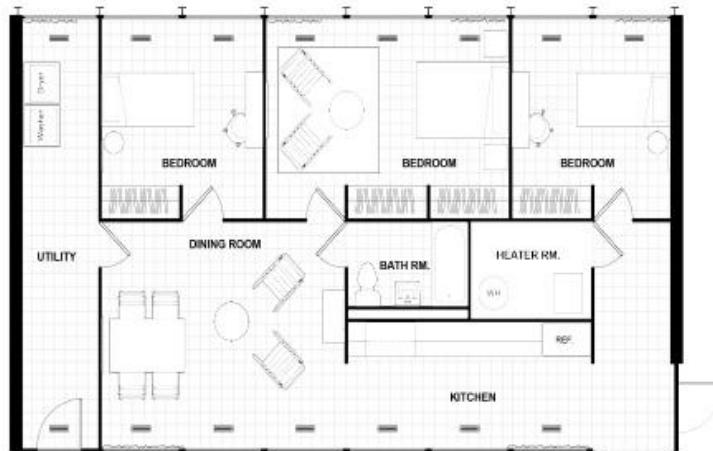
**Current Layout
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2020 McCormick AfterParti



1952 McCormick House



**YOU
ARE
HERE
in the Kitchen**



View of Kitchen to Children's Playroom
Image from EAM archive, circa 1955



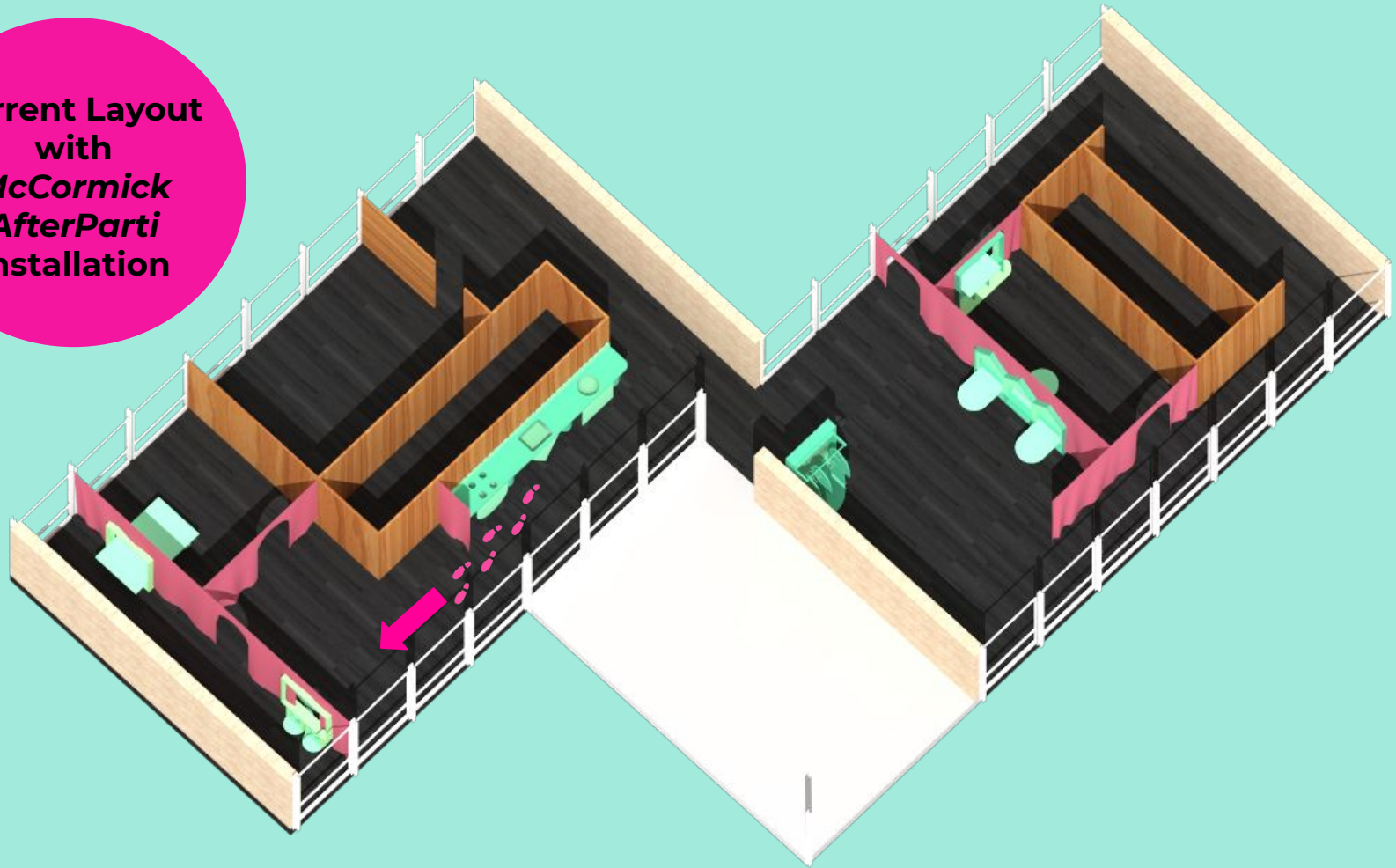
TASTE A TREAT

This is where the kitchen was located. In *McCormick AfterParti*, we share small pink, chocolate treats.

What is your favorite treat? Do you like salty or sweet snacks? Do you enjoy baking/cooking? Do you like to help in the kitchen?

Taste a treat.

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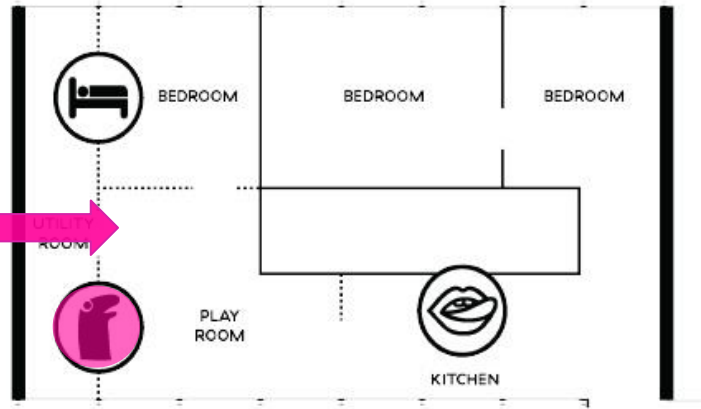


**YOU
ARE
HERE**

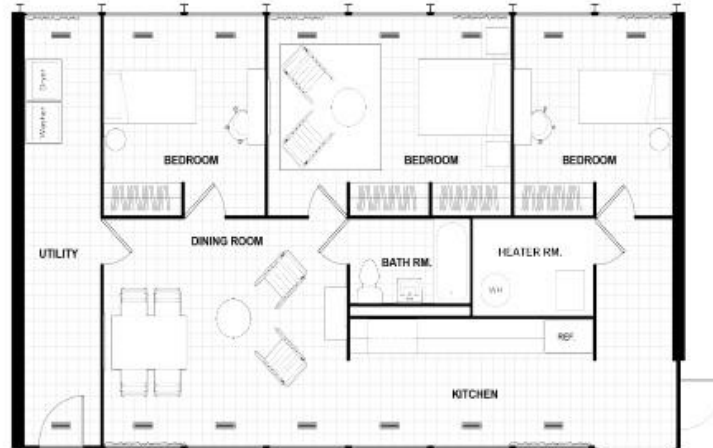
in the Playroom



2020 McCormick AfterParti




1952 McCormick House





Children's Playroom
Image from EAM archive, circa 1955

A room with red curtains hanging from the ceiling. On the left, there is a green puppet-making station with two circular openings at the bottom. On top of the station, there are various items including orange gloves, a blue ball, and yellow and orange cones. In the background, there is a brick wall with an arched doorway. The floor is dark and reflective. There are three circular callout boxes: a light blue one in the top right, a yellow one in the bottom center, and a pink one on the right side.

Share your creative games and imagination on social media with #EAMgametime

PUT ON A SHOW

This is where the children in the house used to play. They would create, pretend and play with each other in this space.

Where does your imagination take you? Do you play 'house'? How do you like to be creative?

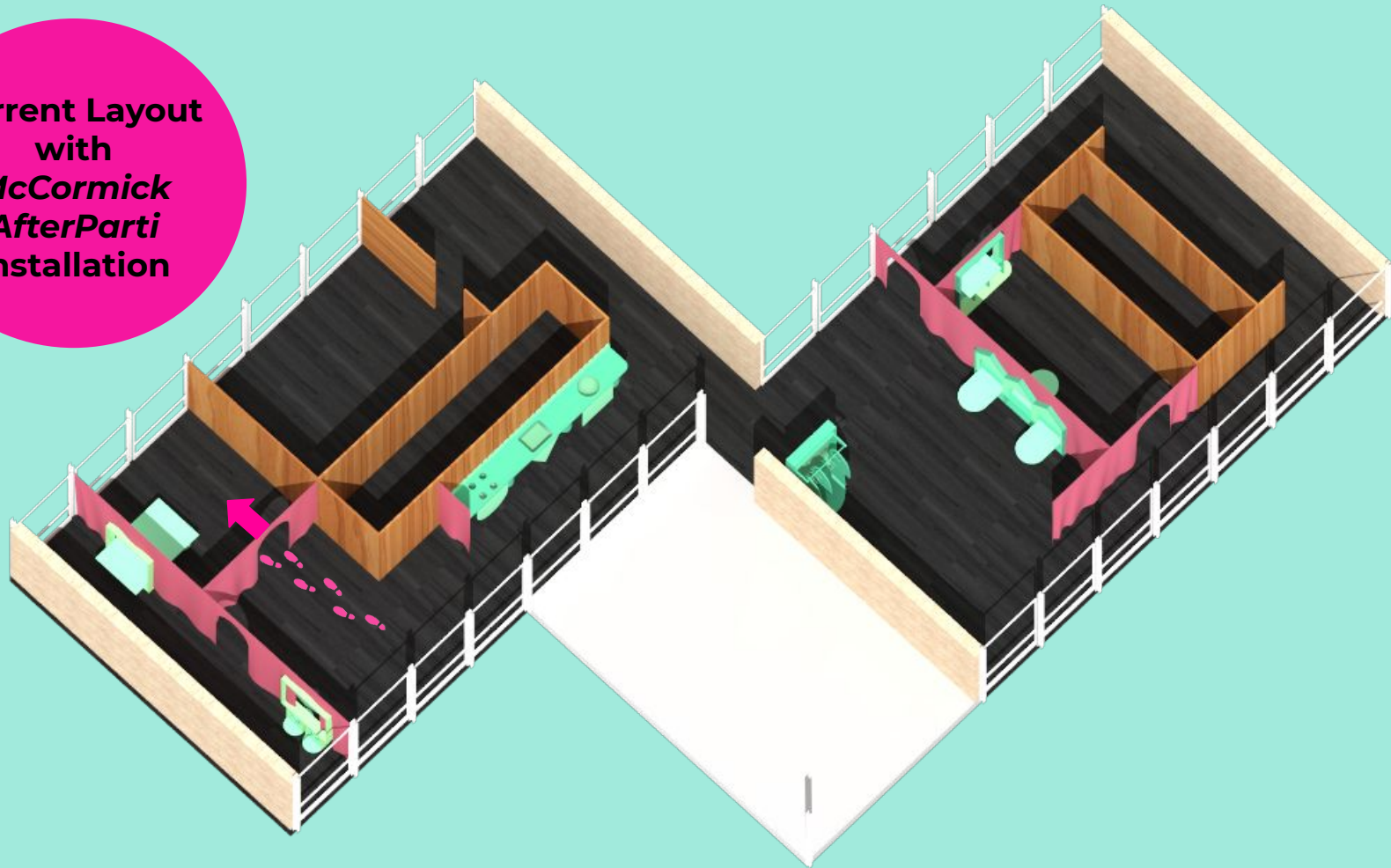
Click here to get the fun puppet-making activity.

[Click Here for Activity](#)



Puppets by Grace Needleman

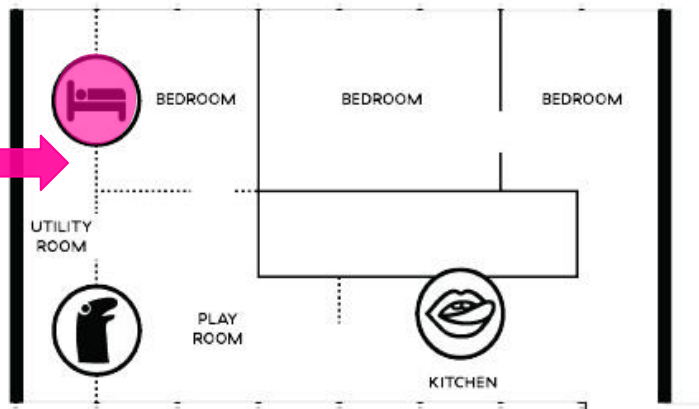
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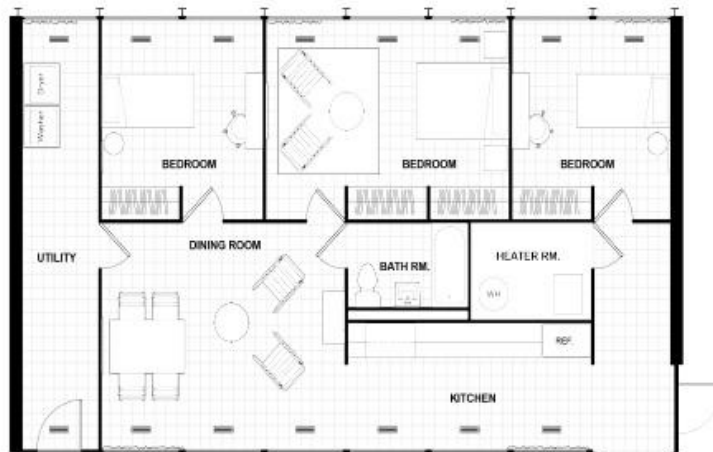
**YOU
ARE
HERE**
in the Bedroom



2020 McCormick AfterParti



1952 McCormick House





TAKE A NAP

In the original layout, this was one of the children's bedrooms.

Here, you are invited to lay down, and take a nap.

Do you like to 'rest your eyes'?,

Do you dream? Do you remember your dreams? Do

you like lot of blankets and pillows? Do you have a favorite stuffed animal who sits on your bed?



**WGN's
Around Town
with
Ana Belaval**



Watch Joseph and Zack take Ana Belaval from WGN around McCormick AfterParti

[Click here to watch...](#)

More About the McCormick House Could Be Architecture:

About The McCormick House

[History of The McCormick House](#)

Exhibition Guide for Could Be Architecture: *McCormick AfterParti*

[Click here for the Exhibition Guide](#)

About Could Be Architecture

[Could Be Architecture Website](#)

Press for Could Be Architecture: McCormick AfterParti Exhibition

AN INTERIOR magazine

[Messing with Mies: Could Be Architecture's New Installation Riffs on Mies van der Rohe's Iconic McCormick House.](#)

Architecture Magazine

[Next Progressives: Could Be Architecture](#)

WDCB Radio, 90.9FM

[Elmhurst Art Museum Welcomes Could Be Architecture](#)

Art Daily

[Chicago-Based Design Duo Transforms Historic McCormick House](#)

Newcity Magazine

[A Party Along the Parti: Could Be Architecture Transforms McCormick House](#)



McCormick House, carport and front entrance, 1952
Image courtesy of Hedrich Blessing Archive, Chicago
Historical Society

ABOUT THE McCORMICK HOUSE

In 1952, the renowned modern architect Mies van der Rohe (1886–1969) designed a home for Robert Hall McCormick III, a member of Chicago’s most prominent families, and his wife, the poet Isabella Gardner. The house was later lived in by families of Arthur and Marilyn Sladek, Ray and Mary Ann Fick, and then purchased by the Elmhurst Art Museum for a new arts complex. The house is a rare and important example of Mies van der Rohe’s mature style, incorporating elements of his celebrated designs for the Farnsworth House (1951) and 860-880 Lake Shore Drive (1951). The McCormick House—one of only three single-family homes designed by Mies in the United States—originally served

two purposes: it was a home for the McCormick family and a prototype for a proposed group of smaller, affordable mass-produced modular homes in the western Chicago suburbs that McCormick and co-developer Herbert S. Greenwald were hoping to build. However, the cutting-edge, high-end buildings were not met with enough buyers to begin construction. The house became part of the Elmhurst Art Museum’s campus in 1994, and important restoration efforts have been recently undertaken. In 2018, the McCormick House’s façade and Mies van der Rohe’s original carport design were revealed for the first time in nearly twenty-five years.



COULD BE
ARCHITECTURE

McCormick AfterParti

Sponsored in part by Altorfer Cat, with additional support from Helios Construction, Chan Moon, and Interface, Inc.

Exhibition Manager, Sarah Franklin
Director of Education, Joseph Hladik
Education Fellow, Maria Vargas
Photography by Steven Koch