



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kevin Sullivan
President and CEO, The Children's Museum
ksullivan@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org, 860.231.2824

***Top African-American Scientist Visits
The Children's Museum for
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Physicist and Author Dr. Ronald Mallett
Will Speak to Students and Families***

WEST HARTFORD, January 6, 2009 - Ronald L. Mallett, Ph.D., Professor of Physics at the University of Connecticut and author of *Time Traveler: A Scientist's Personal Mission to Make Time Travel a Reality*, will speak at The Children's Museum in West Hartford on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, **Monday January 19, 2009 at 12:00 pm**. One of America's first African-American Ph.D.'s in theoretical physics, Dr. Mallett will discuss his life and *Time Traveler*, an account of his childhood and what inspired him to discover the basic equations for a working time machine. *Time Traveler* is being made into a movie by Spike Lee.

Said Kevin Sullivan, President and CEO of The Children's Museum, "Dr. King believed that equal access and educational achievement are essential in making the American dream a reality. Today, science achievement and other educational outcomes tell us we still have a long way to go. One of our highest priorities at The Children's Museum and in our educational outreach is science achievement for all. We are so grateful that Dr. Mallett is joining us on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and helping to help us inspire the next generation of budding scientists."

This special presentation will take place in the Museum's Travelers Science Dome at the Gengras Planetarium and will be included in the price of admission.

Dr. Mallett received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in physics from Pennsylvania State University. He worked for United Technologies from 1973 to 1975, and then joined the physics faculty at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Conn., where he has been a professor of theoretical physics ever since. Mallett has published numerous papers on black holes and cosmology in professional journals. His breakthrough research on time travel has been featured extensively in the media around the world, including NPR's

This American Life, and the History Channel, Science Channel and Learning Channel. Mallett resides in East Hartford, Conn.

The Children's Museum offers hands-on science exhibits, live animals, out-of-this-world digital planetarium shows, and programs for younger children and families. With over 210,000 visitors annually, it is one of Connecticut's top museum attractions. The Children's Museum is located at 950 Trout Brook Drive in West Hartford. More information is available at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org.

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Ronald L. Mallett, Ph.D.

UConn Professor of Physics

Author of *Time Traveler: A Scientist's Personal Mission to Make Time Travel a Reality*