



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BIG YEAR FOR GRANTS TO THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
\$478,000 Raised for Science and Nature Education

WEST HARTFORD, Conn., July 1, 2009 – At a time when many non-profits have been hard hit by the economic downturn in terms of corporate, foundation and public funding, The Children's Museum had a banner year. Grants donated for science and nature education at the main West Hartford location, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and through outreach to schools and youth groups statewide was \$478,000 – 25% *more* than the goal for the year.

Said Kevin Sullivan, President & CEO of The Children's Museum, "We must be doing a lot of things right. This level of investment is a real vote of confidence and shows that people understand that our focus on younger children and families makes a real difference and is just as important as the focus of the new Science Center in Hartford on older children and adults. We are very grateful to our corporate and foundation supporters."

Among the major corporate-based donors are The Hartford, TD Banknorth, Pfizer, Savings Bank of Manchester, and Travelers. Other major support came from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and Ensworth Charitable Foundation, as well as grants from the State of Connecticut to support environmental education and elementary school science teacher training.

The Children's Museum offers over 100 live animals, hands-on science exhibits, 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 and at Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton. More information is available at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org.

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