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Attachments: Between the Lions photo

The Children's Museum Gets Between the Lions

PBS Kids brings popular children's series stars to The Children's Museum

July 15, 2008 (West Hartford, CT)...On Tuesday July 22nd, The Children's Museum is bringing the seven-time Emmy Award winning children's TV series *Between the Lions* to West Hartford. Kids of all ages will be able to meet and interact with the mother lioness, Cleo, and her cub Lionel while they share stories, tell hilarious jokes and belt out tunes. Cleo and Lionel are so entertaining kids don't even realize they're learning. There will be two shows on the 22nd, the first at 12:30 pm and the second at 1:30 pm, both shows free with paid admission to the Museum.

Between the Lions was the 2007 and 2008 recipient of the International Reading Association's Broadcast Media Award, having produced over 100 episodes focused on inspiring education in young children. The show is designed to foster the literacy skills of its viewers, while

playfully demonstrating the joys of reading. Each show aims to give kids some of the experiences they need in order to become successful readers.

Unique among the hundreds of programs aimed at children, this puppet, animated, and live-action show is based on a detailed and rigorous literacy curriculum. Said Kevin Sullivan, President and CEO of The Children's Museum, "This is a great way to show how literacy and science go together with fun. This is exactly the kind of informal but fundamental teaching and learning that The Children's Museum and PBS are all about. It will be a roaring good time."

Between the Lions was developed in extensive and ongoing consultation with reading professionals. The result is a lively, educational blend of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and other teaching methods for preschool, kindergarten, and first grade students. Several independent, scientifically-based reading research studies have shown that *Between the Lions* has a significant impact in increasing children's literacy.

Seating will be available on a first-come first-serve basis with no additional fee outside of general Museum admission. For more information on the event call (860) 231-2830 ext 44, email events@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org or visit the Museum web site at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org. To learn more about *Between the Lions*, visit <http://pbskids.org/lions/>.

With its roots in science education dating back nearly 125 years, The Children's Museum was formally organized in 1927. In West Hartford, at its Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and in area school classrooms, the Museum serves over 210,000 children and families annually. It includes the UTC Wildlife Sanctuary, Travelers Science Dome at the Gengras Planetarium, extensive educational programs and school outreach, teacher professional development and a wide variety of activities for children, families and senior citizens. With support from the State of Connecticut and Town of West Hartford, the Museum is in the midst of exciting plans for relocation and expansion.

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