



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KRISTIE MAZZONI TO HEAD ASTRONOMY PROGRAM AT THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Will continue success of Science Dome programs at Gengras Planetarium

August 21, 2008 (West Hartford, CT)... Kristie Mazzoni of Newington has been named the new Director of Gengras Planetarium at The Children's Museum in West Hartford. She will continue the success of New England's only digital planetarium and programming in its state-of-the art Travelers Science Dome theater. The planetarium is one of the main educational centers that attracting some 210,000 children and families to The Children's Museum annually.

Ms. Mazzoni has been a science educator and program administrator at The Children's Museum for nearly a decade, most recently as an Assistant Director with primary responsibility for Science Dome programming. She is a graduate of Michigan State University and earned her Master's Degree in Education at the University of New Haven.

Said Museum President & CEO Kevin Sullivan, "I am very pleased that Kristie Mazzoni has accepted this new assignment. She is already a key member of our team and will now bring fresh leadership as we continue to expand outreach in the schools, relocate to the new facility we are planning for in town, and focus on science education and fun for younger children and their families."

The Children's Museum has a long history of providing hands-on learning focused on science based education for younger children and families. One of the state's major attractions, each year it serves nearly 200,000 children and their families. The Children's Museum is also home to the new Travelers Science Dome at the Gengras Planetarium, wildlife and interactive science exhibits, as well as science based outreach programs in the elementary school system statewide. The Children's Museum offers one of the longest running early childhood education centers in the nation at The Children's Museum Preschool. Additionally, the Museum's Roaring Brook Nature Center in nearby Canton offers natural

science and history exhibits and programs, a wildlife sanctuary, nature trails and outdoor gardens. With the recent recommitment of support from the State of Connecticut and the Town of West Hartford, The Children's Museum is poised to begin an exciting new chapter in its 80-year history with plans to relocate and expand at a new facility over the next few years.

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