

### Thanks to Our Friends:

Although the point of an Annual Report is to look back on the achievements of the prior year, we at The Children's Museum are also very much focused forward, eagerly anticipating the accomplishments to come.

We sincerely thank you, our donors and funders, for making possible all that we do. The 2011 Gala raised nearly \$250,000 in support of our education programs. As a result, our science educators go into public schools at the request of classroom teachers and reinforce science lessons. Additionally, many schools and youth groups come to the Museum for fabulous experiences on field trips. The largess of corporate and foundation grantors and the generosity of our individual donors make it all possible.

There were visible changes at The Children's Museum this past year. Aetna's gift of carpeting created the occasion for us to repaint our walls. Foundation and other donations enabled The Children's Museum's Roaring Brook Nature Center to install a new exhibit, *The Farmington: A Wild & Scenic River*, and new Animal Senses and Geology gardens for use with education programs. Volunteers dedicated many hours to maintaining cages and otherwise caring for the animals living at both locations.

To give you a glimpse of the dynamic changes that we are looking at for 2012, we are pleased to announce a contract with *National Geographic* which will bring the high quality of programming the *National Geographic* brand is known for to the Museum's Travelers Science Dome at the Gengras Planetarium. The program we will show as a result will bring an incredible glimpse of weather throughout the solar system.

Because of these changes our need for your support will grow over the next 12 months as we position ourselves for the coming years.

The ways you help us are limitless. Especially because we receive almost no public assistance – unlike most other science and nature centers – your continuing support is essential to our ongoing success. Our future is brilliant, and the buzz is growing, so watch for more exciting news from The Children's Museum throughout the coming year.

Thank you for all you do and all you give us.



S. Rick Liftig, D.M.D.

Robert R. Griesmer

### Our Year In Review

Here is just a sampling of a year of science and nature fun made available to all of our visitors and supporters through the generosity of our donors and funders. Thank you!

#### Blue Planet, Red Planet: Exploring Planetary Science

Our newest exhibit, transforming the former Explore Store into a Mars experience that celebrates the history of space exploration and the discoveries of the last fifty years, opened in March thanks to a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The exhibit features a timeline of Mars exploration history with video highlights, motion-capture simulators that bring guests onto the surface of Mars, an electronic quiz that tests your knowledge of what is in the exhibit, and an outdoor greenhouse for student-created planting experiments using "Mars soil" and Mars techniques. The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology in East Hartford partnered with us to develop the exhibit components.

In addition, a complimentary planetarium show, *Invaders of Mars!*, explores the Martian surface as seen by Earth's various spacecraft, and the Museum hosts monthly Mars Madness open house evenings for guests to explore the exhibit and learn more about current and future Mars exploration projects.

*Blue Planet, Red Planet: Exploring Planetary Science* is the first phase of a multi-year grant sponsored by NASA's Competitive Program for Museums and Planetariums. Future initiatives include Teacher Professional Development opportunities, field trip modules for students in Grades 4 through 8, and the creation of the Museum's own planetarium show showing what life would be like for humans living in a Martian colony.

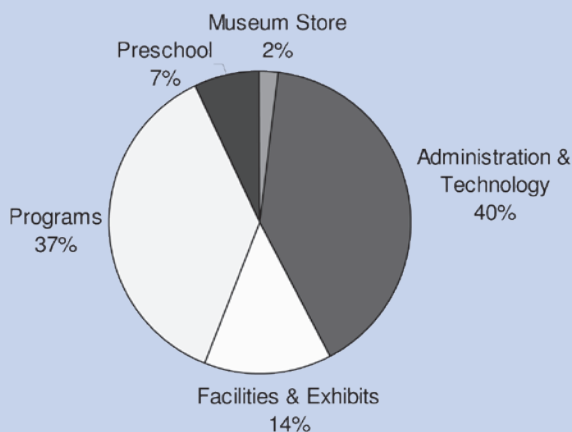
*Our Year In Review is continued on the back cover.*



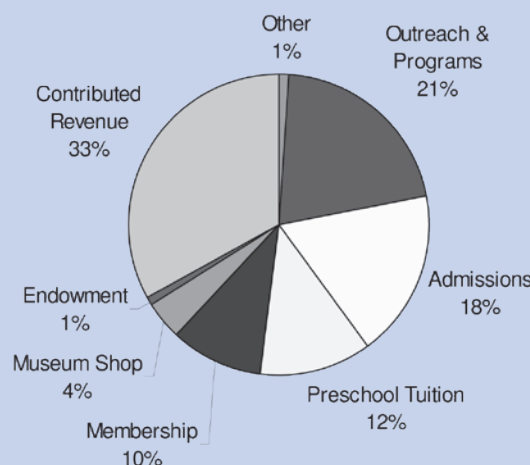
West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka tries out the motion capture simulator at the opening of *Blue Planet, Red Planet*.

## Financial Summary

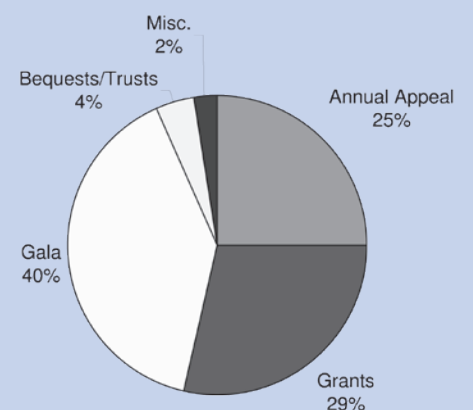
### Operating Expenses



### Operating Revenue



### Sources of Contributed Revenue FY11



# 2010 - 2011 Contributors

Grateful thanks to all the individuals, corporations, foundations, and government and community organizations who made a generous gift to The Children's Museum between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. Gifts to the Museum touch every part of the institution and enable us to serve our community's youngest residents, their families, and their schools each day.

## EXHIBIT & PROGRAM SUPPORT

### \$25,000 and above

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Travelers**

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

J. Walton Bissell Foundation, Inc.  
Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism  
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
**SBM Charitable Foundation**

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

The Fund for Greater Hartford  
The Ellen Jeanne Goldfarb Memorial Charitable Trust  
**The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.**  
LEGO Children's Fund  
Legrand/Wiremold  
The Vernon D. & Florence E. Roosa Family Foundation  
The UPS Foundation

### up to \$4,999

Canton Community Health Fund  
The Garden Club of Avon  
George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation  
Lou Loomis  
Reid and Riege  
Roaring Brook Nature Center Auxiliary  
Beth Schiro & Stephen Bayer  
**Talcott Mountain Forest Protection Association Fund**

## Matching Gifts

*The following companies matched donations made by their employees during the 2010-2011 year.*

Aetna Foundation, Inc.  
Bank of America  
CIGNA  
General Electric Capital  
General Reinsurance Corporation  
IBM International Foundation  
The Phoenix Companies, Inc.  
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.  
Travelers  
United Technologies Corporation

## In-Kind Gifts

Mr. Richard A. Adams  
Aetna Inc.  
Big Y Foods, Inc.  
James Bonk  
Gail Bruhn  
Lothar R. Candels, M.D.  
Jay Kaplan  
Rita Langevin, Cedar Mountain Florist  
LEGO®  
Mission Control Inc.  
Andrew Papsun  
Sloane Pielli  
Steve Putnam  
Rizzuto's Wood-Fired Kitchen & Bar  
Dana Robinson, Robinson Ad & Design  
Robinson & Cole LLP  
Table & Vine  
Christina Verner  
Eric Wallis Photography  
Whole Foods Market  
Zoodle - Live Art Entertainment

## OPERATING SUPPORT

*Donors of \$100 or more are listed.*

### Jupiter Club (\$5,000 & above)

**Ellen M. Brown**  
**Gail & Julian Coolidge**  
Bob & Frankie Goldfarb  
**Elaine B. McDonald & Donald E. Sullivan\***

### Saturn Ring (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Anonymous  
Christine & Matthew Bromberg  
ConnectiCare  
Karen & Michael Conway  
The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.  
Bev & Rolf Knoll  
Alan B. Lazowski  
**Rick & Kathy Liftig**  
**Worth and Louise Loomis Foundation Fund**  
**The Katharine K. McLane and Henry R. McLane Charitable Trust**  
**John G. Mele & Patricia A. Dempsey**  
Jacqueline Pennino Scheib  
**Betty & Frank Stanley**

### Neptune Society (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

**Anonymous**  
Richard L. Alleyne  
Rachel S. Bader\*  
**Wendy H. Culp**  
**Beth & Glenn Cunningham**  
Marina & John Cunningham  
**Stephen A. & Suzanne T. Davis**  
Gina Federico Muslim  
Danielle P. Ferrucci  
Lori & Jeffrey Flaks  
**Larry & Renee Hartshorn\***  
Kaman Corporation  
Keylynx Technologies  
Andrew Matos  
Clifton McPherson & Elizabeth Freedman  
**Pam & Don Peterson**  
Rotary Club of West Hartford  
**Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Sharpless**  
Jennifer & Nick Shufro  
**Sorenson-Pearson Family Foundation Inc.**  
**Kevin Sullivan & Carolyn Thornberry**  
Alfred & Janet Turco  
**United Technologies Corporation**  
Mark & Elaine Walker

### Earth Circle (\$500 - \$999)

**Pamela Albertsen**  
ALSTOM Power Inc.  
BlumShapiro  
Tara & John Brown  
Gail Bruhn  
The Dornam Foundation  
Matt & Nancy Dunbar  
Dr. Christoph T. Feddersen  
Dr. Frederick Feibel  
**Nora & Jody Goeler**  
**The Harry E. Goldfarb Family Foundation, Inc.**  
Goodwin College  
Sue & Cal Heminway  
**Virginia W. Hughes°**  
David Jepson  
James Meehan & Patricia White  
Chiaw Eei NgGibson & Jon Gibson  
Sonny & Rob Pecci  
Brewster & Judith Perkins  
Scott & Joyce Persing\*  
Private Capital Group LLC  
/William T. Rabbitt, CFP  
**Douglas H. Robins**  
Lisa & Kevin Roche  
**Howard Shafer**  
Mark & Tina St. Pierre  
John Stewart & Candace Heublein  
TicketNetwork Inc.  
**Willis of Connecticut**  
Zachs Family

### Venus Guild (\$250 - \$499)

Daniel D. Adams, JD  
Betty Ann Ambrosi  
Lauren E. Avezzie Charitable Foundation  
**Alice & Richard Baxter**  
**Katherine & Christopher J. Berman**  
Randall C. Bremer  
William & Susan Butler  
**Canton Village Gulf**  
Pamela Churchill  
**Naomi & Michael Cohen**  
Connecticut Public Broadcasting, Inc.  
James B. Davis\*  
**Gerry & Donna Dodge**  
**Anthony Drapelick**  
Pat & John Droney  
**William M. & Susan R. Duncan**  
Janet & Wilson Faude  
The Flatbread Company Inc.  
Helen & Henry Freedman  
**Judi Friedman**  
Gail & Bill Goddard  
**Kent & Penny Goetjen**  
**Phil & Leslie Gordon**  
Marion and Ellsworth Grant Fund  
**Mr. Rick Gray**  
Jacqueline V. Grogan  
Erin & Joe Guarino  
**Mr. & Mrs. W. Christopher Hamilton**  
Margaret F. Harding  
**Harkema, Inc.**  
Elizabeth D. Horyn  
**Jim & Peg Hutton**  
Karen & Stephen Jarmoc  
**Eileen & Hal Kraus**  
Judie & Coleman Levy  
Larry Lunden  
Arthur & Elizabeth Namerow  
Karen & Bill Nappo  
Jim & Lisa Patrick  
Dot Pedneault  
**Nancy T. Rankin & H.C. Macgill**  
Mary Grace & Jack Reed  
**Mr. & Mrs. John H. Riege**  
**Rohlfing/Steinway Family**  
**Rosenthal Family**  
Mark & Ieke Scully  
**Deneen Seifel**  
**Donald R. Seifel, Jr.**  
**Elenor Smith**  
Barbara H. Taylor  
Trading Post, Inc.  
**Betsy van Gemenen**  
Viking Fuel Oil - Moises Razuri  
**Sandra & Jay Weintraub**  
Alison H. Wilson  
Kenneth Wilson  
**Mr. & Mrs. David Winer**

### Mars Sphere (\$100 - \$249)

Anonymous (4)  
**Tom & Marie Allan**  
Allstate Insurance  
Sheila Amdur  
Christine Arseneau  
**Mr. & Mrs.° Robert D. Augusta**  
Tracey & Bruce Backman  
Andrew G. Baldassarre  
Glenn A. & Theresa Sullivan Barger  
Lee M. Barrows  
David E. Baxter  
Pamela & Paul Beach\*  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Beach  
Sally N. Belding  
Charles & Sharon Bell  
**Marshall & Karen Berger**  
**Jane M. Bergeron**  
Katie & Mark Berube  
**Judy & John Bierly**  
**James Black**  
Dr. Robert Block & Dr. Christine Cornachio  
**Jim & Judy Bonk**  
**Denise Bourret**  
Brad Bowman  
Jack & Anne Bowne  
Curt Brainard  
Gregory J. Brown Jr.  
Nancy Brown  
**Lois & Bob Brown**  
Danuto Bucior/Sparkling Star Cleaning Service LLC  
Ms. Margaret F. Buck

Barbara J. Calderone  
Shari & Michael Cantor  
Eleanor Caplan  
**Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence S. Carlton**  
Carmon Funeral Home of Avon  
Cas-Kel Mfg. Co. Inc.  
Center Orthodontics, LLC  
Cherry Brook Garden Club  
Paul G. Cianfaglione  
Dorie & Dom Cinti  
CIVITAN Club of Simsbury and the Farmington Valley, Inc.  
Maria & George Claffey  
Ms. Lois Comstock  
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Connelly  
Caroline & David Coolidge  
Manon Cox  
Joe Daly  
Thomas J. D'Amore, Jr.  
Marc & Karyn d'Avignon  
Chrissie D'Esopo  
**Dawn & Len Diana**  
Judith A. Diers & David C. Parsons  
Donald B. Ducor, D.V.M.  
Leya and Michael Edison  
**Mr. & Mrs. James F. English, Jr.**  
Linea N. Erickson  
Scott Falk & Anna Boelitz  
Ken & Melissa Feder  
**Patricia S. Fienemann**  
Tom & Madelyn Filomeno  
Carol B. Finnigan  
Candace V. Fitzpatrick  
Flavin-McDonald Family  
The Fontana's  
**Katie French**  
Brigid & Robert Frost  
Margaret O.C. Fry  
Ginger Furey  
John J. Gaffney  
**The Gardeners of Simsbury**  
**Betsy & Dick Gardiner**  
Daniel & Bonnie Gauthier  
**Robert & Marion Gilmore**  
Elliot Ginsberg  
K. Godfrey\*  
**Scott & Sharon Goetjen**  
**Blanche & Steven Goldenberg**  
Joel Grafstein  
Jim Greenwood & Sarah Bedichek  
Robert C. Guthrie  
Brent S. Hall  
Denise Hall  
Wendy M. Haller  
Stephen Hamilton  
Mr. & Mrs. Morton Handel  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Hanscomb  
Susan Forbes Hansen  
**Dawn & Thomas Harris**  
Merle & David Harris  
**Elizabeth J. Henderson**  
Isabel B. Higgins  
Deborah Hoffman  
Thomas G. Holt  
Mark & Lynn Homan  
**Joyce L. Hope**  
Marianne Horn  
Jeff Hubbard  
Rich & Deb Huebner  
**Anne H. Isbister**  
Brian & Lisa Jennings  
Edward & Michael Jeter  
Alice E. Johansson  
**Jim & Pat Juhl**  
Robert Jungas  
D. Karavias  
**John & Deann Keating**  
**Edith T. Kelly**  
Nat Kennedy  
**Martin & Muriel Kesten**  
**Brenda L. Kleinman**  
**Cathy & Jim Koplak**  
David J. Kozak & Elizabeth A. Appel  
Roland Lareau  
Judith Larkin  
Cynthia & C. James Lawler  
Joe Hoke & Leesa Lawson  
Mark B. Leach  
**David K. Leff**  
Joel Lehman  
Susan & David Lemkuil  
Jannine & Ed Leshem

# the children's museum

Mr. Vincent Loffredo  
Ann & Mike Long  
**Walter Lowell**  
**Linda L. Luchs & Joseph H. Fisher**  
**Karen Macbeth**  
Edwin J. Maley, Jr.  
Roger Manternach  
**Eduardo Marchena & Jean Darlington**  
**Marcia & Jeffrey Marsted**  
J.M. Martin  
**Judith G. McDonough**  
Doug McKain & Ruth Penfield  
Jane W. Mead  
**Phyllis Meeker**  
Boyd Mefferd  
Judith P. Melick  
Margaret A. Meskill  
Bruce & Shirley Metzger  
Mr. C. Rodney Miller  
**Linda & Gary Miller**  
Mayre Miller\*  
Don & Ineke Mitchell  
Barbara & Ed Molyneaux  
Andrew & Claudia Morrow  
Christi & Jeff Morrow\*  
**Jack & Sue Mulcahy**  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Murray III  
Amy & Salman Muslim  
**Steve & Chris Noble**  
**The Norland Family**  
Jonathan & Katie Oakleaf  
Deborah and Gregory Obrizzo  
Mark O'Donnell  
Rownie & Jim Okie  
Susan H. Palisano  
Huguet Pameijer  
Erik K. Paulsen & Gillian Hodgen  
Katherine Pearson  
**Mrs. William R. Peelle**  
Mr. Mark Penney  
John & Robin Pettini  
Nancy Phelan  
Harmon & Nancy Poole  
Constance & Robert Porter  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Posteraro III  
Rob & Lynn Preminger  
Bill & Jane Preskenis  
Alice Radosh & Barton Meyers  
Daniel L. Radosh & Gina M. Duclayan  
**Dr. Allan Reiskin**  
Joe & Marilyn Ricci  
Cynthia S. Riddle  
Thomas Ritter  
Mr. Bob Rittner  
John & Laura Roche  
Monica & Avery Rockefeller  
Ray & Linda Rosati\*  
Steve Roslonek  
Helen Roth  
**Mr. & Mrs. Raymond G. Roy, Jr.**  
Royer Family  
Jim & Debra Ruel  
Cornelia L. Russell  
**Todd & Andrea Russo**  
Jen Ryan  
Joe Santos  
R. Kent Sargent, M.D.  
Ruth C. Scanlon  
Joe & Barbara Scheideler  
Anita & James Schepker  
Alison & Anthony Scherer  
Mr. Richard Scheuch  
**Ron Schilling\***  
Sandy & Dave Schupp  
Frazier & Judy Scott\*  
**Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan E. Seymour**  
Mrs. June F. Sherman  
C. B. Simmons  
Simsbury Garden Club  
The Skottegaard Family  
Mr. Elliott J. Small  
**Ruth & Gilbert Small**  
Nathan Smith  
**Suzi Smith**  
State Leadership Fund  
Ms. Carolyn Staub  
Jo Ann & Tony Stevens  
Drew & Cheryl Stone  
Jay & Susan Stoppelman  
Jane S. Strong  
**Richard & Gretchen Swibold**  
**Diane & Howard Sydney**

Michael & Barbara Tamsin\*  
**The Tennens**  
**Lane & Baldwin Terry**  
Richard & Maryellen Thibodeau  
Camilla & Paul Thompson  
**Roger & Marilyn Thrall**  
Three-Way Communications  
Jan & Jim Titus\*  
Paul & Beverly Truebig  
Anne Valerio  
Mary B. Van Vranken  
**Jim & Kitty Vangunten**  
Vic's Automotive Service, Inc.  
Mark & Dawn von Mayrhauser  
Janet & Fred von Pechmann  
David Vorchheimer & Jennifer Coffey  
Kevin J. Walsh & Stacy Smith Walsh  
Bill & Marianne Watson  
Richard & Robin Weiss  
Weissman LLC  
Sylvia and Paul Wenger  
Richard M. Wenner\*  
William B. White  
**Mr. Michael Whittlesey**  
**Betsy Woodard**  
**Deb Woodsome**  
Cynthia & Thomas Yoczki  
Debbie & Gary Zahorodni

**Bequests & Trusts**  
**The John T. and Jane M. Austin Memorial Fund**  
**Frederick S. Bliss Estate Trust**  
Estate of Lucille A. Diorio  
**Joseph S. Stackpole Trust**

## Honorary & Memorial Gifts

*In honor of Ron & Sue Barnett:*  
Ellen and George Clarke  
*In memory of Larry Barrows:*  
Judith P. Melick  
*In honor of Break Free of TV week at Pine Grove School:*  
The Lancaster Family  
*In memory of Theresa Carosella, Helen R. Nachtigal, Ross Arbuckle & Mia Shand:*  
Nora & Jody Goeler  
*In honor of The Cantor boys:*  
Shari & Michael Cantor  
*In memory of Jane Cheney:*  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell F. Pound Jr.  
*In memory of Lucille J. Duclayan:*  
Anonymous  
Law Offices of Bruce E. Bergman  
Olive & Vincent D'Atri  
Dattco-Sunshine Club  
Judith A. Diers & David C. Parsons  
Barbara & Stephen Drayer  
David M. Drumm  
Linea N. Erickson  
Joanne F. Gruber  
Lola & Frank Guglietta  
Lisa Cyr Hartman & James Hartman  
Sharon & Kevin Kittelsen  
J. M. Martin  
Celia & Johnny Ovrahim  
Alice Radosh & Barton Meyers  
Daniel L. Radosh & Gina M. Duclayan  
Regina Tromza Raynor  
Kathy & Robert Riddle  
Regina Scarpa  
Marcia & Leslie Sindland  
Patricia & Anthony Toro  
Friends & Co-workers at Travelers  
Mary B. Van Vranken  
*In honor of Jane Hannah's birthday:*  
Christine and Bob Davis  
*In memory of Rob Hertel:*  
Pamela S. Albertsen  
*In honor of Trevor Johnson's birthday:*  
The Bennett Family  
The Holcomb/Gautieri Family  
The Melmed Family  
The Stiland Family  
*In honor of Roger Manternach:*  
Anne & John Hall  
*In honor of Chris Mathein:*  
Dick & Jeannie Parker  
*In honor of Ryan, Michelle & Abbie McKain:*  
Doug McKain & Ruth Penfield  
*In memory of Ruth Mead:*  
Jane W. Mead

*In memory of Jacqueline A. Neidentohl:*  
Metrum Research Group  
*In memory of Rosanna Orsini:*  
Susan K. Stoppelman  
*Schofield memorial:*  
Pamela S. Albertsen  
*In memory of Mia Shand:*  
Pamela & Paul Beach\*  
Cates Consulting East, LLC  
Ellie Galligan  
Guests at Ellie Galligan's birthday party  
Dana & Robert Kosior  
The Poleyestewa Family  
Lane D. Spero & Michele R. Weinberg  
*In honor of Abigail Sprinsky's birthday:*  
Kelly P. Daly  
Ellen & Paul Sprinsky  
*In honor of the Stanziale Family:*  
Ann Stanziale  
*In honor of Brenda Steen:*  
Patricia L. Burke  
Ann Greene  
*In memory of James Stover:*  
Betsy Woodard  
*In memory of Michael Woodard:*  
Heidi L. Woodard  
*In memory of Rodney Wyman:*  
The Fontana's

\*indicates gift was matched; †deceased  
Donor names in **bold** recognize 5 or more years of consecutive giving.

*We also thank the many donors who make gifts toward the feeding and care of the animals at The Children's Museum and Roaring Brook Nature Center!*

## THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES July 2010 - June 2011

*Officers through 11/18/10*  
Elaine B. McDonald, Chair  
John G. Mele, Vice Chair  
Ellen M. Brown, Secretary  
Tina St. Pierre, Treasurer  
*Officers from 11/18/10*  
S. Rick Lifting, D.M.D., Chair  
John G. Mele, Vice Chair  
Jacqueline Pennino Scheib, Secretary  
Andrew A. Matos, Treasurer  
Richard L. Alleyne  
Rachel S. Bader  
Bret Bowin, AIA  
Matthew F. Bromberg  
John C. Clark, III, AIA  
Glenn M. Cunningham  
Danielle P. Ferrucci  
Jeffrey A. Flaks  
Larry H. Hartshorn  
Elizabeth D. Horyn  
Rolf W. Knoll, M.D.  
Clifton E. McPherson, Ph.D.  
Andrew Morrow  
Susan H. Palisano  
Melissa Skottegaard  
Al Turco  
Mark D. Walker  
Kevin B. Sullivan, ex-officio through 1/7/11  
Don Peterson, ex-officio, from 1/10/11

## A CHILD'S WORLD

The Children's Museum's 15th Annual Gala

### Pioneers (\$10,000)

Farmington Bank  
LAZ Parking

### Voyagers (\$7,500)

Bob & Frankie Goldfarb  
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center  
Travelers

### Explorers (\$5,000)

**Bank of America**  
**Ellen M. Brown**  
**Citizens Bank**  
CL&P and Yankee Gas - Northeast Utilities  
Companies

Goodwin College

Hamilton Sundstrand

**Hartford Courant**

Hartford Hospital

**Landmark Partners**

**Robinson & Cole LLP**

**Shipman & Goodwin LLP**

**Stanley Black & Decker**

The UPS Foundation

### Discoverers (\$2,500 & above)

Accounting Resources, Inc.

**Aetna**

The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection

& Insurance Company

Hoffman Auto Group

JCJ Architecture

The Matos Group

**Elaine McDonald & Don Sullivan**

McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP

Don & Pam Peterson

Protein Sciences Corporation

The Rogow Greenberg Foundation

**Linda & David Roth**

UBS Financial Services, Inc. -

Andrew G. Baldassarre, CFA

### Additional Support

**Barnes Group Foundation Inc.**

Bingham McCutchen LLP

Eric & Jessica Zachs

### Honorary Committee

Alan Lazowski, Chair Elaine McDonald

Beth Brody John Motley

Ellen Brown Mark Scheinberg

Pamela Churchill Scott Slifka

Bob & Frankie Goldfarb Eric & Jessica Zachs

Rolf Knoll

### Event Committee

Rachel Bader Chantal Hurtado

Kristin Cohane Ashanti Osbourne

Sue Davis Angie Romero

Jody Flaxman AJ Siegel

*Gala patrons and donors are listed among the*

*Operating Support Donors.*

Many thanks to our auction and wine wall

donors, advertisers, Ara Daglian and Tumble

Brook Country Club, celebrity emcees Laurie

Perez and Jim Altman of FoxCT, and everyone

who attended *A Child's World*, bid on the

auction items, took a chance on the wine

wall, sponsored our animals, and supported

our education programs!

*Below: Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Trustee*

*Trey McPherson, and Protein Sciences guests*

*at A Child's World gala. Photo by Eric Wallis*



## Our Year in Review continued

### A Great Year of Family Science

With a generous grant from The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., we kicked off *Family Science Sundays*, a year-long series of family events, which ended in May. Visitors met live birds, a teacher-in-space, and high school robotics teams, built model rockets, dissected flowers, saw combustion demonstrations, and more. Eighteen community groups attended *Family Science Sundays* free of charge thanks to The Hartford's support.

Northeast Utilities Foundation and Connecticut Light & Power have stepped up to support a second year of *Family Science Sundays*, which began in October 2011. Held the third Sunday of each month and free with Museum admission, each Sunday has its own theme with special demonstrations, hands-on experiments, guest presenters, and take-home activities.

### A Whale of a Birthday

On July 28, 2010, Conny the Whale celebrated his 35th birthday. Museum visitors that day were able to hear his amazing story and see a video of his creation. Conny's designer, Robbins Barstow, presented the Museum with an original set of blueprints, and we were delighted that members of the Cetacean Society International, some of whom helped build Conny, were in attendance.

It took hundreds of volunteers over 5,000 hours to build Conny between 1975 and 1976. From his hand-crafted life-sized teeth and hand-blown glass eyes to the miles of steel and tons of cement for his body, Conny was made with care from the time and materials donated by whale lovers.

### Building Renovations and New Exhibits at Roaring Brook

The Children's Museum particularly appreciates support for its facility in Canton, Roaring Brook Nature Center. Work began on an important two-phase building renovation when the Avon/Canton Rotary Club offered to build a small addition to store chairs, tables, and supplies, freeing up space for an accessible restroom. Thanks to grant support, work has also begun on a new auditorium exhibit, *The Farmington: A Wild and Scenic River*. Other new exhibits include outdoor geology and animal senses gardens to be used with classes. The Friends of Roaring Brook Nature Center held a *Cabin Fever* fundraiser to replace the original 1966 furnace. The new furnace will provide improved efficiency and lower maintenance costs.

### A World of Support for A Child's World

Over 225 guests enjoyed *A Child's World*, our 15th annual gala, in April at Tumble Brook Country Club in Bloomfield. Many thanks to all our guests, including Governor Dannel P. Malloy, former President and CEO Kevin Sullivan, Honorary Committee Chair Alan Lazowski, our volunteers, and our generous sponsors. Over \$245,000 – another new record of support! – was raised for the wide array of science and nature education initiatives offered by the Museum in West Hartford, at Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and in preschool and elementary classrooms across the state.

### Science Achievement For All

Numerous generous grants from corporations and foundations enabled the talented science educators of The Children's Museum to bring exciting science programs to schools in Priority Districts throughout the state. Museum educators worked with school teachers to present lessons that supplemented classroom curricula and met State standards, engaging students in hands-on experiences and bringing science and nature concepts to life – while at the same time strengthening literacy and numeracy. Grant-funded in Priority School Districts and funded elsewhere by schools, Boards of Education, and PTO/PTAs, *Science Achievement For All* enriched the science lessons of 7,700 students in 63 schools last year.

### Change at the Top

Our President and CEO, Kevin Sullivan, was tapped by Governor Dannel P. Malloy to be his Commissioner of Revenue Services. Don Peterson, who had previously served The Children's Museum as Interim Director, returned in the same capacity, enabling the Trustees to conduct a national, thoughtful search for a new CEO. On September 19, 2011, Bob Griesmer, who had been COO of the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, CT, for 21 years, took the helm and immediately began an exciting and innovative program to reinvigorate exhibits and programs and reposition the Museum.

### Around the Museum – There's always so much going on!

We debuted a new education program for preschoolers and their caregivers – *Little Hands Science Workshop* – developed using the standards from the Connecticut Preschool Framework to encourage adult/child creative collaborative learning and funded by the LEGO Children's Fund. • Quarterly Flight Days launched with a variety of flight-related activities and demonstrations, as part of our *Winging It!* exhibit and with help from Hamilton Sundstrand volunteers. • Among the new animals our wildlife sanctuary welcomed over the past year were Chace, a 13-year-old African serval, who found a loving home at the Museum from January through March, and three chinchillas. • Roaring Brook Nature Center sponsored the annual Farmington Valley Butterfly Count in the summer. • The Museum participated in local community events, including the Park Road Parade, Celebrate West Hartford, and was the beneficiary of the Rotary Club's annual LobsterFest. • The planetarium rocked out with summer laser shows. • Summer Wednesdays were extra-special with fun drop-in events. • Education staff presented at Outreach Live: New England and the Association of Science-Technology Centers' annual conferences. • We continued to contribute to *Sky Above/Earth Below*, a multi-part science literacy series published in the *Hartford Courant* as part of their *News In Education* program. • We were recognized for our work as a Community Partner Organization by the Connecticut Association of Foster and Adoptive Parents.



Exploring Nature's Backyard during summer camp



Above: Meg & Robbins Barstow celebrate Conny's 35th birthday



At left: Chace



Above: Scot Haney conducting the auction at Roaring Brook's Cabin Fever event.



At right: Flight Day