



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Howard Shafer, Executive Director, Day Pitney LLP, 860.275.0227,
hkshafer@daypitney.com

Rosalie Roth, Vice President, Institutional Advancement, The Children's
Museum, 860.231.2830, ext. 23, rroth@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org

Hank Gruner Appointed Interim Museum Director at The Children's Museum

West Hartford, CT (April 20, 2007)... The Children's Museum (formerly Science Center of Connecticut) has announced the appointment of Hank Gruner as Interim Museum Director upon the recent retirement of Edward J. Forand Jr., the Museum's former President and Chief Executive Officer. Gruner has been with the Museum since 1984 and most currently served as Vice President of Programs and Exhibits with oversight of all Museum programs and exhibits as well as the responsibility for leading the Museum's future planning efforts.

According to Museum Board Chair, Howard Shafer, "Hank Gruner is the heart and soul of the Museum, with many years of experience in museum management and programming. We are fortunate to have a professional of his caliber on staff to continue the ongoing operations of The Children's Museum. Along with Hank's leadership skills and the talented expertise of the staff, the Museum is in a strong position to move forward." Shafer went on to say that the Museum is commencing a search for a new Executive Director.

Gruner is a renowned Connecticut biologist and has more than 20 years of experience as a herpetologist conducting field research and working with local, state and regional planning agencies on the conservation of amphibians and reptiles. He serves as the Biodiversity Coordinator for Connecticut Programs under the auspices of the Wildlife Conservation Society. Gruner also serves as coordinator for the statewide Connecticut

Amphibian Monitoring Project. He has been recognized by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, the Connecticut Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, and the Garden Club of America for his contributions to conservation and education.

Gruner received his B.S. degree from the University of Connecticut. He resides with his wife and family in Andover.

The Children's Museum is committed to igniting the curiosity of young people through science and nature. In addition to the museum and the United Technologies Wildlife Sanctuary, the organization includes the Gengras Planetarium, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and The Children's Museum Preschool, one of the oldest preschools in the country. The Children's Museum serves close to 200,000 people annually, and is the fifth oldest children's museum in the country, and Connecticut's largest museum. Located at 950 Trout Brook Drive in West Hartford, the museum is accessible from I-84 Exit 43 and offers free parking. For more information, visit the website at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org.

###