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“WALK THE PLANK” AND “TUNNEL OF BLOOD” CAPTIVATE, EDUCATE, AND ENTERTAIN VISITORS AT THE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM’S NEWEST EXHIBIT

Body Carnival Exhibit on display September 30, 2006 – January 1, 2007



West Hartford (September 18, 2006)...Step right up, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, to The Children’s Museum’s new carnival-themed traveling exhibition, *Body Carnival: The Science and Fun of Being You!* On display from September 30, 2006 through January 1, 2007, the 2000 square foot exhibit carnival allows youngsters to experience firsthand how force, pressure, light, color, and motion affect their own bodies.

For example, our young guests will be able to:

- Crawl through an artery, the Tunnel of Blood, and see for themselves the effects of plaque formation.
- Feel the reverberations of sound in their bones and muscles at the Feel Music pad.

- Experience the sensation of falling out of control, as they test their balance while traveling through the Dizzy Tunnel.
- Discover how sight affects one's ability to walk straight when visitors put on a pair of vision-distorting goggles.
- Of special interest to adults, target heart rates can be determined at the Calculation Station, and blood pressure measured at the Pressure Vessel.

Assorted clown figures are stationed throughout the exhibit to highlight facts about the human body. This exhibit also provides classroom support with teacher training and curriculum materials.

According to Hank Gruner, Vice President of Programs and Exhibits at The Children's Museum, "The *'Body Carnival'* exhibit offers a hands-on and festive learning environment for young children. The idea behind *Body Carnival* is to link physics concepts to a subject children can relate to – their own body. Therefore, it makes learning about physical science more appealing, relevant and fun."

The Presenting Sponsor of the exhibit is AT&T; the Lead Sponsor, Aetna Foundation; and Supporting Presenting Sponsors include the Roosa Family Foundation and Whole Foods Market. Additional sponsorship support was received from Hartford Magazine, Jefferson Radiology, and Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center. The exhibit was created by a collaborative of seven science museums.

The Children's Museum's Fall schedule is Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday noon to 5 pm, and open Monday on holidays and school vacation weeks.

The Children's Museum is committed to igniting the curiosity of young people through science and nature. In addition to the museum, the organization includes the United Technologies Wildlife Sanctuary, 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 over 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, call the museum at (860) 231-2824 or visit the website at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org .

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