



The New Children's Museum Awarded Grant from Walmart for Family Programs

WEST HARTFORD, Conn (February 19, 2016) – The New Children's Museum received a \$25,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation to support *Families Learn Together*, an upcoming monthly public program series for children and their families.

Beginning in September 2016, *Families Learn Together* will feature a variety of hands-on activities that will focus on a different monthly theme. Programs will feature multidisciplinary content including science, nature, art, and more. They will also incorporate the Museum's unique assets, including its wildlife sanctuary, planetarium, and interactive exhibits.

"Programs that enrich children's lives and strengthen families embody the core values of the Walmart Foundation," said Chris Buchanan, Director of Public Affairs & State and Local Government Relations for Walmart. "We are honored to help launch this new endeavor at The New Children's Museum."

Families Learn Together will be structured around family member involvement in children's education. The New Children's Museum's Executive Director, Mike Werle, stated, "Family involvement is critical for young children to learn, develop, and thrive. These programs will provide opportunities for families to work together, support their child's learning, grow together, and strengthen the overall community."

The Museum will feature its *Families Learn Together* programs on one Sunday of each month beginning in September 2016. *Families Learn Together* will be free to Museum members and general admission visitors. The Museum will also partner with local community organizations to help disadvantaged families access these programs. More information on *Families Learn Together* programming will be available by summer 2016.

The New Children's Museum is positioned as a premier education center for children in preschool through middle school. Home to over 100 live animals, the Museum features hands-on exhibits, out-of-this-world digital planetarium shows, and programs for young children and families.

The New Children's Museum and Roaring Brook Nature Center are the region's premiere destinations for exploration. The New Children's Museum and Preschool are located at 950 Trout Brook Drive in West Hartford and Roaring Brook Nature Center is located at 70 Gracey Road in Canton. More information is available at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org.

For more information on sponsoring educational programs, please contact Julie Barnofski Portfolio at jportfolio@thechildrensmuseumct.org or (860) 231-2830 x510.

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