



The Children's Museum Elects Two New Board Members

WEST HARTFORD, Conn (August 10, 2016) – The Children's Museum announced that Moraima Gutierrez and Michael Bell have been elected to its Board of Trustees.

“Over the past year, we’ve significantly grown our board of trustees from six members to fifteen active and talented professionals,” stated Michael Werle, Executive Director of The Children's Museum. “Moraima and Michael are welcomed additions that possess strong leadership skills and genuine passions for furthering child education.”

Moraima Gutierrez is the Assistant District Director for Economic Development and Media Relations Specialist at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for the Connecticut District Office. Using her extensive background in management and marketing, she helps business owners grow and expand their businesses through loan programs and entrepreneurial services. Prior, Ms. Gutierrez worked for the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission where she was the public relations liaison for the Commission. She holds a M.S. in Management from the University of Saint Joseph and a B.S. in Communications/Liberal Arts from Bay Path College.

"Like The Children's Museum, I've always prioritized strengthening communities and making education equitable for all. Joining their board was a natural step. I'm looking forward to being a part of the Museum's future," Ms. Gutierrez stated.

Michael Bell is the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of Voya Investment Management where he heads corporate finance planning, financial reporting, and the development of the multiyear strategic business plans. Prior, Mr. Bell served as CFO of Hartford Investment Management (HIMCO) and Hartford Life, and he was a senior manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP. He received his B.S. in Accounting from the University of Rhode Island and an M.B.A. from the University of Connecticut. He also holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a Certified Public Accountant.

"I'm very happy to join The Children's Museum's Board," stated Mr. Bell. "For years, my children attended the Museum's preschool and regularly visited its exhibits. Our time there was so important for their development, and I'm happy to be part of the effort that perpetuates these learning opportunities for others."

Ms. Gutierrez and Mr. Bell join the Board of The Children's Museum on the heels of Judith Rosenthal, principal and owner of JRR Associates, who was elected to the Board in June 2016.

“The Museum is very excited to welcome Michael, Moraima, and Judith as its newest board members. Each of them brings a wealth of knowledge and professional experience that is essential to leading the Museum forward in the coming years,” stated Peter Stevens, Board Chair of The Children's Museum.

The Children's Museum and Roaring Brook Nature Center are the region's premiere destinations for exploration and education. 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 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.

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Editorial Contact:

Julie Portfolio

(860) 231-2830 x510

jportfolio@thechildrensmuseumct.org