



The Science, Art, and Technology of Accessible Education for the Blind Day *September 12, 2015*

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (August 19, 2015) – The Central Connecticut chapter of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) will present programs on accessible technology for the Blind at The New Children’s Museum of West Hartford.

On September 12, visitors will learn about assistive technology and how to write with the Braille alphabet, examine how art can be touchable, and create a take-home tactile picture. NFB will also demonstrate how guide dogs are used. The activities will occur between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and are included with general museum admission.

According to Deb Reed, President of the Central Connecticut NFB, “Being blind does not mean that you can’t read, write, do math or science, create art or do just about anything else. We use accessible technology and non-visual techniques.”

Noreen Grice, Planetarium Manager at The New Children’s Museum, has been involved in accessible astronomy education for over 30 years. She believes “we all share a variety of learning styles. A non-visual technique used by a blind student can also help a sighted student grasp a concept in a unique way.”

The National Federation of the Blind is the largest organization of blind and low-vision people in the United States. Founded in 1940, the Federation has grown to over fifty-thousand members.

The New Children’s Museum is positioned as a premier STEAM education center, integrating science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Home to over 100 live animals, the Museum features hands-on science 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 science and nature 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 the Museum’s accessible educational offerings, please contact Noreen Grice at ngrice@thechildrensmuseumct.org or (860) 231-2830 x40.



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