



Maximillian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Foundation awards The Children's Museum \$25,000 grant for Dinosaur exhibit

WEST HARTFORD, CT (July 11, 2017) The Children's Museum was recently awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Maximillian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, Inc. to support the continued development of an original exhibit on Jurassic era dinosaurs and Connecticut's role as a dinosaur habitat.

The first phase of the exhibit entitled *Dinosaurs in your Backyard: A Portal to Past Worlds* opened in February 2017. It provides children and families with opportunities to discover how scientists have determined what we now know about dinosaurs that existed in Connecticut and beyond. It was created in collaboration with Dinosaur State Park, Peabody Museum of Natural History and The Center for Integrative Geosciences and the Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut. Guests become immersed in this prehistoric world with 3D dinosaur models, fossil specimens and replicas, foot print stamps, puzzles and a dinosaur game show. Through interactive exhibits, families can also learn about what makes a dinosaur a dinosaur and how we've determined what they look like.

"Children, families and school groups have thoroughly enjoyed the exhibit," stated Dr. Michael Werle, executive director of The Children's Museum. "With the Hoffman Foundation's support we will be able to initiate the second phase of development and add another set of hands-on elements."

About The Children's Museum

The Children's Museum and its Roaring Brook Nature Center are the region's premiere destinations for exploration and education. The Museum and Nature Center features hands-on exhibits, over 200 live animals, out-of-this-world digital planetarium shows, and numerous 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.

For more information on sponsoring an educational exhibit or program at The Children's Museum or Roaring Brook Nature Center, please contact Renee Hartshorn at rhartshorn@thechildrensmuseumct.org or (860) 231-2830 x230.

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