



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Children's Museum Celebrates the Longest Day of the Year

June 6, 2008 (West Hartford, CT)...The Children's Museum will be hosting its 2nd Annual Summer Solstice Celebration on June 21, 2008 from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. to celebrate the longest day of the year. The evening will include a bonfire, games and activities, telescopes (weather permitting), and a special advanced screening of our new full dome planetarium show, *Earth's Wild Ride*, made possible by Hamilton Sundstrand.

The highlight of the evening is *Earth's Wild Ride*. This new planetarium show will immerse the audience in a roller-coaster-like-ride through canyons of raging rivers and hot flowing lava, to an ice age winter with a woolly mammoth and back to a time when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

Audiences will party as our ancestors did with games, activities and a raging bonfire. "This is a perfect opportunity to not only celebrate the

start of the summer season, but to also educate the public on the significance of the Solstice which really has everything to do with an understanding of the Earth's motion around the Sun," says Science Dome Director, Jason Archer. "The new Travelers Science Dome at the Gengras Planetarium is perfectly suited to do this as we can speed up time to show the Sun's path through the sky from anywhere on Earth but also take audience into space to see how the Earth and Sun move."

After dark, telescopes in the courtyard will provide guests with close-up views of stars, clusters, and planets. Staff and volunteer astronomers will be on-hand to help identify constellations, talk about telescopes, and to answer space-related questions.

Registration for the entire evening is \$10 per Museum member, and \$12 per nonmember. Pre-registration is highly recommended, since the event may fill up prior to the event. To register, call 860.231.2830, ext. 44 or events@thechildrensmuseumct.org by 4:00 pm on Friday, June 20. For more information about the event and the Summer Solstice, please visit The Children's Museum website at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org.

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