

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Children's Museum Hosts a Spectacular Evening of Events Celebrating National Astronomy Day and Earth Day

West Hartford, CT (April 11, 2007)... The Children's Museum (formerly Science Center of Connecticut) will be celebrating National Astronomy Day and Earth Day on Saturday evening April 21 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. National Astronomy Day is April 21 and Earth Day is April 22 this year, so the museum has combined the two into one big unforgettable event.

The event will include telescope viewing, a moon bounce, nature and astronomy activities and crafts to take home, special animal demonstrations and displays, and a roaring bonfire under the stars. Staff Astronomer Jason T. Archer will host "Oceans in Space" and "Sky Quest" planetarium shows. See falcons fly with "TALONS! A Bird of Prey Experience". Meet a NASA Educator Astronaut Teacher, learn about Spaceward Bound and discover how astronauts live and work in space. Participate in an animal track scavenger hunt. Guests will also be able to learn about time travel with Dr. Ronald Mallet, Ph. D., UCONN Professor of Physics. One lucky participant will go home with a Meade ETX 80AT Telescope valued at \$280.00, and everyone can enter to win the grand prize, a Meade LX200R Telescope valued at \$3,600. *Astronomy Magazine* will also have great free handouts for guests. The event is sponsored by Connecticut Natural Gas & Southern Connecticut Gas, *Astronomy Magazine* and Meade Telescopes.

Pre-registration for the event is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members with a registration deadline of Friday, April 20 at 5:00 pm. Payment is due at the time of pre-registration. There will also be a walk-in price of \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. To register call 860-231-2830 ext 22 or email us at tnorthover@thechildrensmuseumct.org

The Children's Museum is committed to igniting the curiosity of young people through science and nature. In addition to the museum and the Gengras Planetarium, the organization includes the United Technologies Wildlife Sanctuary, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and The Children's Museum Preschool, one of the oldest preschools in the country. The Children's Museum serves close to 200,000 people annually, and is the fifth oldest children's museum in the country, and Connecticut's largest museum. Located at 950 Trout Brook Drive in West Hartford, the museum is accessible from I-84 Exit 43 and offers free parking. For more information, visit the website at www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org .

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