

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM CELEBRATES DIA DEL NIÑO ON SATURDAY, MAY 1

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Please Touch Museum, the Children's Museum of Philadelphia, will celebrate Día del Niño on Saturday May 1. The all-day celebration of Latin American music, dance and folklore will feature salsa dance parties, Aztec and Flamenco dance groups presented by Fuego Nuevo, musician Louie Miranda, and special storytimes featuring readings of *Dora the Explorer* and Marisa de Jesús Paolicelli's popular book *There's a Coquí in my Shoe*. The event is free with museum admission.

Family entertainer Louie Miranda, the singer/songwriter and early childhood educator who last appeared at Please Touch during the 2010 Junior Jazz Festival, returns for concert performances at noon, 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in Hamilton Hall. Louie's music is comprised of original and traditional songs with an educational and interactive component.

Visitors can observe dance troupes perform at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., and then try out their own salsa dance skills with DJ Junior at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The Story Castle will feature 10:30 a.m. and a 3:30 p.m. readings of *Dora the Explorer* and *There's a Coquí in my Shoe*. In the award-winning story, a young boy named Armando surprisingly discovers a coquí frog in his red shoe. Carlito the Coquí is lost and cannot find his way home to the rain forest. Armando befriends the coquí and takes him to San Juan with his mother to sell piraguas, with a plan to get Carlito back to his home in El Yunque.

Media partner Telemundo will present a real-working television studio where kids can go in front of the camera and do the weather either in Spanish or English, then watch their performance online at www.holaciudad.com. Puppets will also be spotted around Please Touch Museum, incorporating some Spanish words and phrases into their vernacular. Please Touch Playhouse visitors will also enjoy a performance of *There's Something Under My Bed* at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

Children will have the chance to make *Milagros* charms in the Program Room, as well as play with percussion instruments. *Milagros* have been used for centuries in Latina America to ask for wishes, special intervention, and good fortune. These charms will answer questions like "what are your hopes, wishes, and dreams for the future for yourself, family, community, or world"?

Media sponsors for Día del Niño are Telemundo, El Sol, and MEGA 1310 AM.

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Please Touch Museum® at Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park is dedicated to enriching the lives of children by providing learning opportunities through play. Recognized locally and nationally as one of the best children's museums, Please Touch is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults and children age one and over. Children under one are free. For more information, please call 215-581-3181, or visit our web site at www.pleasetouchmuseum.org.