

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FINAL WEEKS OF 'EXPLORING TREES' EXHIBIT TO FEATURE
GREEN CELEBRATIONS OF EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY**

Climb into this special exhibit before it 'Leaves' on May 2

The final weeks of the national traveling exhibit "Exploring Trees Inside and Out" will bring a number of celebrations to Please Touch Museum, including a series of environmentally-friendly art programs and story times featuring classics like Shel Silverstein's "The Giving Tree." A weeklong celebration from Earth Day (April 22) through Arbor Day (April 30) will feature a variety of programming formed around the concepts of nature, recycling and creative reuse of materials.

Since its Jan. 23 debut the exhibit has been experienced by more than 90,000 museum visitors who have enjoyed a variety of interactive activities in the museum's Rainforest Rhythm Gallery. Presented by Doubletree® Hotels and the Arbor Day Foundation®, this three-year touring environmental education project encourages family members of all ages to explore the beauty of the great outdoors through the wonders of trees. The spacious, 2,500-square-foot exhibit, developed by Arbor Day and the Dimensions Educational Research Foundation, is designed to create a better understanding about the significant role trees play in the environment.

Children can crawl through a log and experience it as a habitat for other living things, help a seed "grow" into a young oak inside a huge acorn, and explore the "heart" of a tree trunk and move the "blood" of the tree up and down its "veins." Kids can even become a forest creature in a "green screen" experience that allows them to fly like a bird and soar over the treetops.

"Exploring Trees Inside and Out' has been a hit with our young visitors, providing them with playful connections to nature," said Laura Foster, President & CEO of Please Touch Museum. "These final few weeks of the exhibit will be a wonderful indoor celebration of the great outdoors, with art, music, stories and theatrical elements that will make for a unique family experience."

Entry to "Exploring Trees Inside and Out" is included with general admission to Please Touch Museum. The museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturday, and 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$15.00 for adults and children over the age of one. Children under the age of one are free. Please Touch Museum is located at Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park, 4231 Avenue of the Republic, Philadelphia, Pa. For more information, visit www.pleasetouchmuseum.org or call 215-581-3181.