

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2009

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

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PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER–DECEMBER

PHILADELPHIA, PA – With over 600,000 visitors since its 2008 Grand Opening, Please Touch Museum celebrates its 1st Birthday at Memorial Hall on October 18! Target First Wednesdays continue throughout the fall with \$2 admission from 5–7 p.m. on every first Wednesday of the month, offering families some extra playtime before bedtime. A brand new black-light show takes the Playhouse stage October 10–December 6, the Enchanted Colonial Village is back for the holidays, and kids get to ring in 2010 with a bang at the annual Countdown to Noon™ on December 31!

All events, unless otherwise indicated, are free with museum admission.

OCTOBER

“Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Eating, Safe Halloween” month presented by PECO

All month Mondays–Fridays

Toddler Storytimes

Join us daily at 10 a.m. in *Fairytale Garden* for highly interactive and entertaining storytimes for our youngest visitors!

Music Shows

Join us daily at Noon and 2 p.m. in the theater for sing-alongs, musical storytelling and family-friendly concerts. Lots of interactive fun for the whole family!

Musical Playtimes

Join us for daily musical playtimes featuring dress up, instruments and more in a small interactive group setting. *(Times and locations vary daily.)*

Through October 4

Please Touch Playhouse presents “From the Sea to the Sky”

From the Sea to the Sky is an original interpretation of traditional Vietnamese folk tales adapted for young audiences. The show features traditional Vietnamese clothing as well as wooden and bamboo masks, and sequences inspired by the traditional Vietnamese art of water puppetry, using modern puppets instead of water. The show is highly interactive and runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Mondays-Saturdays 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, October 7

Target First Wednesdays

First Wednesdays allow visitors extra playtime before bedtime! Enjoy the museum's exhibits, programs and theater shows at an affordable price: Admission for guests over the age of 1 will be just \$2 from 5–7 p.m.

October 7–13

DesignPhiladelphia Dream Dollhouse Exhibit

Please Touch Museum partnered with DesignPhiladelphia on a unique city-wide project during the summer bringing together artists, architects, children and their caregivers, designers and students. “Design the Dollhouse of Your Dreams” let participants unleash their inner Frank Lloyd Wright or Frank Gehry by creating their own version of the ideal dollhouse.

In true Please Touch Museum spirit, the hands-on project let children and adults collaborate in a fun, educational way as they built their imaginative and inventive dream dollhouses. After design proposals were submitted to the museum between July 21 and August 14, the museum's exhibits and design team selected a variety of submissions to be displayed in the museum's North Foyer during DesignPhiladelphia week, October 7–13. Come check out the wonderfully imaginative dollhouses, renderings and floor plans created by local children and their families, design students, architects and others!

October 10–December 6

Please Touch Playhouse premieres “Fly/Fishing”

A Black Light Show presented by PECO

In this fantasy tale reminiscent of *Alice in Wonderland*, Quinshaya, a four-year-old girl, goes on a quest to find her lost plush bunny rabbit. Through the magic of black light, she travels from the bottom of the sea to the tops of the clouds, flies with the whales and the swims with the birds, until she lands in the most surprising place of all. The show is highly interactive and runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Mondays-Saturdays 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, October 18

Celebrate the one-year anniversary of Please Touch Museum at Memorial Hall!

The Children's Museum is celebrating its 1st birthday at Memorial Hall with tons of festive fun, including a dance party with DJ Francis & Friends and resident puppet Pinky beginning at 2 p.m. Not to miss are appearances during the dance party by Clifford the Big Red Dog, Curious George and Olivia! Other highlights include a conga line, art and music programming throughout the day.

Thursday, October 22

Celebrate author Crockett Johnson's birthday

In honor of this author's birthday, there will be a “Purple Crayon Drawing” activity in the Program Room all day today, as well as storytimes featuring *Harold and the Purple Crayon* and *The Carrot Seed*.

Monday, October 26

Celebrate author Steven Kellogg's birthday

In honor of this beloved children's book author's birthday, there will be a special appearance by one of his famous book characters—Pinkerton!

Saturday, October 31

Celebrate Halloween at Please Touch Museum!

Presented by PECO

Families are invited to a not-so-spooky Halloween at the Children's Museum, complete with healthy trick-or-treating throughout the galleries! Special discount: \$1.50 off admission for any child or adult in costume. Other highlights will include musical Halloween instruments, puppets, an appearance by children's book character Pinkerton and themed theatrical programming.

NOVEMBER

Mondays–Fridays

Toddler Storytimes

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Music Shows

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(Times and locations vary daily.)

Wednesday, November 4**Target First Wednesdays**

First Wednesdays allow visitors extra playtime before bedtime! Enjoy the museum's exhibits, programs and theater shows at an affordable price: Admission for guests over the age of 1 will be just \$2 from 5–7 p.m.

Thursday, November 19

6:30–10:00 p.m.

14th Annual Great Friend to Kids Awards

The 14th Annual Great Friend to Kids Awards honors individuals and organizations making outstanding contributions to enriching the lives of children. Proceeds support Please Touch Museum's exhibits and programs for young children and their families. Tickets start at \$150. To purchase tickets, contact Laura Stanley at 215-581-3160 or lstanley@pleasetouchmuseum.org.

Wednesday, Thursday 25**Celebrate author Marc Brown's birthday**

In honor of this beloved children's author's birthday, there will be a "Mail Art" activity in the Program Room all day today, in which kids will be able to decorate their own letters, based on Brown's *Arthur*-spin-off *Post Cards from Buster* book.

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving— Please Touch Museum is CLOSED

Friday, November 27**Enchanted Colonial Village opens!**

Please Touch Museum kicks off the holiday season with a trip to the Village – the Enchanted Colonial Village! Each year, Please Touch invites families to share the magic and motion of holidays past and make new memories as they visit this Philadelphia staple. The scenes made their home at the Lit Brothers department store at 8th and Market Streets from 1962 until 1975. The Village will be on display through January 1, 2010.

DECEMBER**Give the Gift of Play this Holiday Season**

A Please Touch Museum 12-month membership makes for a perfect gift for your friends and family! Museum memberships (4 or 6 people) offer unlimited admission to the museum, free parking, special discounts in the Kids Store and Please Taste Cafe, as well as exclusive invitations to Members Only events. Call the museum's membership department at 215-581-3167 or 215-581-3178 to purchase your gift membership today.

Mondays-Fridays**Toddler Storytimes**

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Wednesday, December 2**Target First Wednesdays**

First Wednesdays allow visitors extra playtime before bedtime! Enjoy the museum's exhibits, programs and theater shows at an affordable price: Admission for guests over the age of 1 will be just \$2 from 5–7 p.m. good question.

December 10- January 25

Please Touch Playhouse presents "The Building Show"

Big Blue and his furry gang star in this madcap puppet fest. Whether building words, houses or sandwiches these hairy harbingers of comic carpentry are never “mortar-fied” enough to do anything but raise the roof. The show is highly interactive and runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Mondays-Saturdays 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve—Please Touch museum is OPEN until 3 p.m.

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day—Please Touch Museum is CLOSED

Thursday, December 31

Countdown to Noon

Museum is open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The little ones can't quite stay up until midnight to celebrate the New Year? Bring them to Please Touch Museum for a countdown party that celebrates the “noon” year before moms and dads go to their grown-ups festivities! This annual celebration helps families celebrate the beginning of a new year together with party activities, music and confetti all in one place. Countdowns will be at Noon and again at 1 p.m.

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day—Please Touch Museum is CLOSED

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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.