

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CONTACT:  
Frank Luzi  
Director of Media Relations  
215-581-3171  
fluzi@pleasetouchmuseum.org

## PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM®'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL-JUNE 2009

**PHILADELPHIA, PA** – A hilARRRious pirate show, an imaginative series of storytimes, special First Wednesday discounts, a festive nighttime ball and some sporty fun are just some of the springtime festivities planned for Please Touch Museum. April and May are filled with interactive storytelling and programs that capture the magic of favorite children's books, while June marks the return of the bigger and better ABC Games (June 5-28).

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

### **April and May 2009**

**Celebrate Stories Months!** *Sponsored by the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation*

Please Touch Museum will Celebrate Stories in April and May with programming and special activities that bring favorite children's books and stories to life.

### **April 1**

#### **Target First Wednesdays**

*First Wednesdays* allows 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.

### **April 2**

#### **Celebrate author Hans Christian Andersen's Birthday**

Join us as we celebrate beloved author and poet Hans Christian Andersen's birthday. Special storytimes in the City Park gazebo at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. featuring books adapted from some of Andersen's classic stories, including "The Ugly Duckling" by Jerry Pinkney, "The Princess and the Pea" by Lauren Child and "The Little Mermaid" by Katie Daynes.

### **Through April 13**

#### **Please Touch Playhouse presents "There's Something Under My Bed"**

Sam has a sneaking suspicion there is something under his bed. 'Dust bunnies,' his big people say. But Sam knows better and plans to finally rid himself of the terrible thing that won't let him sleep. This show is highly interactive and runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Monday-Saturday 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

### **April 15**

#### **Celebrate artist Leonardo DaVinci's Birthday**

To celebrate DaVinci's birthday, children will have the chance to design their own machine using K'Nex from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Elaine Wideman-Vaughn Program Room.

### **April 16**

#### **Crazy Hair Day**

Kids can join in the fun in the crazy hair salon set up in the Elaine Wideman-Vaughn Program Room from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today. Try on crazy wigs, decorate your own hair with ribbons, pipe cleaners, clips, berets and more! Storytimes in the City Park gazebo will be held at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. featuring "Crazy Hair Day" written and illustrated by popular author Barney Saltzberg.

#### **April 17- May 17**

##### **Please Touch Playhouse presents “Eat Like A Pirate”**

Aboard their trusty ship, The Flying Lunch Bucket, brave Captain Cook and his crew, the Low-Sodium Dogs, sail past the Sandwich Islands up to the Great Food Pyramids a-searching for good nutrition, the proverbial free lunch and the ever elusive Berry Treasure! Children and their families will enjoy this highly interactive show designed to make both kids and their grown-ups laugh while they're learning about the things that make for a healthy lifestyle: good nutrition and exercise. The show runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Monday-Saturday 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

#### **April 24**

##### **Shire Day—FREE admission for kids 12 and under!**

All children 12 and under will receive **free** admission to Please Touch Museum courtesy of Shire Pharmaceuticals. (Children over 12 years old and adults will pay the regular admission fee.)

#### **April 25-26**

##### **Celebrate *Día Del Niño* at Please Touch Museum!**

Join Please Touch Museum as it celebrates this nationwide Latino holiday honoring the joys of childhood and the children in our lives! Special activities all weekend long, plus performances in Hamilton Hall by musician Louie Miranda at Noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on both days.

Louie is an amazing guitarist who performs Latin jazz in highly interactive family-oriented concerts that blend sophisticated rhythms with inspiring lyrics to create music that teaches as it entertains.

#### **April 27-May 3**

##### **Museum Week 2009**

Philadelphia is serving as the host city for the 2009 American Association of Museums Annual Meeting and Museum Expo. In celebration of this gathering of the world's top museum professionals, more than 50 of Philadelphia's museums will be offering special discounts to the general public during *Museum Week* (April 27-May 3). Information is available at [www.phillyfunguide.com/museumweek](http://www.phillyfunguide.com/museumweek)

#### **April 28-30**

##### **Association of Children's Museums Annual Conference “InterActivity”**

Please Touch Museum is proud to be the museum host for the Association of Children's Museums' international conference *InterActivity 2009: Declare Your Impact*, April 28-30.

Please be our guest and hear nationally renowned speaker **Greg Mortenson**, author of *Three Cups of Tea*, speak at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel.

A limited number of seats are available for both keynote addresses and pre-registration is required. Book your reservation by calling Please Touch Museum at (215) 581-3181 or email [info@pleasetouchmuseum.org](mailto:info@pleasetouchmuseum.org) (please provide your name, email address and the number of people in your party expected to attend). Cash-only payment is required at the Sheraton Philadelphia the day of the event. Cost is \$25 per person; students pay \$15 and must present a current student ID at the door.

#### **May 5**

##### **Celebrating author Leo Lionni's Birthday**

Join us as we celebrate beloved author Leo Lionni's birthday today. Special storytimes in the City Park gazebo at 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. featuring “Little Blue and Little Yellow,” “Fish is Fish,” “Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse” and others!

#### **May 6**

##### **Target First Wednesdays**

*First Wednesdays* allows 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.

**May 9**

**Storybook Ball**

**6- 9 p.m.**

Families are invited to the very first Storybook Ball at Memorial Hall! Children and their grown-ups are encouraged to dress as their favorite storybook characters for an evening of enchanted entertainment, family-friendly cuisine, carousel rides, a Please Touch Playhouse performance of "Eat Like A Pirate" and a special performance by the GESU School's Ballroom Dancers. Other highlights include prizes, a raffle and auction.

Regular ticket price for adults and children is \$35. Members are \$20. Children 1 and under are free. Family 4-packs are available at \$125 (\$75 for members). Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Laura Stanley at 215-581-3160 or [lstanley@pleasetouchmuseum.org](mailto:lstanley@pleasetouchmuseum.org)

**May 14**

**Pamper Our Parents**

**6-9 p.m.**

Need to give your mind and body a rest? Join us at this parents pow-wow and get pampered! Activities will include line dancing, aromatherapy, journaling, dramatic play groups, a light meal and ten-minute foot, chair or table massage. To RSVP, call Ramona Gaines at 215-578-5137 or email [rgaines@pleasetouchmuseum.org](mailto:rgaines@pleasetouchmuseum.org)

**May 22**

**Celebrate artist Mary Cassatt's Birthday**

To celebrate Cassatt's birthday, children will get the chance to paint a family portrait in the Elaine Wideman-Vaughn Program Room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today.

**May 23 and 24 (Memorial Day Weekend)**

**Teddy Bear Picnic Weekend**

Join Please Touch Museum's very own Papa Bear along with the Three Bears as we celebrate the joy of spring and welcome all those hibernating bears out to play!

**June 5-28**

**9th Annual ABC Games**

*Presented by US Airways*

June brings the return of the annual *ABC Games*, which get kids active while encouraging sportsmanship, physical fitness and of course fun! All activities help children develop an interest in sports and fitness, while providing families with healthy alternatives to sedentary lifestyles. Please Touch will kick off this year's games with an Opening Ceremony on Friday, June 5 at 10 a.m.

**June 3**

**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.

**June 12-June 28**

**Please Touch Playhouse presents "Eat Like A Pirate"**

Aboard their trusty ship, The Flying Lunch Bucket, brave Captain Cook and his crew, the Low-Sodium Dogs, sail past the Sandwich Islands up to the Great Food Pyramids a-searching for good nutrition, the proverbial free lunch and the ever elusive Berry Treasure! Children and their families will enjoy this highly interactive show designed to make both kids and their grown-ups laugh while they're learning about the things that make for a healthy lifestyle: good nutrition and exercise. The show runs approximately 25 minutes. Showtimes are Monday-Saturday 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**June 13**

**Celebrate artist Christo's Birthday**

To celebrate Christo's birthday, children will get the chance to make brown paper packages and wrap various objects with fabric and string in the Elaine Wideman-Vaughn Program Room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today.

**June 25**

**Celebrating author Eric Carle's Birthday**

Join us as we celebrate beloved author Eric Carle's birthday today. Special storytimes in the City Park gazebo at 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. featuring "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," "Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me," "Little Cloud" and others!

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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](http://www.pleasetouchmuseum.org).