

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 FALL/WINTER SEASON

PHILADELPHIA, PA – With its Grand Opening at Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park, Please Touch Museum has completed an 11-year project and has transformed a National Historic Landmark from 1876 into a brand new children's museum for 2008 and beyond! Please Touch has tripled its gallery space, giving young visitors more innovative opportunities to learn through play. Please Touch Museum's fall/winter season in its grand new home is filled with events, performances and activities that celebrate this exciting new chapter in both the Museum's and Memorial Hall's history. Starting in January 2009 and continuing throughout the year, Target First Wednesdays are back with \$2 admission from 5-7 p.m.!

Through November 28

Please Touch Playhouse presents "Pinch Bear"

Born from the dust of a falling star, Pinch Bear is so named because people can't help but pinch her cheeks, she's that cute. Soon Pinch Bear wants more than to be just "cute" and sets out alone to prove herself. The show is highly interactive and runs approximately 25 minutes.

Saturday & Sunday, November 8-9

Give & Take Jugglers visit the museum from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

This family-oriented vaudeville troupe combines juggling, comedy, and lots of audience participation to bring non-stop fun for the whole family.

Friday & Saturday, November 14-15

Magician Tom McDonnell performs his interactive magic show on stage in the Please Touch Playhouse at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Sunday, November 16

Mother Goose visits the museum from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday & Saturday, November 21-22

Magician Tom McDonnell performs his interactive magic show on stage in the Please Touch Playhouse at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Give & Take Jugglers also visit the museum from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 23

Give & Take Jugglers visit the museum from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

This family-oriented vaudeville troupe combines juggling, comedy, and lots of audience participation to bring non-stop fun for the whole family.

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day – Please Touch Museum is **CLOSED**.

Friday, November 28

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. For the first time ever, all ten original Enchanted Colonial Village scenes will be displayed at Memorial Hall. The scenes made their home at the Lit Brothers department store at 8th and Market Streets from 1962 until 1975.

The following strolling performers will also visit the museum today from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: Musician Louie Miranda, Give & Take Jugglers, Mother Goose and musician Peter Moses

Saturday, November 29

Magician Tom McDonnell performs his interactive magic show on the Please Touch Playhouse at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. 3 p.m.

Sunday, November 30

Magician Tom McDonnell performs at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

December 4–January 27, 2009

Please Touch Playhouse presents “How the Sun was Returned to the Sky”

Spirit has stolen the Sun! ‘By the teeth in my head, by the fur on my tail, I’ll bring the Sun home, I will not fail,’ vows Coyote and sets out to trick the fearsome Spirit and return the Sun to the sky. Inspired by several world myths, the Please Touch Playhouse version of the story uses rare pieces from the museum’s collections to represent the characters.

Sunday, December 7

Miss Amy performs Rocking Kids Music in the theater at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Sunday, December 20

Musician Yosi hits the Please Touch Playhouse stage at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. for fun a sing-along for the entire family!

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve – Please Touch Museum is open until 3 p.m.

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day – Please Touch Museum is **CLOSED**.

Wednesday, December 31

Ring in 2009 with Please Touch Museum at our annual *Countdown to Noon!*

The little ones can’t quite stay up until midnight to celebrate the New Year? Bring them to Please Touch Museum on Wednesday, December 31 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.

Thursday, January 1, 2009

New Year’s Day – Please Touch Museum is **CLOSED**.

January 2009

Happy Birthday Artist & Author Celebration Series Begins!

Starting this month and continuing throughout the year, children and their families are invited to celebrate their favorite authors’ and artists’ birthdays at Please Touch Museum complete with a giant cupcake, birthday songs, and more!

Sunday, January 4

Miss Amy performs with Rocking Kids Music with her band in the theater at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Wednesday, January 7

Target First Wednesdays are back! Starting today and continuing throughout the year, 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.

Saturday, January 31

Arpeggio Jazz Ensemble performs at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the theater.

February 2009

17th Annual Junior Jazz Festival

The only area event to introduce young children to the wonderful world of jazz through live music, dance and theater performances, Please Touch Museum's Junior Jazz Festival has become a visitors' favorite over the years. The museum will adopt a groovy jazz club atmosphere for a month's worth of concerts, local jazz musician performances and special activities that focus on musical expression and the history of jazz.

Sunday, February 1

Arpeggio Jazz Ensemble performs at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

February 2-27, 2009

Please Touch Playhouse presents "Scat Cat's Junior Jazz Jamboree"

In conjunction with the Museum's annual Junior Jazz Festival, this interactive theater show tells the "tail" of an everyday alley cat who happens upon "Max Roach" who teaches her the history of jazz. Max also introduces her to some of the well known artists who made it popular – Stingray Charles, Duck Ellington, and Piggy Lee.

Saturday, February 14

Musician Louie Miranda performs with his band at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Sunday, February 15

Louie Miranda with band at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Monday, February 16

Louie Miranda (solo) at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Saturday, February 28

Musician **Tony Micelli** performs with his band in the theater at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

March 2009

Art All Around Us month!

Visitors can mimic the styles of some of the world's most famous artists. Daily activities will introduce children to the artists, their artistic styles, and significant moments in art history, all while having fun!

Sunday, March 1

Musician **Tony Micelli** performs in the theater at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

March 5- April 19, 2009

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

This is the story of three-year old Sam who has the sneaking suspicion that there's a monster under his bed. Even though Sam's parents tell him it's probably just a dust bunny, Sam devises a plan to lure the "monster" out so he can finally get some sleep.

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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.