

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2010

PHILADELPHIA, PA – Please Touch Museum welcomes the return of autumn with a busy lineup including a big Halloween weekend celebration presented by PECO. Target First Wednesdays continue throughout the fall with \$2 admission from 5–7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Through November 28, catch the Please Touch Playhouse show “Fly/Fishing” before “North Wind” returns to the stage December 3 – January 23. In November, our bigger visitors can be a part of the Grown-Up Lunch and Learn Series on November 15 celebrating Philadelphia Childhood Icons. The Enchanted Colonial Village returns 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.

Please note: Please Touch Playhouse will be dark Tuesdays and Thursdays October 5–November 12 and November 29 – December 2.

OCTOBER

Friday, October 1 – Nov. 28

Please Touch Playhouse presents “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.

Wednesday, October 6

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, October 7

15th Annual Great Friend to Kids Awards

6:30 – 10:00 p.m.

The 15th 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

Saturday, Oct. 30 & Sunday, Oct. 31

Celebrate Halloween at Please Touch Museum!

Presented by PECO

Families are invited to a not-so-spooky Halloween at Please Touch Museum, complete with healthy trick-or-treating throughout the galleries! This year's event will include the addition of “Boo Boulevard,” featuring the museum's Halloween-

themed toy collection and appearances by Buster the Ghost Puppet, held in the museum's rotating exhibit space. Other highlights will include musical Halloween instruments, appearances by Wild Thing from *Where the Wild Things Are*, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Curious George and many more! PTM puppets will be strolling throughout the day and themed theatrical programming will include a magic show by magician Tom McDonald!

Museum Members can also enjoy "Monster Mash," a members-only Halloween event being held on Friday, Oct. 22 and Friday, Oct. 29. The event will include a magic show by magician Tom McDonald, Creative Dramatics Playcorner in the Program Room, appearances by the Mad Hatter and PTM puppets and a DJ dance party in Hamilton Hall!

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 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.

Wednesday, November 3 Stellaluna appearance to celebrate author Jannell Cannon's birthday

Meet *Stellaluna* in the Story Castle at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Friday, November 12 – Sunday, January 2 Enchanted Colonial Village

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 2, 2011.

Through May 2011 Please Touch Museum Grown-Up Lunch & Learn Series

Please Touch Museum isn't just for kids anymore! Grown Ups can now take advantage of a Lunch & Learn Series, featuring illustrated talks on a variety of engaging topics and behind the scenes tours of Memorial Hall! Join Stacey Swigart, Please Touch Museum's Curator of Collections on a trip through history, art, architecture and toys. Tickets are \$36 which includes presentation and tour by Please Touch Museum's curator, plus a box lunch prepared by Please Touch Museum's caterer, Max & Me. Lunch & Learn reservations can be made for individuals or groups by calling 215-581-3168.

Philadelphia Childhood Icons

Monday, November 15

12:00 – 2:00 pm

Please Touch Museum is home to some significant childhood icons. If you grew up in the Delaware Valley, you will no doubt remember the *Captain Noah and His Magical Ark* television show, the monorail that traveled around the 8th floor toy department at Wanamaker's Department Store and the Enchanted Colonial Village that delighted thousands at Lit Brothers Department Store. Discover the history of these beloved icons, and take a "behind-the-scenes" tour of the building and the museum's toy collections.

Thursday, November 25 Thanksgiving— Please Touch Museum is CLOSED

DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 1 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.

Friday, December 3 – January 23

Please Touch Playhouse presents “North Wind”

Diamond is sick in bed and his folks are worried about him. But that night, while a mighty thunder storm rages and he sleeps and dreams, Diamond makes a new friend who is unlike any one else he has ever met. A friend who can quite literally show Diamond the whole world in a single night. Diamond has met North Wind and she wraps her arms about him and takes him sailing high into the night skies to show him the wide world as only she has seen it. Based on the groundbreaking novel BACK OF THE NORTH WIND by George MacDonald.

Thursday, December 24

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

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day — Please Touch Museum is CLOSED

Friday, 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 the annual countdown party that celebrates the “noon” year before moms and dads go to their grown-up 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.