THE NEW CHILDREN’S MUSEUM GETS INTO THE SPIRIT WITH CREATIVE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Community Invited to think play celebrate at The New Children’s Museum

November 14, 2008—San Diego, California—The New Children’s Museum is excited to launch San Diego’s newest family tradition. Holiday Happenings at NCM is a chance to celebrate the season with programs and activities uniquely designed for kids and families. Special holiday activities, planned for November 28, 2008 through January 4, 2009, will encourage San Diegan's to think, play, celebrate!

“We want to make coming downtown for the holidays a creative treat and help families create new traditions and memories. We have scheduled unique and imaginative hands-on holiday art activities, workshops and entertainment and we invite San Diego families to join us and celebrate the season The New Children’s Museum way,” explained Rachel Teagle, Executive Director. “It’s our gift to the community!”

The month-long family-friendly celebration spotlights this exciting new venue and provides even more reason to come downtown for the holidays. “We invite San Diego to help us celebrate our first holiday season,” said Teagle. “You can make art, jump up and dance, create an ornament, watch a show, shop at the Gizmo Garage, get messy or just simply enjoy!”

NCM is a central spot for downtown holiday fun, just four blocks away from other great community events including the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, San Diego Big Bay Balloon Parade and the Outdoor Ice Rink at Horton Square. Families can park at NCM, experience the Museum and then enjoy the other festivities downtown has to offer.

Holiday Happenings at NCM are in addition to the opportunity to experience the current exhibition, child'splay. Visitors can also enjoy hands-on art projects, including clay sculpture and taking a brush to The Painted Bug.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS AT NCM
November 28, 2008–January 4, 2009

Saturday Celebrations
November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 27 & January 6
Everybody—come on, dance and sing! Enjoy fun music and a Dance Party on the Cricket Wireless Level every Saturday during Holiday Happenings at NCM. Special afternoon programming will feature dancers, musical groups and other unique performers. Create your very own ornaments in our holiday-themed Design Studio. Members bring guests at a discounted rate on these special Saturdays.
NCM Day Camp
*December 22, 2008 and January 2, 2009 9am–5pm*

Kids out of school for the holidays? Drop them off at the Museum for a day they’ll never forget!

Drop off hours: 9am–10:30am
Pick up hours: 3:30pm–5pm
$50 cost to parents includes day-care, museum experience, studio project and snack.

NCM Winter Class Open House
*Saturday, December 6, 2008 10am–3pm*

Sample creative family classes for free with membership or paid general admission during our Winter Class Open House. Test out your flexibility with a Yoga for Kids demonstration and pick up some acting skills in our Theater Workshop. Parents can learn “What nobody tells you about becoming a parent” in an innovative parenting class. All class participants will be entered into a raffle for fantastic prizes, and a chance to register for winter classes at a special, discounted rate. Classes make great gifts, so don’t miss the chance to sign-up in time for the holidays!

A Seussical Sunday: Target Free Sunday
*Sunday, December 14, 2008, 10:15am and 11:15am at the Improv Theater*

Actors from The Old Globe's *Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas!* will present a reading and the Grinch himself will be on hand to act out the story.

New Year’s Family Dance Jam
*Thursday, January 1, 2009 12pm*

“Break” in the New Year with dance. Learn break-dancing, hip-hop, African drum and dance and more. DJ Dance Party for all! Virgin Bloody Mary’s and aspirin provided to first 50 parents. Must be accompanied by a child!

Give Creatively: Bring NCM Home for the Holidays

NCM has designed creative holiday gifts that are sure to delight and surprise. Check in at the Welcome Desk to find out about special holiday gift options. All gifts will be packaged with that unique NCM flair. Our art facilitators will turn your package into a Lunch Pal—a colorful and creative work of art that is also a gift wrap!

**Gift package ideas:**

“NCM Kid of the Day!”

This package includes a full day at The New Children's Museum along with 7 guests, a personalized welcome to the Museum from the balcony, special ‘no waiting in line’ NCM e-ticket pass, selection of the Museum’s Slogan of the Day, selection of the day’s mural theme for the hands-on studio workshop, a customized, crazy Kid of the Day hat created by one of the Museum's trained artists. “Kid of the Day” packages can be purchased for $125.

Family Class Gift Certificates

No, it's not algebra! Imagine taking these creative classes or workshops: Yoga for Kids, Little Snaps: Photography with Your Toddler, Puttin' On a Play or Sophia Bella Fashion Show Play Day. Classes make great gifts and a discounted rate will be offered for members.
Parking Passes will be available for advanced purchase at a discounted rate of 3 passes for $20 during the winter season.

Visit thinkplaycreate.org for hours and event details. Closed on Wednesdays and Christmas Day and Thanksgiving Day.

ABOUT THE NEW CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
The New Children’s Museum is a dynamic new model of a museum that celebrates children and the visual arts. A non-profit institution funded by memberships and community support, the Museum empowers children to think, play and create with participatory exhibitions, hands-on studio opportunities, and in-depth classroom experiences.

The Museum has recently opened its beautiful new home, a state-of-the-art facility in downtown’s Marina district. Designed by San Diego architect Rob Wellington Quigley, the environmentally sustainable building is one of the first “green” museums in California. To learn more or become a Museum member, visit www.thinkplaycreate.org.