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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Children's Science Center Celebrates One Year Since Opening

FAIRFAX, VA, June 21, 2016—The Children's Science Center is proud to announce our summer-long celebration of our first year of operations at the Children's Science Center Lab at Fair Oaks Mall. The Lab will be the center of our STEM-TASTIC Summer of fun family learning including new exhibits, special themed activities, special events, camps, and more!

The Children's Science Center Lab, the region's first, hands on, interactive children's science museum, opened its doors one year ago and since then has served over 49,000 visitors, including 7,000 field trip students and 1,900 birthday party guests!

"My sons love the Children's Science Center! They can spend hours doing experiments at the experiment bar, interacting with the exhibits, and creating new inventions. As a science teacher, I love that they are learning while having fun. My oldest son had his 8th birthday party at the center and said it was the best one he ever had," commented one parent.

The Children's Science Center Lab's STEM-TASTIC Summer is planned around three themes: Sand & Sea Life (June), Bodies in Motion (July) and STEM Olympics (August). Each month brings special activities, guest speakers and demos aligned with these fun themes.

NEW EXHIBITS COMING

Over the next few weeks, the Children's Science Center Lab will be unveiling three new exhibits as a birthday present to its many visitors:

- Science Wonders – discover how lightning and tornados form and how to create energy through combustion
- Aquatic Life - meet and learn about underwater creatures
- Robotic Arm – program a robotic arm to accomplish fun task challenges, sponsored by Booz, Allen Hamilton

" We are grateful for the generous support from across the community that enables us to bring these new learning experiences to the Lab this summer, which is the perfect season for families to spend time learning together." said Nene Spivy, Executive Director.

SUMMER CHALLENGE

The Children's Science Center has teamed up with AFCEA NOVA (Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association) for a Walk, Run, Bike Challenge as part of their TransAmerica Cycle for STEM. Beginning in August, three military veterans from AFCEA NOVA will bicycle 4,200 miles across the United States while raising money to donate to the Children's Science Center.

The Children's Science Center also invites the community to participate in its Walk, Run, Bike Summer Challenge, a free program offered that teaches children the importance and the science of exercise. Track your daily activity and try to match the distance of the three riders biking across America. In the process, we'll explore the science related to exercise and nutrition. For more information and to register to participate, visit childsci.org/summer

About the Children's Science Center:

The Children's Science Center's mission is to instill a love of learning science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in all children by providing unique opportunities to explore, create and be inspired. The Children's Science Center Lab is located at Fair Oaks Mall and is Northern Virginia's first interactive museum where children, families and school groups can explore STEM concepts through fun, engaging hands-on exhibits, activities and programs. In addition to the Lab and community programs, the Center is working to fulfill the vision of a full-scale, world-class children's science museum to be located in Dulles, VA. The Children's Science Center is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Learn more at www.childsci.org.

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