



For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Rob Volmer

202-257-4131

rvolmer@cvic.com

National Children's Museum To Return to Washington, DC in 2015

National Harbor, MD (November 14, 2014) –The National Children's Museum (NCM) today announced that it will relocate to Washington, D.C. from its location at National Harbor in 2015. The current site in Prince George's County, Md. has welcomed more than 250,000 visitors in the two years since opening, though challenges such as lack of nearby public transportation, available space and affordable options to expand the building have made it difficult to extend the museum's exhibits and programming to a broader community of children, families and tourists throughout the metro area.

According to Chairman of the NCM Board of Directors S. Ross Hechinger, limits to accessibility and program space have created barriers to fulfilling the museum's mission in recent years. "The mission of the National Children's Museum is 'to inspire children to care about and improve the world.' By returning to the District, the Board believes the museum can better serve all children across the metropolitan area, as well as the thousands of tourists who have been our traditional visitors," said Hechinger.

Hechinger acknowledged both Prince George's County and state of Maryland government officials for their support for NCM at National Harbor.

Washington, D.C. Councilmember Jack Evans said he endorsed the Board's decision to relocate to the District, stating, "As a former board member, I am delighted to welcome the museum and its dedicated staff back to the District. I anticipate the new administration will be eager to embrace such an important institution that will benefit children of all ages for years to come."

Former D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams echoed Evans' support, saying, "A new location in D.C. will mean all children, regardless of their ZIP code, will be able to walk through the museum's doors and be inspired."

LuAnn Bennett, co-chair of NCM, is leading the search for a new location in the District, which will be announced as soon as the site is confirmed. During the transition, NCM plans to continue operating the institution's many successful programs throughout the region. The museum expects to continue to serve a quarter of a million children through various trademark programs and events, such as annual participation in the White House Easter Egg Roll, July 4th on the Mall activities, the National Institute of Health (NIH) Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) in collaboration with Children's National Medical Center, and the Family Literacy Projects on a Budget[®] programs.

For more information about the museum, upcoming events and educational programming, visit www.ncm.museum.

About The National Children's Museum

The National Children's Museum (NCM) was founded in 1974 as the Capital Children's Museum and was designated by Congress as the National Children's Museum in 2003. During its transition from H St. N.E., Washington, D.C. to Prince George's County, it served hundreds of thousands of children throughout the region through its Museum Without Walls Programs. More information is available at www.ncm.museum.