



For Immediate Release:
September 20, 2009

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News Release

Going “Green” Becomes a Family Affair: Minnesota Children’s Museum Unveils *Trash Bash* on October 3

(ST. PAUL, MN) – Kermit the Frog once said it’s not easy being green, but Minnesota Children’s Museum is making going “green” a little easier for families with the creation *Trash Bash*, an exhibit designed to encourage families to increase their knowledge, skills and commitment toward sustaining a healthy environment. The brand-new exhibit will open on Saturday, October 3.

According to Recycle More Minnesota, Minnesota throws away over 1 million tons of recyclable material every year. This disturbing trend will be visually represented in the exhibit by Trash Mountain, a collection of trash from one family of four for one year. Visitors can walk through the mountain looking for “lost treasure” and examine a live compost display with layers of finished compost, decomposing and fresh materials. Typical compost-friendly bugs under a microscope will be projected onto a TV screens.

Trash Bash also features the Box Tot Spot, a sectioned area of cardboard boxes of various sizes and props such as fabrics and stuffed animals that can be used for imaginative play by the Museum’s youngest visitors. The cardboard box was inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame in 2005. Additionally, kinetic robots made from recycled materials by third grade students from Glacier Hills School in Eagan will be also be displayed. Children will also use recycled materials to create 3D art and make their own music on the Tired Barrel Organ made completely from reused materials.

Trash Bash will continue at Minnesota Children’s Museum through November 29, 2009.

MINNESOTA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Minnesota Children's Museum is a non-profit community educational organization committed to smart play: sparking children's learning through play. Infants ages six months through children age 10 discover their world through hands-on exhibits in five permanent galleries: ***Our World*** connects children to people and places in their community as they role play "grown-ups" in a child-size environment; ***World Works*** encourages creativity and problem-solving through investigation and experimentation; ***Earth World*** immerses children in lifelike Minnesota habitats to nurture an understanding of the natural world; ***Habitot***[®] enables infants and toddlers to safely explore four developmentally designed learning landscapes; and ***Rooftop ArtPark*** brings nature and art together in an outdoor gallery on the Museum's fourth floor. Two special galleries offer exciting traveling exhibits from around the world. Fun drop-in programs such as Story Time and Big Fun! take place daily. Kid Spark, the Museum store, is located in the first floor lobby. Minnesota Children's Museum has been providing children and adults with a fun, educational environment since 1981.

The Museum is located at Seventh and Wabasha streets in downtown St. Paul. For 24-hour information, visit www.MCM.org or call 651-225-6000.