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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Celebrate the holidays at Children’s Museum of Atlanta**

*Special December programming packed with festive activities*

**ATLANTA** **(November 10, 2017)** –*Deck the halls with holly jolly programs!* Families are invited to join **Children’s Museum of Atlanta** for holiday-themed events throughout December. Little ones can revel in the magic of the holidays through Celebrations in Light to learn all about Hanukah, Christmas, Las Posadas and Kwanzaa through a variety of events, including special story times, art projects and more. Children’s Museum of Atlanta has countless activities to help little ones explore STEM-themed programs this holiday season.

***Sid the Science Kid: The Super-Duper Exhibit-themed daily programming will continue in conjunction with Celebrations in Light. All programs are included with admission unless otherwise noted.***

**Sid the Science Kid Appearance**

*Every Monday at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. and Saturday at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.*

Kids are invited to meet and take photos with Sid the Science Kid on the Children’s Museum of Atlanta stage!

**Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*Saturdays: 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.mm, 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays: 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.; Weekdays: 11 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.*

The Imaginators lead an exploration of the tales and traditions of Las Posados, Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza. Through interactive performances, Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s stage comes to life as special book readings, festive dances and holiday songs are shared.

**Skating at Sockefeller Plaza**

Kids are invited to escape the cold and visit Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s Sock-Skating Rink in Sockefeller Plaza! No skates necessary: little ones will use their imaginations as they slip and slide around with friends on an ice-like surface throughout the holidays.

**Super Spectacular Science Show…On Ice!***Weekdays at 1 p.m. and weekends at 4 p.m.*

Future gold medalists can learn all about the forces, angles and science behind ice skating with Professor Labcoat at Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s ice skating rink. Children are encouraged to stick around for plenty of dazzling winter science surprises after the show!

**Eat A Georgia Rainbow***Sunday at 3 p.m.* Kids can embark on a scavenger hunt and cold cooking activity with the Imaginators to learn more about fruits and veggies harvested in Georgia throughout the year.

**Art Studio Projects** *Weekdays 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Weekends 11 a.m.-4 p.m.*Young artists are invited to bring the holidays to life with crafts tailored around various holiday celebrations. Little ones may choose a craft that coincides with special holidays or decorate wrapping paper to package a gift for a special friend or family member!

**Build It Lab***Weekdays, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Weekends 11 a.m.-4 p.m.*Children can explore what it means to give this season as the Build It Lab is transformed into a holiday toy workshop to allow little ones to design a special toy for a friend or loved one! Under supervision, children can create a toy helicopter, car or ball catcher with access to real tools and materials designed to spark creativity, nurture curiosity and ignite the next wave of innovators.

**Science Bar***Weekdays 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Weekends 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*  
Questions become answers at the Science Bar! Throughout December, Professor Labcoat will be exploring the winter wonderland of the scientific world. Little ones can learn about weather instruments to predict if Atlanta will have a white Christmas, explore energy needed to power a circuits and holiday lights and discover how the body’s olfactory system reacts to holiday scents!

**Sewing Thursdays**

*10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*

Children, along with parents and guardians, have the opportunity to work together to hand sew holiday themed creations! Little ones can drop in the open studio at any time. Fabric, thread and sewing machines will be provided along with professional instruction.

**Building Blocks Programs**

Recommended for children 1-5 years old

**Tiny Club Monday**

*10:30 a.m.*

Designed for little minds, Tiny Club Monday offers FOODiE Club, SCiENCE Club, ARTiST Club and BUiLDER Club for children ages 2-5 and caregivers to enjoy together. The 30 minute classes offer hands on activities, professional instruction and the chance to create and learn something new!

**Messy Thursdays**

*10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*

Little visitors and guardians are invited to get messy! Messy Thursdays offer slime, finger painting and more! Let the Children’s Museum of Atlanta clean up the mess while the little ones have a blast. New, messy activities await every week to try, offering endless opportunities.

**Toddler Jam Fridays**

*10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*

Kids are invited to rock and roll into the weekend with this high energy, music-filled class guaranteed to shake out the wiggles and foster a love of music. Each week little ones can enjoy new songs, instrument play, circle time activities and, of course, dance breaks.

**December Special Programming**

**Celebrations in Light: Los Posadas**

*Saturday, December 16*

Las Posadas is a nine-day religious celebration observed primarily in Mexico and by Mexican-Americans. Celebrated in the evenings, families participate in nightly Christmas processions that recreate the Holy Pilgrimage of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus on their way to Bethlehem.

* **Special Performance: Alma Mexicana Danza Folklorica**

*11 a.m. and noon*

Kids are invited to learn about Los Posadas through traditional Mexican dances performed by Alma Mexicana!

* **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.*

Little ones can join the Imaginators to discover the traditions and tales of Los Posadas through a special reading of “The Night of Las Posadas” by Tommie DePaola as well as festive songs and dances that are celebrated throughout the holiday.

* **Sid the Science Kid Appearance**

*1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.*

Kids are invited to meet and take photos with Sid the Science Kid on the Children’s Museum of Atlanta stage!

**Celebrations in Light: Hanukkah**

*Sunday, December 17*

Known as the “Festival of Lights,” this eight-day Jewish holiday celebrates the fundamental rights of religious freedom. Hanukkah lasts for eight days in December, when the days are shortest and nights are darkest, and is observed by lighting one candle of the nine-branched Menorah each night.

* **Special Performance: Rabbi Brian Glusman, Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta**

*11 a.m. and noon*

Families can join Rabbi Glusman from the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta to celebrate Hanukkah through dancing to classic Hanukkah songs. Children can gather around to listen to the tales of Maccabees’ bravery and discover the miracle of the Hanukkah lights. As a tasty bonus, kids can learn about the tradition of eating chocolate coins and latkes during the holiday!

* **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*1 p.m. and 2 p.m.*

Little ones can meet with the Imaginators to discover the traditions and tales of Hanukkah through an interactive readers’ theatre performance. The Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s stage will come to life with a special reading of “Hanukkah Lights” by David Martin and the opportunity to dance and sing to Hanukkah songs and relish in the holiday traditions.

**Celebrations in Light: Christmas**

*Saturday, December 23*

Christmas is the annual Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ and is celebrated on December 25 each year by billions of people across the world. Celebratory customs include completing an Advent calendar or wreath; gift giving; Christmas trees and wreaths; and the story of Santa Claus.

* **Special Performance: Mary Flannery’s Ghost**

*Noon*

Kids are invited to move and groove into the holiday spirit with classic Christmas tunes curated by Atlanta musical trio, Mary Flannery’s Ghost! Mary Flannery’s Ghost is sure to provide a spectacular holiday musical adventure for all growing minds.

* **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.*

Little ones can join the Imaginators and discover the traditions and tales of Christmas through interactive Readers’ Theatre performance. The Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s stage will come to life with a special reading of “Silver Packages” by Cynthia Rylan and a festive chance to dance and sing to Christmas songs and relish in the holiday activities.

* **Sid the Science Kid Appearance**

*1:30 and 2:30 p.m.*

Sid the Science Kid is live at Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s stage! Photo opportunities will be available for little enthusiasts.

**Christmas Eve Special Schedule**

*Sunday, December 24 (Museum will close at 1 p.m.)*

* **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*11 a.m. and noon*

Little ones can join the Imaginators and discover the traditions and tales of Las Posadas, Hanukkah, Christmas or Kwanza through an interactive Readers’ Theatre performance. Young ones can gather around the stage and listen to special book readings featuring The Night of Las Posadas by Tommie DePaola, Hanukkah Lights by David Martin, Silver Packages by Cynthia Rylan, and My First Kwanzaa Book by Deborah M. Newton.

* **Science Bar**

*11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Questions become answers at the Science Bar! Throughout December, Professor Labcoat will be exploring the winter wonderland of the scientific world. Little ones can learn about weather instruments to predict if Atlanta will have a white Christmas, explore energy needed to power circuits and holiday lights and discover how the body’s olfactory system reacts to holiday scents!

* **Art Studio**

*11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Young artists can bring Christmas to life with crafts tailored to various cultures. Little ones can explore different holiday celebrations or decorate wrapping paper to package last minute gifts for a special friend or family member!

* **Build It Lab**

*11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Children can explore what it means to give this season with the holiday toy workshop at Build It Lab. Little ones can design a special toy for a friend or loved one! Under supervision, children can create a toy helicopter, car or ball catcher with access to real tools and materials designed to spark creativity, nurture curiosity and ignite the next wave of innovators.

**Celebrations in Light: Kwanzaa**

*Wednesday, December 27 (The Museum will be open Wednesday, December 27 during the week between Christmas and New Year’s Day)*

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held in the United States and others nations of Western African descent honoring African heritage. With seven core principles, each featured during one night of the seven-day celebration, Kwanzaa culminates with a feast and gift-giving.

* **Special Performance: Mama Koku**

*Noon and 1 p.m.*

Kids are invited to learn about Kwanzaa with famed master storyteller, Mama Koku through captivating stories and songs. Mama Koku is a member of the Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia, The National Association of Black Storytellers, the Southern Order of Storytellers and more!

* **Super Spectacular Science Show…On Ice!**

*2 p.m.*

Future gold-medalists can learn all about forces, angles and the science behind ice-skating with Professor Labcoat at the Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s ice skating rink! Make sure to stick around for plenty of dazzling winter science surprises!

**December Ticketed Events**

**New Year’s Bubble Bash**

*Sunday, December 31 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-4:30 p.m.*

*Special Pricing: $8 for Members; $18 for Non-Members (prices increase on December 25)*

Families are invited to ring in the New Year with special activities including a family-friendly DJ, dancing, party favors, confetti and of course, bubbles! Each session will feature a countdown to 2018, perfect for little ones who won’t stay up until midnight. With two opportunities to celebrate 2018, guests are encouraged to purchase tickets to one of the time slots ahead of time by visiting [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org) or calling 404.659.KIDS [5437]. Tickets will not be sold at the door and the Museum will be closed for general admission on December 31.

**Ongoing Monthly Programs**

**Target Free Second Tuesday**

*Tuesday, December 12 from 1-6 p.m.*

Children’s Museum of Atlanta invites local families to visit the Museum free of charge on the second Tuesday of each month. Registration for Target Free Second Tuesdays will be available exclusively online through the Museum’s website ([childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org)) the day prior to each event to create a seamless process for guests. Guests who do not register in advance will be admitted on a first come, first serve basis pending availability.

Patrons will be able to choose from two sessions:

* **Session 1: 1 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**
  + **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*1:30 and 2:15 p.m.*

* + **Science Bar**

*1 p.m.-3:15 p.m.*

* + **Art Studio**

*1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.*

* + **Build It Lab**

*1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.*

* **Session 2: 3:45 p.m. – 6 p.m.**
  + **Celebrations in Light: Readers’ Theatre**

Special Winter Holiday Story Time with Music and Movement

*4:15 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.*

* + **Science Bar**

*3:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.*

* + **Art Studio**

*4:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m.*

* + **Build It Lab**

*4:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m.*

For more information on the December program offerings or to support Children's Museum of Atlanta, visit [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org/) or call 404.659.KIDS [5437].

**About Children’s Museum of Atlanta:**

Children’s Museum of Atlanta is the only educational venue of its kind in Atlanta, presenting educational programs and exhibits designed for young children ages 0-9. The Museum’s mission is to spark imagination and inspire discovery and learning for all children through the power of play. With six permanent learning zones consisting of bright, creative and hands-on exhibits, the Museum supports inventive play-based exploration and experiential learning focused on the whole child. Core competencies for literacy, math and science are promoted throughout all exhibits and programming in alignment with the state and national Core Performance Standards. The Children’s Museum of Atlanta also offers parties, memberships, field trips, summer camp and private events.For more information or to support Children's Museum of Atlanta, visit [childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org) or call 404.659.KIDS [5437].

Major support is provided by the Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs. Major funding for this organization is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

**Museum Admission:** Please visit the Museum’s website for current pricing. Babies and members are admitted for free. All daily programs are included in price of admission. Group rates and military discounts are available. For more information regarding ticket and membership options, visit [childrensmuseumatlanta.org/plan-your-visit/faqs/](http://childrensmuseumatlanta.org/plan-your-visit/faqs/).

**Museum Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Closed on Wednesdays.

**Special Holiday Hours:** The Museum will be open until 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve; is closed Christmas Day; and is open on Wednesday, December 27. Please check the Museum website to confirm hours of operation.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/childrensmuseumatlanta>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChildMuseumATL>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/childrensmuseumatlanta>

Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/cmatlanta>

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