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MEDIA ADVISORY

Children's Museum of Atlanta to host "Let the Games Begin!" to honor Olympic anniversary July 16

Families invited to go for the gold during commemorative celebration

ATLANTA (July 15, 2016) – In honor of the 20th anniversary of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Centennial Olympic Park, Children's Museum of Atlanta will host "Let the Games Begin!" on Saturday, July 16 from 12-3 p.m.! This celebratory event will include a "parade of nations," where young athletes are encouraged to wear multi-cultural clothing or red, white and blue to show their patriotic pride! The festivities will also include special sports-themed story time reading of *Dino-basketball* by Lisa Wheeler and feature special guests, Olympians Terrence R. Trammell, Kevin C. Young, Dwight Phillips, Angelo F. Taylor and Hazel Mae Clark!

Additionally, the art studio will allow guests to design an Olympic gold medal and torch of their own, as well as build mini-parallel bars – complete with a gymnast to twirl on them – in the Build It Lab. Closing celebrations will include a Q&A with the athletes on what it's like to win big, as well as up close and personal encounters with some of their most prized medals. With plenty of fun festivities to choose from, "Let the Games Begin" is guaranteed to be good as gold!

WHAT: Let the Games Begin!

Celebratory day commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Centennial Olympic Park

WHEN: Saturday, July 16

12-3 p.m.

Event Schedule:

• 12 p.m. – Parade of Nations

Families can join the Imaginators in the opening ceremony parade! Everyone is encouraged to come dressed in the colors of a country of their choice or in red, white and blue.

• 1 p.m. – Special Storytime

Children can gather around for a special reading of "Dino-basketball" and hear about dinosaurs playing a popular summer Olympic sport.

• 2 p.m. – Parade of Olympic Athletes

Join Olympic Athletes Terrence R. Trammell, Kevin C. Young, Dwight Phillips, Angelo Taylor and Hazel Mae Clark in the closing ceremonies where children will be able to help create a special Olympic banner to be hung in the museum! Families will also be able to learn about Olympic sports, ask the featured Olympian guests questions and even see their winning medals!

• 11 a.m. -4 p.m. – Art Studio Open

Guests can create their very own Olympic gold medal and torch to represent their favorite Olympic game!

• 11 a.m. -4 p.m. – Build It Lab Open

Guests can build mini-parallel bars with a gymnast to twirl on them!

WHERE: Children's Museum of Atlanta

275 Centennial Olympic Park Drive, NW

Atlanta, GA 30313

HOW:

"Let the Games Begin!" programming is included with the price of admission. Members are free. Due to event popularity, advance ticket purchases and member reservations are recommended. To purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/1TEfupP or call 404.659.KIDS (5437).

Families who show their 1996 Olympic Pin will receive \$3 off the cost of a full-price ticket to the Museum. Please note – each pin is valid for a discount on one (1) ticket; maximum of four (4) pins per family. Offer is only valid in-person at the welcome center for general admission on July 16 and cannot be combined with any other discounts or offers.

MORE INFO: childrensmuseumatlanta.org/calendar/let-the-games-begin/

For more information or to support Children's Museum of Atlanta, visit <u>childrensmuseumatlanta.org</u> or call 404.659.KIDS [5437]

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