

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Connecticut Science Center Continues Popular Program Hartford Residents Visit Free in August 2016

The Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving provides funding to host hundreds of families

Hartford, CT, July 27, 2016 — The Connecticut Science Center is once again partnering with the Hartford Public Library to make science learning and summer fun opportunities available to all Hartford residents this summer. Funding provided by the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving will grant all city of Hartford residents access to free General Admission to the Science Center in downtown Hartford during the entire month of August. Residents can pick up their free Science Center passes at any Hartford Public Library branch.

"The Library is very happy to partner once again with the Connecticut Science Center in this exciting opportunity for Hartford families," says Bridget Quinn-Carey, CEO of Hartford Public Library. "Learning and fun go hand in hand at the Science Center and at the Library."

This will be the fifth year that the Connecticut Science Center is bringing back the popular program. The program's aim is to connect all of Hartford's residents, especially youth, with the best assets and opportunities that our community has to offer. Over the last five years, more than 20,000 Hartford residents have taken advantage of the program by visiting the Science Center.

Free Connecticut Science Center admission for Hartford residents is available only through passes received at Hartford Public Library branches. Passes will be awarded to residents providing library staff with proof of residency, which may include a current driver's license, library card, or recently received U.S. mail showing current name and address. Residents will need to show proof of current Hartford residency at the library location and at the Connecticut Science Center. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Movie tickets are not included in the coupon. Certain restrictions apply.

General Admission includes all day access to all of the Science Center's 165+ hands-on exhibits including the blockbuster traveling exhibit, *Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion*, presented by Connecticut Business Systems and Comcast. The internationally touring hands-on exhibit is on display through the end of the year in the Saint Francis *Care* Traveling Exhibit Gallery on Level 4 of the Science Center. For more information about the Connecticut Science Center, including exhibits, visit <u>CTScienceCenter.org</u>.

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Hartford Public Library locations:

500 Main Street: (860) 695-6300 1250 Albany Avenue: (860) 695-7380 261 Barbour Street: (860) 695-7400 649 Blue Hills Avenue: (860) 695-7420 30 Campfield Avenue: (860) 695-7440 7 New Park Avenue (Parkville School): (860) 695-7460
460 New Britain Avenue: (860) 695-7480
55 Forrest Street: (860) 695-7540
744 Park Street: (860) 695-7500
1250 Main Street: (860) 695-7520

<u>About the Connecticut Science Center</u> The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Serving more than 2 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical

sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children's gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store, and ongoing events for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. The Connecticut Science Center is also the home to the **Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Academy for Teachers**, offering powerful Professional Development for educators. More information: **CTScienceCenter.org** or (860) SCIENCE.

<u>About Hartford Public Library</u> The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Visit <u>hplct.org</u> and the library's new blog at <u>blogs.hplct.org</u>.