

**The Original Renaissance Man Comes to New England,
Bringing 40 Interactive Machines**
***New Traveling Exhibit Features Hands-on Replicas of Leonardo da Vinci's
Machines — and How His Inventions Still Influence Us Today***

Hartford, CT— January 25, 2016 — Coming to New England for the first time ever, *Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion* will make its debut at the Connecticut Science Center on January 30. Leonardo da Vinci is the father of invention and his legacy is brought to life in this exciting new exhibit. Da Vinci's manuscripts, collectively named the "Codices", contain designs for many of today's modern technologies. From a revolving crane to an armored car, all 40 interactive machines featured within *Machines in Motion* are constructed as full-scale, true-to-design working models using materials that would have been available during da Vinci's era 500 years ago. These meticulously constructed machines were built by a group of scientists and skilled craftsmen in collaboration with the Leonardo da Vinci Museum in Florence, Italy. The exhibit has previously appeared at the Cultural Center Hellenic Foundation in Athens and the Rahmi M. Koc Museum in Istanbul, along with several locations throughout the United States. *Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion* was designed and produced by Worldwide Museum Activities, and is now on view at the Connecticut Science Center through January 8, 2017.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be able to present this exhibit to our visitors from Connecticut and beyond," said Matt Fleury, Connecticut Science Center President & CEO. "Technology has come a long way since da Vinci's lifetime, but we can still see his work in many of the devices and tools we use on a daily basis. This exhibition offers a marvelous insight into one of the greatest innovative minds in human history, and the inspiring power of creative thinking that will carry us into the future."

Visitors can touch the inventions and set them into motion, enveloping the participant in the Father of Invention's ingenuity. Hand cranks and levers bring the machines to life to the delight of children and adults. Graphical displays and videos explore the life and legacy of da Vinci, giving context to his creativity and explaining how these ahead-of-their-time inventions continue to influence many of the modern technologies we enjoy today.

Highlights of *Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion* at the Connecticut Science Center include:

- 40 of da Vinci's inventions, brought to life in full-scale, true-to-design models
- Da Vinci's Playhouse and Lil' Live Science, which provide interactive spaces where even our youngest visitors can enjoy hands-on playtime
- The Maker Space, which will host daily workshops (and a monthly da Vinci Saturday program!) throughout the year, delivering themed activities in engineering, chemistry, anatomy, and physics
- The spectacular ornithopter, which features mechanical wings to allow man to fly and was a precursor to today's hang glider
- An armored vehicle and moving wooden battle tank that guests can climb inside to explore

In tandem with *Machines in Motion*, ProHealth Physicians' Healthy Me Program has teamed up with the Connecticut Science Center to develop health-related Live Science Demonstrations. Throughout the year, visitors will be able to interact with these demonstrations and receive healthy recipes and tips that correspond with da Vinci's health-conscious mindset. ProHealth also continues as the sponsor of Story Time in 2016.

Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion will be presented in the Connecticut Science Center's Saint Francis Care Traveling Exhibit Gallery. Access to the exhibit is included with the purchase of general admission or an annual membership through January 8, 2017. For more information, visit the Science Center's website at CTScienceCenter.org.

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About the Connecticut Science Center: 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: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.

About Evergreen Exhibits: Evergreen Exhibitions—formerly Clear Channel Exhibitions—one of the largest traveling museum exhibit companies serving science centers and museums in the country, has mounted and toured some of the best-known and best-attended exhibits in the U.S., including *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit* and *Genome: The Secret to How Life Works*. Partners to Evergreen Exhibits include NASA, National Institutes of Health, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Discovery Channel, Universal Studios, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Bat Conservation International, Popular Science, Smithsonian Institution, the Vatican and others. Corporate partners include Ford Motor Company, Cadillac, IBM, John Hancock, Discover Card, Pfizer, Target Stores, HP, GM, Hertz, TIME, Lockheed Martin, P&G, KODAK, Dentsu, OnStar and Silicon Graphics, among others. Evergreen exhibits has experience working with more than 200 of the most heavily attended museums in North America, as well as museums around the world and acted as a co-founder of the Association of Science-Technology Centers' Award for Innovation. More than 80 million people worldwide have experienced an Evergreen exhibit.