



Media Contact:

Tracy Shirer (tshirer@ctsciencecenter.org)

O: 860.520.2116, C: 860.817.1373

Connecticut Science Center | 250 Columbus Blvd | Hartford, CT 06103

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Total Eclipse at the Connecticut Science Center

Join the Connecticut Science Center to celebrate a party 38 years in the making

HARTFORD, Conn. (July 6, 2017) – The first total solar eclipse in the continental United States in 38 years makes its way to Hartford at the Connecticut Science Center in a party that is out of this world. Celebrate the eclipse all weekend at the Connecticut Science Center starting with Martial Arts Day and ending with a viewing of the partial eclipse on the plaza.

The Connecticut Science Center kicks off Total Eclipse Weekend on August 19 with Martial Arts Day: Ninjago Celebration. Celebrate the physical skill, discipline, and sport of Martial Arts. The day will include Martial Arts demonstrations, the 165+ exhibits in the Science Center, Ninjago themed activities and plenty of photo ops. Martial Arts students dressed in their uniform will receive discounted admission and an exclusive Science Center patch for participation.

If you are a Connecticut Science Center member, stop by any day during the weekend and receive your exclusive solar eclipse kit complete with safety sheet, fun facts, solar eclipse glasses, and an exclusive new bag design. For those joining us on the actual event date, guests will receive an exclusive commemorative patch.

Connecticut will be host to a partial eclipse on Monday, August 21 from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m. The Connecticut Science Center is offering a prime viewing location as well as a party. With family friendly and fun activities this party is as big as the eclipse itself. Vasu Tribe Studio of Hartford, CT will be on-site to bring guests through a yoga flow and meditation in celebration of this celestial event. The Science Center's Camp Spirit Day's DJ return with a Total Eclipse playlist sure to ignite the dance floor. In partnership with Slooh, a live stream of the total eclipse from various locations throughout the globe will be available for viewing.

The event will include many opportunities for education on eclipses. Hisham Alnajjar, PhD, Professor at the University of Hartford and Director of the NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium (CTSGC), said "the solar eclipse cutting across the United States is a once in a lifetime opportunity that allows us to further educate and engage our community on the wonders of outer space. Two NASA CTSGC teams will be in Kentucky, where they will witness a total solar eclipse, launching high altitude balloons to help with

NASA's total solar eclipse live feed, which we will be streaming during Connecticut Science Center's eclipse day events."

Martial Arts Day: Ninjago Celebration and the Total Eclipse party will take place at the Connecticut Science Center located at 250 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT. For more information on the weekend, please call (860) 742-3623 or visit CTScienceCenter.org.

###

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 over 2.5 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries covering 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.