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Contact: Robin Wexler, Manager of Marketing and Communications
robin@steppingstonesmuseum.org
203 899 0606, ext. 295

Stepping Stones Museum for Children Celebrates 7,300 Hours of Volunteer Service during National Volunteer Week

Norwalk, CT, April 22, 2009 – In conjunction with National Volunteer Week being celebrated this week, Stepping Stones Museum for Children is honoring its more than 200 youth and adult volunteers for their 7,300 hours of service in 2008. Eighteen of the museum's youth volunteers are being presented with the President's Volunteer Service Award, created by President Bush and his President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. This award recognizes these young volunteers for achieving a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service in one year at Stepping Stones.

"Volunteers make Stepping Stones shine brighter and they play a vital role in the daily life of our museum," said Rhonda Kiest, executive director at Stepping Stones. "Our dedicated volunteers help make a difference by creating a positive experience for our visitors and we are so grateful for the time and many talents they contribute."

President's Volunteer Service Award recipients include:

Arianna Bailey, Libby Burr, Tyler Calder, Eric Capina, Christina Johnson, Michael Johnson Sophie Katz, Kaitlyn Orce, Kelsey Potrykus, Kellie Siciliano and Carlisle Theophile all from Norwalk.

Lauren Bauman, Jedrik Chao of Wilton; Christina Gencarelli of Stamford; Felicia Knise of Darien; Beth Lester of Westport; Jesse Prager of Weston and Kate Tschudi of Redding.

Stepping Stones Museum for Children is continuously recruiting people, in grades 7 – 12 and older, to serve as volunteers. The museum offers a variety of exciting opportunities for both youth and adult volunteers who want to share their time and talents to enhance educational opportunities for children. Volunteers are an integral part of Stepping Stones whether they are helping visitors learn about the arts, sciences, culture and heritage or working behind the scenes to inspire strategic direction and successful special events. For information about specific volunteer opportunities, call the museum's volunteer coordinator for adults at 203 899 0606, ext 245 and for youth at 203 899 0606, ext 240.

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Page 2/Stepping Stones Celebrates National Volunteer Week

Stepping Stones Museum for Children, a 501(c)(3) private non-profit, is an award-winning children's museum committed to broadening and enriching the lives of

children. Museum exhibits, educational programs and special events complement efforts in schools, childcare centers and homes. With four main galleries, a toddlers-only gallery and more than 100 hands-on activities, Stepping Stones offers children ten and under plenty to explore and discover. To learn more visit steppingstonesmuseum.org or call 203 899 0606.

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