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Stepping Stones Museum for Children Launches Earth Day Art Contest and Hosts Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 17

Norwalk, CT, April 13, 2010 – To inspire children to make thoughtful choices about energy use to help protect the planet and promote healthy living, Stepping Stones Museum for Children is conducting an Earth Day Art Contest and hosting an Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 17 from 10 am to 5 pm.

The Earth Day Art Contest encourages children to draw a picture showing what they plan to do to make a difference this Earth Day. For an official entry form and rules, visit steppingstonesmuseum.org/earthday. The winners will have their drawing created into a tile for permanent display at Stepping Stones on a new whimsical tile wall being installed as part of the museum's current expansion.

Children are encouraged to ask their parent or guardian to submit their entry into the Earth Day Art Contest. Entries should be submitted to Stepping Stones Museum for Children, Mathews Park, 303 West Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850, by 5 pm on April 22, 2010 in an envelope marked "Earth Day Art Contest." All properly filled out entries will be judged and the winners will be announced on April 29, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the museum.

Children and their families will be able to participate in activities focused on the environment and energy efficiency at Stepping Stones Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 17, from 10am to 5 pm, sponsored by the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund.

Activities include:

- 11 am – Author reading and signing *Biscuit's Earth Day Celebration* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- Noon – Make an Energy Saver Door Hanger
- 1 pm – *Going Green* Performance with Sirius Coyote
- 2 pm – Make a Picture out of Recyclable Materials
- 3 pm – Make an Energy Saver Door Hanger
- 3:15 pm – *Iggy and Me Saving Energy* Storytime with State Senator Bob Duff and Meet Effy the Efficient Dinosaur
- 4 pm – *Rosa & Effy's Adventure* Storytime and Meet Effy the Efficient Dinosaur

Stepping Stones Museum for Children, a 501(c)(3) private non-profit organization, is an award-winning children's museum committed to broadening and enriching the lives of children. With four main galleries, a toddlers-only gallery, a new outdoor play space and more than 100 hands-on activities, Stepping Stones offers children ten and under plenty to explore and discover. Museum exhibits, educational programs and special events complement efforts in schools, childcare centers and homes.

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In 2010, Stepping Stones is commemorating its 10th birthday with a year of celebrations, surprises and special events. Stepping Stones will celebrate the opening of its 22,000 square foot “green” expansion in November 2010, providing new exhibits and innovative programming. The museum hours are Tuesday 1 – 5 pm and Wednesday – Sunday 10 am – 5 pm. Admission is \$9 and children under 1 are free. To learn more visit steppingstonesmuseum.org or call 203 899 0606.

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