



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Stepping Stones Museum for Children Partners with Connecticut Hospitals to Provide Free Family Memberships to Babies Born on its 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Norwalk, CT, March 10, 2010 – In honor of the museum’s 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, Stepping Stones Museum for Children will be giving away one-year family museum memberships to the families of the first ten babies born at participating hospitals throughout the state on March 11, including Danbury Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, Stamford Hospital, St. Vincent’s Hospital in Bridgeport and Milford Hospital.

Additionally, the first baby born at each of the hospitals on March 11 will receive a commemorative tile that will be permanently displayed on a new whimsical tile wall being installed as part of the museum’s current expansion. The tile will display the name, birth date and footprints of each baby. Stepping Stones is creating this tile wall as part of its 22,000 square foot expansion opening in November 2010, which will provide new exhibits and educational offerings.

Through its *Growing Together* Community Campaign, Stepping Stones is seeking to involve thousands of individuals in the creation of the newly enhanced museum. The new tile wall is one of several family-oriented recognition programs. Families can design ceramic tiles for the tile wall planned for the new museum and create a lasting family memory that will be permanently displayed.

“Providing free memberships to Connecticut babies born on the museum’s 10<sup>th</sup> birthday was a great way to celebrate this momentous occasion for Stepping Stones,” said Tony Bosco, director of marketing at Stepping Stones. “Since the museum seeks to create an environment that inspires lifelong learning, we hope this is just the start of these babies’ visits to Stepping Stones.”

The museum will be celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday, March 13 from 10 am to 5 pm with a day of live music, performances, face painting, art activities, cake cutting and free admission. The event is the start of a 10-month celebration, sponsored by GE Capital and Xerox.

For a full listing of upcoming special events and programs, visit [steppingstonesmuseum.org/10thbirthday](http://steppingstonesmuseum.org/10thbirthday). To learn more about the commemorative tile program, please visit [steppingstonesmuseum.org/tiles](http://steppingstonesmuseum.org/tiles).

**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. 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](http://steppingstonesmuseum.org) or call 203 899 0606.