

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts:

- Jeff Simmons, jeff@anatgerstein.com, 917-673-0024
- Jessica Meditz, jessica@anatgerstein.com, 347-907-0568

Brooklyn Children's Museum Offers Free Field Trips for Brooklyn's Title I Schools

 Trips are made possible through support from the New York City Council, and will reach an estimated 10,000 city students —



(Brooklyn, NY)—<u>Brooklyn Children's Museum (BCM)</u> will offer free field trips to Title I schools across Brooklyn. Made possible by a \$100,000 grant from New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams and Councilmember Chi Ossé, this initiative will support academic and social learning for students, providing a rich complement to classroom instruction through hands-on, immersive experiences at the Museum.

Brooklyn Children's Museum celebrated the funding infusion at a celebratory event – completely with the presentation of a giant check – on October 3, joined by the Speaker and Councilmembers, community leaders, parents, students and educators.

Brooklyn is the borough with the most Title I schools in New York City, and Brooklyn Children's Museum's field trip programs are designed to align with New York State learning standards, providing teachers with resources that enhance and extend their work in the classroom. Each field trip includes full access to the Museum's exhibits, which highlight visual arts, STEM, world cultures, and civic engagement. By offering these experiences, Brooklyn Children's Museum helps foster curiosity and creativity while strengthening students' academic and social skills.

Multiple studies have demonstrated the value of field trips in boosting cultural awareness, reinforcing personal development, and positively impacting academic outcomes, with low-income students exhibiting the greatest gains in subject proficiency related to field trip experience. Brooklyn Children's Museum supports academic and social learning for students, as well as provides resources to teachers that complement and support their work in the classroom.

"We are deeply grateful to Council Speaker Adams and Councilmember Ossé for their unwavering commitment to supporting education and community in Brooklyn," said **Atiba T. Edwards, President and CEO of Brooklyn Children's Museum**. "This grant allows us to expand our impact, ensuring that more students can benefit from the kind of experiential learning that strengthens academic foundations and builds critical social skills."

"All children deserve access to free, high-quality educational experiences," **said New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams**. "Immersive learning opportunities, like those provided at Brooklyn Children's Museum, help strengthen students' academic and interpersonal skills. I was proud to work with Council Member Chi Ossé to allocate \$100,000 to BCM so that students at Title I Schools can attend field trips free of cost, and engage in meaningful experiences that further cultivate their joy of learning."

New York City Councilmember Chi Ossé said, "The Brooklyn Children's Museum was a central element in my childhood, as it was for countless Brooklynites. Extending that gift to as many children as possible is a noble goal. I am thrilled to support this program. From my perspective as both the political representative of the museum and as a son of Brooklyn, I recognize this program to be incredibly beneficial to education outcomes, social and emotional well-being, and cultural awareness. I hope this model is replicated across the city. Thank you to President Atiba Edwards, Speaker Adams, and everyone who made this possible."

In addition to the seven existing educational programs, BCM is excited to introduce four new STEM-focused programs this fall. These programs will cover topics from engineering to environmental science, providing students with hands-on opportunities to explore and engage with STEM concepts in a fun and meaningful way. These programs aim to spark a love for science and critical thinking, preparing students to engage with the world in thoughtful, creative, and innovative ways.

About Brooklyn Children's Museum

Inspired by the energy and diversity of our borough, Brooklyn Children's Museum creates experiences that ignite curiosity, celebrate identity, and cultivate joyful learning. Founded in 1899 as the world's first children's museum, Brooklyn Children's Museum (BCM) is New York City's largest cultural institution designed especially for families. Proudly based in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, BCM serves 300,000 children and caregivers annually with exhibits and programs grounded in visual arts, music and performance, natural science, and world cultures. For more information, visit <u>www.brooklynkids.org</u>.

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