

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Celebrate Eid al-Fitr at Brooklyn Children's Museum on Saturday, April 5



Bangladesh Institute of Performing Arts / Photo credit: Winston Williams

**(Brooklyn, NY)** — Experience how different cultures around the world mark the end of Ramadan by joining a vibrant <u>Eid al-Fitr celebration</u> at Brooklyn Children's Museum (BCM).

Taking place on Saturday, April 5 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and presented in partnership with <u>Council Member Shahana Hanif</u>, visitors to BCM can enjoy a day of global foods, music, dance, and Islamic-inspired mosaic-making that honors cultural traditions from across the Muslim world.

Specifically, young children and their families can experience:

- Storytelling and artmaking (using the sweet fruit, dates) to learn about Eid with <u>The</u> Culture Tree
- Bangladeshi dance performances from the <u>Bangladesh Institute of Performing Arts</u>
- Interactive drumming inspired by Sufi traditions

- Make geometric mosaics in BCM's <u>ColorLab</u> inspired by the mathematical patterns found in Islamic art
- Delicious local foods provided by the <u>Turkish Cultural Center of Brooklyn</u>
- Live musical performance from the Wahab Orchestra, featuring Turkish, Kurdish, and Islamic classical music

"As the first Muslim woman elected to the New York City Council, I'm excited to celebrate another joyful Eid al-Fitr at Brooklyn Children's Museum. This event has become a beloved tradition, bringing together Brooklyn's beautifully diverse families and creating a space where young people can engage with the vibrant cultures of Muslim communities across our city and beyond. In a time when fostering understanding and unity is more important than ever. I'm proud to see this celebration grow each year," said **Council Member Shahana Hanif**.

"Eid al-Fitr celebrates community, reflection, and joy after a month of fasting and prayer. This year's celebration at Brooklyn Children's Museum will bring these values to life through food, music, and art that showcases the diversity of traditions found across Brooklyn and beyond," says Hana Elwell, Vice President of Exhibits and Education at Brooklyn Children's Museum. "Working alongside Muslim organizations throughout the borough, we're proud that over the past seven years this festival has grown into a cherished space where families experience these rich cultural traditions firsthand and build lasting connections that embody Brooklyn's multicultural spirit."

Throughout the month of Ramadan, many Muslims observe a practice of prayer and reflection, fasting between dawn and sunset, and service to the community. It is common to wish one another "Ramadan Mubarak" ("Blessed Ramadan") or "Ramadan Kareem" ("Generous Ramadan").

Eid al-Fitr officially concludes the month of Ramadan and is the celebratory breaking of the fast. It is observed by some as a three-day holiday and can include prayer services, the eating of sweet treats, time spent visiting relatives, dressing up in new clothes, and decorating with lights. Common greetings include "Eid Mubarak" ("Blessed Eid") and "Eid Sa'id" ("Happy Eid").

Visitors can participate in BCM's day-long celebration of Eid on Saturday, April 5 with the purchase of a general admission ticket: \$15 per child and adult, \$14 per grandparent, and FREE for children under the age of one. BCM members receive discounted rates. (To learn about membership, visit: <a href="https://www.brooklynkids.org/join/">https://www.brooklynkids.org/programs/celebrate-eid/</a>. To purchase a ticket, visit: <a href="https://www.brooklynkids.org/programs/celebrate-eid/">https://www.brooklynkids.org/programs/celebrate-eid/</a>.

Throughout April, BCM is also observing the **Month of the Military Child** by offering FREE admission to <u>Blue Star Families</u>.

## **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 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: www.brooklynkids.org.

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