

Kidspace Celebrates Grand Opening of The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest, Thursday, July 12 2012

Kidspace's Largest Expansion Offers an All-Outdoor Experience of 13 Brand-New Science-Based Exhibits

Pasadena, CA ([PRWEB](#)) June 26, 2012 -- After two years in development, and six months of construction, the newest, largest expansion of Kidspace Children's Museum, since opening in Brookside Park in 2004, will open to the public, Thursday, July 12, 2012. On the morning of July 12, Kidspace will invite the gathered crowd to be among the first to experience The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest. This memorable event will be marked by speeches and appearances from political dignitaries, community officials, and friends and donors of the Museum, as they help to celebrate this major milestone in the Museum's 33-year history.

On Grand Opening day, Thursday, July 12, The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest will open to the public at 11 a.m., and Kidspace will issue timed tickets, on a first-come first-served basis, throughout the day. In honor of the Grand Opening, the Museum will be open to the public from 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest will add 30,000 square feet to the current 3.5-acre facility, located in Brookside Park, in Pasadena, California, just south of Rose Bowl Stadium, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratories. The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest will feature 13 brand-new, interactive exhibits all specially created for Kidspace and the unique, outdoor setting that The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest is designed to be. Each exhibit will display a fundamental principle of physics, providing guests with the opportunity to interact with those principles in a manner that is both educational and fun.

The exhibits were designed and constructed by Florida-based exhibit designers, Hands-On Interactive, who are internationally renowned for their commitment to quality, and craftsmanship, and who also share Kidspace's commitment to creative and informal educational methods. This innovative approach to education has enabled Kidspace to establish itself as an indispensable resource to children and families, as well as local schools and teachers. Kidspace is proud to continue that relationship and broaden its educational offerings to newer and older audiences with the opening of The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest. In particular, this latest expansion will offer tremendous opportunities for interaction, and engagement for children five years of age and up.

Though the current CEO, Michael Shanklin, was not with Kidspace during the initial planning stages of The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest, Michael is very excited for the Grand Opening and what this expansion means for Kidspace.

"There were many factors that initially drew me to Kidspace. The opportunity that The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest represents is one of the major ones. Professionally, it is extremely gratifying to see a project move from concept to construction to the point where our guests are fully engaging and enjoying it. Seeing the look on a child's face when they are completely absorbed by an exhibit, and the moment when comprehension finally dawns never gets old to me. Personally, as a parent, I am really looking forward to sharing this space with my own kids, to see them captivated by what we've created, and for us to learn and have fun together," said Michael Shanklin, Kidspace's Chief Executive Officer.

Initial funding for The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest was provided by a grant from the California

Cultural and Historical Endowment, which was supplemented by major gifts from the Annenberg Foundation, GGE Foundation, Ayrshire Foundation, and other generous contributors. With the generosity of Kidspace Board Member, Dr. Gail Galvin Ellis, and Galvin family foundations, Kidspace has recently launched a \$13 million capital campaign, The Campaign for the Future of Kidspace, to continue fund-raising efforts for The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest, as well as create a plan for the future of Kidspace (<http://kidspacemuseum.org/contribute/campaign-future-kidspace>).

View live video of the exhibit installation from The Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest Camera at www.kidspacemuseum.org. Find us at www.facebook.com/kidspacechildrensmuseum for the latest news and up-to-date information.

About Kidspace:

Located on almost four acres in Pasadena, California, Kidspace Children's Museum has more than 25 indoor hands-on exhibits, in addition to its outdoor spaces, programs and activities that are designed to encourage a child's growth and development through exploration of the environment, investigation in science, and artistic expression. Kidspace is located at 480 N. Arroyo Boulevard, in Brookside Park, Pasadena, California, adjacent to the Rose Bowl Stadium. Free parking is available in Rose Bowl Parking Lot I. Kidspace is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Kidspace is open seven days a week between Memorial and Labor Days). Admission for all adults and children one year and older is \$10.00. Children under one year and members are free. Kidspace Children's Museum is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that exists to enrich the lives of children. Kidspace is an interactive learning environment that is fun for children, families, educators and caregivers. For sign up information and for a calendar of events, please visit: www.kidspacemuseum.org



Contact Information

Tim Scheidler

tscheidler@kidspacemuseum.org

<http://www.kidspacemuseum.org>

626.449.9144 5210

Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).