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## **MICHAEL'S MUSEUM OPENS AT CHICAGO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

*Museum's newest permanent exhibit features over 100 collections by curator Michael Horvich*

Chicago, IL (May 13, 2011)— Summon your inner collector on May 13 when *Michael's Museum: A Curious Collection of Tiny Treasures* opens at Chicago Children's Museum. The museum's newest permanent exhibit showcases over 100 collections of treasures, donated by founder and curator Michael Horvich, and features thousands of tiny objects including miniatures, trinkets, artifacts and curiosities.

"We're delighted to provide a home for this amazing collection so children and families from all of Chicago's neighborhoods can experience the joy and wonder of collecting," said President and CEO Jennifer Farrington. "This exhibit is an intimate, magnificent world that will appeal to people of all ages."

"I am thrilled to have my curious collections be part of the world-class Chicago Children's Museum," said exhibit curator Michael Horvich. "I hope visitors feel the magic and experience the joy that I have worked hard to create and I hope something of mine triggers a memory and inspires them to share a story with loved ones and begin or continue collecting themselves."

In September 2010, Horvich teamed up with CCM's exhibit team with one mission—to create a space where the universal allure of small things inspires visitors' curiosity, imagination, storytelling, and collecting. Horvich says collecting is a way for people to make sense of the world around them, and is a means of self-expression. This exhibit will foster the art of collecting, encouraging children to investigate and wonder while inspiring adults to share their memories of childhood and support their children's interest in collecting.

Upon entering the exhibit, visitors have their choice of three doorways —one large, one small, and one mouse-sized. They will be greeted by a cozy setting filled with unexpected combinations of furniture and display cases. Children and families can peruse collections of toys, jewelry, dollhouse furniture and more (one of them containing Michael's favorite item – a little black and white, wooden horse he carve as a child, with his father's help, to earn a Cub Scout patch) before cozying up in one of the various seating areas to sort and count tiny objects.

Michael's Museum offers vast opportunities for children's cognitive, physical, language, and social and emotional development. Children can ask questions and tell stories as they observe the objects, use magnifiers and rulers to gain new perspectives, sort and organize hundreds of tiny treasures that are loose in the exhibit, and create their own displays on open case shelves.

## **About Chicago Children's Museum**

The mission of Chicago Children's Museum is to create a community where play and learning connect. CCM is the only cultural institution in the city dedicated to young children and the important adults in their lives. Playful experiences—including over fifteen interactive exhibits—tap into how kids learn, and engage them at an early age so they develop a lifelong love of learning. Located at Navy Pier, Chicago's number one attraction at 700 East Grand Avenue, CCM is the final stop for CTA buses #29, #65, #66 and #124. For more information, please visit [www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/hours.html](http://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/hours.html).

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