



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE MAGIC HOUSE TAKES VISITORS BACK IN TIME TO FIRST THANKSGIVING

*Magic Tree House® Exhibit Based on Popular Book Series Explores American History
Opens November 19*

ST LOUIS (November 9, 2011) – Beginning Saturday, November 19 (just in time for Thanksgiving!), museum visitors can step back in time and onto Plymouth Rock just like the Pilgrims did when the ***Magic Tree House® Exhibit*** opens at The Magic House. Based on the best-selling children’s book series written by Mary Pope Osborne, illustrated by Sal Murdocca and published by Random House Children’s Books, the ***Magic Tree House® Exhibit*** allows children to join their favorite fictional characters Jack and Annie on a time-traveling adventure to experience three important periods in American history including a visit to Plymouth Bay at the time of the first Thanksgiving, a trip to a field hospital to help Clara Barton during the time of the Civil War and a visit to a one-room school house to experience life as a pioneer.

Magic Tree House® selections featured in this limited engagement exhibit created by The Magic House include: *Thanksgiving on Thursday*, *Civil War on Sunday* and *Twister on Tuesday*. In *Thanksgiving on Thursday*, children can climb Plymouth Rock, dig for clams on the beach, help prepare the feast in a Pilgrim house and set the Thanksgiving table. Children can then get swept up in the American Civil War with *Civil War on Sunday*, where they will have the opportunity to take a bumpy ride in a horse-drawn ambulance, play drums in a drummer boy’s tent and work as a nurse in a field hospital. Continuing on their time-traveling adventure, children are sure to be blown away by *Twister on Tuesday* where they can go to school in a one-room school house, drive the steam engine and experience a simulated tornado!

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In celebration of the opening of the *Magic Tree House® Exhibit*, The Magic House is hosting a Jack and Annie lookalike contest. During the exhibit's opening weekend, friends and visitors of The Magic House are invited to submit their best Jack or Annie impersonation via The Magic House's Facebook page or in person at the museum. The best Jack & Annie lookalikes will win a value membership to The Magic House and be featured in promotional materials. Entries will be displayed at The Magic House November 19-20. Winners will be notified by phone and announced on The Magic House's Facebook page on Wednesday, November 23.

The *Magic Tree House® Exhibit* was made possible by generous support from the Crawford Taylor Foundation. Support for educational programming is provided by the Edward Chase Garvey Memorial Foundation. The *Magic Tree House® Exhibit* opens November 19 at The Magic House and is free with museum admission. Let the adventure begin!

About The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum

The Magic House is a not-for-profit participatory museum that provides hands-on learning experiences for children and families that encourage experimentation, creativity and the development of problem-solving skills within a place of beauty, wonder, joy and magic. Regular museum admission is \$8.75 per person. Children under the age of one are free.

The Magic House is located at 516 S. Kirkwood Road, one mile north of Highway 44 in historic downtown Kirkwood, Missouri. Hours during the school year are Tuesday through Thursday, 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm, Friday 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm and Sunday 11:00 am to 5:30 pm. The museum is closed on Mondays during the school year. Parking is always free at The Magic House. For more information, please call 314.822.8900 or visit The Magic House online at www.magichouse.org.