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LONG ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE
Lunar New Year Festival Features Dance, Cultural Arts & Crafts

Long Island Children's Museum will uncoil the traditions and customs associated with Lunar New Year for visitors as it welcomes the arrival of the Year of the Snake on Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26 from Noon-4 p.m. The *Lunar New Year Festival* is made possible with the support of JPMorgan Chase & Co., in partnership with the Long Island Chinese American Association. Craft activities are supported by Portledge School.

In announcing details about the weekend activities, LICM President Erika S. Floreka said, "Long Island Children's Museum is committed to enriching visitor's learning experiences through the presentation of cultural festivals that celebrate the diversity of our community. By immersing children and parents in diverse traditions, we help create a deeper appreciation for the rich tapestry of cultures that shape our community and our world."

Each year in the Lunar calendar is represented by one of 12 zodiac animals; the year 2025 is the Year of the Snake. Throughout the weekend, visitors will be able to experience various traditions that celebrate Lunar New Year around the world. They will be able to enjoy a variety of dance and musical performances, live artisan demonstrations, food samplings, craft stations, and of course a Lion Dance.

During the weekend, visitors will enjoy a multi-sensory celebration, where they can:

- View artist demonstrations of sugar painting and calligraphy.
- Make their own Snake Lantern, design a Lion Dance hat and create a lucky Feng Shui coin necklace to attract positive energy and good luck.
- Enjoy a variety of dance performances including the traditional Lion Dance and Ribbon dance.
- Enjoy traditional music and contemporary songs.
- Sample "lucky" foods traditionally served at family celebrations.

All *Lunar New Year Festival* activities and performances are included with Museum admission.

The *Lunar New Year Festival* is the first of three cultural festivals Long Island Children's Museum will offer this year. LICM will also host *Carnival: A Celebration of the Caribbean and Latin America* on Saturday, March 8 and Sunday, March 9, 2025, and *Holi: A Festival of Colors* on Sunday, April 6, 2025.

All activities will be held at the Long Island Children's Museum, 11 Davis Avenue, Garden City, NY. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Museum admission: \$18** for adults and children over 1 year old, **\$16** for seniors, FREE to museum members and children under 12 months old. For additional information, contact 516-224-5800.

Hours: September to June: Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. July - August: Open Daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

About the Long Island Children's Museum (www.licm.org)

The mission of Long Island Children's Museum (LICM) is to connect all our communities' children, and those who care for them, to a life of wonder, imagination and exploration. At LICM, children discover their passions and their relationship to the world we share. The 40,000-square-foot museum serves over 300,000 children and adults annually. The private, not-for-profit institution chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers museum-based educational programs and cultural experiences, as well as an extensive community outreach program offered in schools, libraries and youth centers across Long Island. Additionally, the Children's Museum operates the historic Nunley's Carousel in association with Nassau County, one of three intact Stein & Goldstein carousels still in existence.

Recognized with several honors, including the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), LICM is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the gold standard of museum excellence. It is currently the only accredited children's museum in New York State and is one of only 16 accredited children's museums nationwide. LICM has earned 4-stars on Charity Navigator and has Platinum Transparency on Candid.