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NATIONAL GRID IGNITES A PASSION FOR SCIENCE-BASED EDUCATION Extends Innovative Partnership with the Long Island Children's Museum

Garden City, NY –Long Island Children's Museum (LICM) has received a two year grant totaling \$150,000 from National Grid to support two unique science programs for children. The funding represents a renewed partnership between LICM and National Grid, which has supported the museum since 2010. This grant will support the Museum's **Westbury School District's STEM Partnership** that focuses on elementary school aged children, as well as **Green Teens**, a volunteer program for high school students, which provides training for them to become museum educators as they develop and teach science-based educational programs to museum visitors.

"Our partnership with the Long Island Children's Museum continues to create amazing hands-on science learning opportunities for elementary students in Westbury," said Mauri Myers-Solages, Manager of Corporate Citizenship Programs for New York. "We're also proud to support the Green Teens who find fun ways to engage LICM visitors while promoting environmental stewardship. Through these programs we encourage students to get excited about STEM, and we look forward to them working for National Grid in the future."

The expansion of the partnership allows LICM to continue to grow two successful programs incorporating STEM-based (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education. LICM's commitment to these subjects coincides with a national push toward developing STEM capabilities inside and outside the classroom to develop a workforce capable of competing in a global marketplace.

The **Westbury STEM Partnership** aims to meet the needs of the district's first and second graders by providing a unique teaching model with enriching and engaging activities. The 2016-2018 grant renewal will now bringing the total number of participants to approximately 900 students and 40 teachers. These visits are taught in collaboration with Museum staff and teachers. The expansion now features live, STEM-based theater performances and workshops, further enhancing cross-curriculum integration across multiple disciplines. Moreover, these performances are another

avenue where students will have the opportunity to experience STEM-based education outside the classroom. Under the expansion, the Museum will host three Museum Community Nights annually, which allows students and their families an additional opportunity to experience the Museum's exhibits and programs.

The goals of the Westbury STEM Partnership are to:

- bolster a passion for STEM education inside and outside the classroom for students as well as teachers
- provide professional development for teachers and educate them on how to use the museum as a resource for bringing STEM into the classroom
- encourage long-term use of the Museum as an educational resource by participating students and their families with museum visits and events such as Museum Community Nights and School Family Nights.
- enhance cross-curriculum integration across multiple disciplines as students have a myriad of opportunities to experience STEM based education such as performances and hands-on activities.

Green Teens is the second program sponsored by National Grid. Launched in 2009, the Green Teens program recruits and trains high school students to teach interactive nature, science and environmental education programs to Museum visitors. This summer, Green Teens programs available to visitors are "Energy Week," highlighting various forms of energy and "Nature Makers," emphasizing conservation and the environment. Each program will be presented twice for visitors. The renewed grant will allow for expansion of Green Teens to run throughout the year.

The goals of Green Teens are to:

- develop leadership and teaching skills as the teens develop and carry out projects and activities offered to Museum visitors
- foster volunteerism through the service learning model
- engage students year-round to prevent summer learning loss
- heighten awareness and understanding in careers in energy, conservation and the environment in partnership with National Grid

About the Long Island Children's Museum

Long Island Children's Museum (LICM) invites visitors of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to explore freely, discover their passions, and appreciate the communities and world we share. Through interdisciplinary activities, children and adults can share in the excitement of the learning process. 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.

About National Grid

National Grid (LSE: NG; NYSE: NGG) is an electricity and natural gas delivery company that connects nearly 7 million customers to vital energy sources through its networks in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. It is the largest distributor of natural gas in the Northeast. National Grid also operates the systems that deliver gas and electricity across Great Britain.

Through its U.S. Connect21 strategy, National Grid is transforming its electricity and natural gas networks to support the 21st century digital economy with smarter, cleaner, and more resilient energy solutions. Connect21 is vital to our communities' long-term economic and environmental health and aligns with regulatory initiatives in New York (REV: Reforming the Energy Vision) and Massachusetts (Grid Modernization.)

For more information please visit our website: www.nationalgridus.com, or our [Connecting](#) website. You can also follow us on [Twitter](#), watch us on [You Tube](#), Friend us on [Facebook](#) and find our photos on [Instagram](#).

Photo Captions and Links

Experiment with Energy – Children are encouraged to explore energy in all its forms – wind, solar, kinetic – during Energy Week, a Green Teen-developed program at LICM. [www.licm.org/images/solar power experiments.JPG](http://www.licm.org/images/solar_power_experiments.JPG)

Museum Classroom – Westbury School District first and second graders use the Museum galleries to extend their STEM education. [www.licm.org/images/Explore how animals find and eat their food.jpg](http://www.licm.org/images/Explore_how_animals_find_and_eat_their_food.jpg)