

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM WELCOMES ANDREA HOFFMAN JELIN
AS VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

PHILADELPHIA, PA – Please Touch Museum welcomes Andrea Hoffman Jelin as the new Vice President of Community Services. In this position, Jelin will provide executive leadership and management for the museum's award-winning Community Services division and will evaluate, modify, and expand Please Touch's community outreach programs as the museum relocates to Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park in the fall.

Jelin served as the Director, Children and Youth Services and Chief, Adoption Branch, of the Family Court Division, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, for 34 years. She most recently worked in the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts as the Administrator, Office of Children and Families in the Courts.

"We are thrilled to have Andrea on board with the anticipated completion of Please Touch Museum's expansion and relocation to Memorial Hall in October," said Nancy Kolb, President and CEO of Please Touch Museum. "Andrea brings a breadth of experience and skills that is unmatched. I could not be happier that she has chosen our museum as the next stage in her extraordinary career."

Jelin has extensive experience in assessing and analyzing situations involving multi-faceted child welfare issues, and has proven ability to formulate and implement innovative child welfare programs, both city and state-wide. As the Administrator, Office of Children and Families in the Courts, Jelin developed, led, and implemented a statewide infrastructure that serves as the conduit of improving how abuse and neglect cases are handled throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

During her tenure with the Family Court, Jelin partnered to create the collaborative community-based Project START (Stop Truancy and Recommend Treatment) with the Department of Human Services and the Philadelphia School District. She was instrumental in bringing Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to Philadelphia and created the Family Court Visitation Initiative, as well as many other meaningful programming to support children and families.

Among the many awards Jelin received for her work are The Honorable Nicholas A. Cipriani Award for Excellence in Services to Children and Families from the Best Nest Adoption Agency in 2007, the Child Advocate Alison Award from the National Adoption Center in 2003, and the Women of Distinction Award from the Philadelphia Business Journal and National Association of Women Business Owners in 2001.

Jelin holds a Master of Science Degree from Shippensburg University and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Temple University.

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Please Touch Museum® is dedicated to enriching the lives of children by creating learning opportunities through play. Recognized locally and nationally as one of the best children's museums, Please Touch is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. through Monday, Sept. 1. Admission is \$10.95 for adults and children age one and over. Children under one are free. Please Touch Museum at Memorial Hall, 4231 Avenue of the Republic, opens to the public on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008. For more information, please call 215-963-0667, or visit www.pleasetouchmuseum.org.

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