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Staten Island Children's Museum Elects New President at Annual Meeting

The board of directors of the Staten Island Children's Museum elected new officers and trustees during their annual meeting on Monday, June 20, 2016. The museum is pleased to announce the election of a new president of the board, Lisa Laub.

Stepping down is Monica Petraglia McCabe, Esq. a partner at Phillips Nizer LLP specializing in intellectual property and entertainment law. Ms. McCabe served as President of the board for the past two years. The board thanked her for her thoughtful, strong leadership. "Monica imagined and spearheaded the Museum's annual Carnival & Science Spectacular and is the driving force behind its success" said incoming president Lisa Laub. She also led the Museum through the development and opening of the new *Garden Terrace* exhibit that transformed a 2,000 sq. concrete terrace into a green space with nature inspired activities and hands-on play. "Under her leadership, the Museum expanded its STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) offerings, including new science programs for elementary schools at PS74 and PS38 as well as for families visiting the Museum" said Executive Director Dina Rosenthal. Having served on the board as a trustee, officer and President since 1997, Monica will continue to serve the board.

Ten current trustees were sworn to additional three year terms: Kerri Bringslid, Esq., Renee Fiduccia, Mark Irving, Mugdha John, Leslie Kasegrande, Esq. Lisa Laub, Bonnie Lauder, Monica McCabe, Esq, David Oldham, and Cathy Pimpinella.

The Museum is actively seeking new members to help the museum continue to diversify and grow into the future. "When recruiting new board members, the nominating committee is interested in finding dedicated volunteers with the skill sets and perspectives that align with the Staten Island Children's Museum Mission to provide enrichment experiences to school children and their parents," said Nominating Committee Chair MaryLee Montalvo.

Three members, Patrick Raftery, Anne Boyle and Janet Trzaska, have stepped down from the board. The board offered a very special thank you Janet Trzaska, whose mother, Judy Myers was an original founding member of the Museum. "Judy's Book Nook" a cozy hide-away reading corner in *Block Harbor* was named in her honor. Janet continued her mother's legacy of service

to the Museum and the entire Staten Island community is thankful for the family's commitment to our children.

Lisa Laub, newly elected President of the Board, received her MPA from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy in Albany. She is a community & civic volunteer. She and her husband John are proud parents of three daughters and the family resides on Grymes Hill.

This year's slate of officers also includes: Vice President Alfredo P. Conti, Esq., an attorney in private practice; Vice President Gina Laine, first VP & Marketing Director for Richmond County Savings Bank; Vice President Leslie Kasegrande, Esq. an attorney with Russo, Scamardella & D'Amato, P.C.; Treasurer, Janet Alexander, a Certified Public Accountant; and Secretary Kerri Bringslid, Esq. a lawyer and partner in the firm Crawford Bringslid Vander Neut LLP.

The Staten Island Children's Museum is located on the grounds of Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Gardens, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301. The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 11 am to 5 pm during the school year; 10 am to 5 pm weekends, summers and most public school holidays. For more information call 718-273-2060, email info@sichildrensmuseum.org, or visit our website, www.sichildrensmuseum.org.

The Staten Island Children's Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and its operation is made possible, in part, with public funds provided through the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs with support from the Staten Island delegation to the NYC Council. Significant operating support is also provided by the NYS Council on the Arts, Corporations, Foundations, the Trustees and Members.