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News Release | For Immediate Release

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY MUSEUM OF SAN JOSE RECEIVES BOOST TO AID BIOSITE PROGRAM

State Farm® Youth Advisory Board grants \$26,500 to local program

San Jose, California, October 22, 2012 – Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose (CDM) will receive a \$26,500 service-learning grant for an environmental service-learning project from the State Farm Youth Advisory Board.

CDM is one of 68 community organizations to receive a service-learning, youth-led grant across the United States and Canada.

"Now in its 18th year, BioSITE (Students Investigating Their Environment) is CDM's comprehensive environmental education program that combines field study of the Guadalupe River watershed with service to the community. Participants form a community of learners as high school students teach 4th graders, facilitate hands-on science activities, participate in reflection and skill-building, and invest in their community," said YAB member Kristy Nguyen of California. "Service-learning is an excellent way to engage students outside of the traditional 'chalk and blackboard' model, and our board really liked this project's core goals."

"We are very grateful to the State Farm Youth Advisory Board for enabling us to implement and expand BioSITE," said Marilee Jennings, CDM's Executive Director. "State Farm YAB recognizes that the children of today are the scientists, teachers, and actively-engaged citizens of the future, and BioSITE is an investment in science education and environmental stewardship."

"State Farm supports service-learning because it integrates service to the community into classroom curriculum using a hands-on approach to mastering subject material while fostering civic responsibility," said State Farm Executive Lonny Haskins. "The State Farm Youth Advisory Board is a prime example of State Farm's commitment to education, our community and our youth."

The State Farm Youth Advisory Board has granted over \$24 million in grant money since its inception in 2006, empowering youth to implement service-learning in 397 communities.

Additionally, applications are available for interested youth aged 17-20 to become Youth Advisory Board members. More information can be found at www.statefarmyab.com.

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About the Youth Advisory Board: The State Farm Youth Advisory Board is a diverse group of 30 youth, ages 17-20, who were chosen through a competitive process to lead and oversee this \$5 million/year signature service-learning initiative. The Youth Board identified the issues, issued competitive grants and will now provide technical assistance, communication and oversight to site grantees.

About Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

With over 150 interactive exhibits and programs, Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose (CDM) is one of the largest museums of its kind in the nation. Since opening its doors in 1990, CDM has welcomed over 6 million visitors and has offered new exhibits each year that respond to children's diverse educational needs. The striking 52,000 square foot purple building was designed by Mexico City-based architect Ricardo Legorreta and is a beacon of discovery. Encompassing the broad themes of community, connections and creativity, hands-on exhibits invite self-directed, open-ended explorations. For more information about the Museum, visit www.cdm.org.