

## **Northfield Bank Foundation Again Awards Staten Island Museum Generous Grant for School Programs**

(Staten Island, New York – October 2010) While the nation is going through trying financial times, **Northfield Bank Foundation** has once again come through for underserved local school children by awarding the Staten Island Museum a \$7,500 grant to help continue our outreach initiative for school children. This program, which has been running since 1987, offers free and reduced rate Museum education classes to **about 15,000** school children each year, who would otherwise not be able to participate in these inspiring and curriculum enriching experiences.

Among the lessons that the students grades K-12 most enjoy are the *Lenape Indians; Dia de los Muertos; Staten Island African-American Leaders; See-It-All Museum Tour; Staten Island Ferry; Art Gallery; Dinosaurs; Butterflies & Moths; and Community Workers*. All of the lessons meet New York's Learning Standards and enrich the children's learning experience.

"A true partner in the community, Northfield Bank Foundation has provided critical funding to continue this project when so many families are trying to make ends meet. Unfortunately, cultural school trips are often cut when belts are tightened," says Elizabeth Egbert, President & CEO of the Staten Island Museum. "The Northfield Bank Foundation had joined an outstanding group who have made substantial ongoing commitment to the Museum's signature education program." These funders include The Barker Welfare Foundation, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, NYC Council Member Debi Rose, Target, TD Charitable Foundation, and NYC Department of Cultural Affairs

At the check presentation Diane Senerchia, Northfield Bank Foundation's Executive Director observed: "The quality of the Museum's education program is astounding. It is a joy to see the children enjoy hands-on projects that help them understand topics discussed in school."

To request the Education Brochure or to find out about the range of the school programs or eligibility call the Museum's Education Department at 718-483-7103 or visit them on the web at [www.statenmuseum.org](http://www.statenmuseum.org).

Photo credit: Before viewing the *Beauty Rediscovered: The Paintings of Adeline Albright Wigand and Charles Otto Wigand*, Diane Senerchia, Executive Director of Northfield Bank Foundation, presents Elizabeth Egbert, President & CEO of the Staten Island Museum with the \$7,500 check to support programs for financially disadvantaged school children. Photo by Henryk J. Behnke, Staten Island Museum.



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**About the Northfield Bank Foundation:**

The Northfield Bank Foundation was founded in 2007 and is headquartered at 1731 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, New York. The role of the Foundation is to support not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools or other organizations operating in the communities in which Northfield Bank does business – currently Staten Island, Brooklyn and Central New Jersey.

The Foundation focuses its efforts on projects that improve the quality of life around us such as education, health & human services, youth programs and affordable housing.

**About the Staten Island Museum**

For 129 years, the Staten Island Museum has been fostering and sustaining scientific and cultural heritage on Staten Island. Founded in 1881, NYC's only general interest museum - and Staten Island's hometown Museum - explores the arts, natural science, and local history through exhibitions and welcomes about 80,000 adults and school children to a comprehensive array of programs. Located two blocks from the Ferry Terminal, visitors can embark on a voyage through time in the Staten Island Ferry exhibit; see rocks glow in the dark along with oddities in the Hall of Natural Sciences and experience the life of Staten Island's first inhabitants. For current exhibitions, visit [www.statenislandmuseum.org](http://www.statenislandmuseum.org).

**Museum Hours**

Sunday – Friday: 12pm– 5pm  
Saturday 10am–5pm

The Museum building is wheelchair accessible. Call (718) 727-1135 for assistance.

**Admission**

Adults \$2.  
Students and Seniors: \$1.  
FREE to members and children under 12.  
FREE Lunchtime Break: Every Tuesday between 12–2pm