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For Immediate Release

TD Charitable Foundation Again Awards Staten Island Museum Generous Grant for School Programs

(Staten Island, New York – October 2011) While the nation is experiencing trying financial times, the TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank®, has once again come through for underserved local school children by awarding the Staten Island Museum a \$2,000 grant to help continue the museum's outreach initiative. Launched in 1987, the program, offers free and reduced-rate Museum education classes to approximately 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 students in grades K-12 enjoy through the program are: *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 lessons meet New York's Learning Standards and enrich the children's learning experience.

"A true partner in the community, TD Charitable 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 and CEO of the Staten Island Museum. "TD Charitable Foundation joins an outstanding group of organizations who have made substantial, ongoing commitments to the Museum's signature education program."

Added Joseph Doolan, TD Bank Retail Market Manager for Staten Island, "The TD Charitable Foundation is proud to present this grant to Staten Island Museum. Supporting Staten Island Museum's outreach initiative aligns perfectly with TD Bank's commitment to education programs in the communities where our employees live and work."

Organizations providing funding for the program include; The Barker Welfare Foundation, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, NYC Council Member Debi Rose, Northfield Bank Foundation, Target, and NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.

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.statenislandmuseum.org.

About the TD Charitable Foundation:

The TD Charitable Foundation is the charitable giving arm of TD Bank N.A., which operates as TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank®, and is one of the 10 largest commercial banking organizations in the United States. The Foundation's mission is to serve the individuals, families and businesses in all the communities where TD Bank operates, having made \$76.2 million in charitable donations since its inception in 2002. The Foundation's areas of focus are affordable housing, education and financial literacy, and the environment. More information on the TD Charitable Foundation, including an online grant application, is available at www.TDBank.com.

About the Staten Island Museum

Founded in 1881 and celebrating its 130th year, the Staten Island Museum, New York City's only general interest museum, engages visitors with interdisciplinary exhibitions and educational programs that explore the dynamic connections between natural science, art and history based on its diverse collections. The Museum welcomes about 80,000 adults and school children to a comprehensive array of programs every year. 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 in the Hall of Natural Sciences; and experience the lives of Staten Island's first inhabitants. In Building H on the Snug Harbor Campus, visitors can explore the latest exhibitions in the History Center Gallery, or make a research appointment for the History Archives & Library. Staten Island Museum is owned by the City of New York and benefits from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. For current exhibitions, visit Statenislandmuseum.org.

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Photo credit: Joseph Doolan, Vice President and Staten Island Retail Market Manager for TD Bank, presents Elizabeth Egbert, President and CEO of the Staten Island Museum with the



\$2,500 check to support programs for financially disadvantaged school children. Photo by Henryk J. Behnke, Staten Island Museum.

Staten Island Museum (St. George)

75 Stuyvesant Pl.

Staten Island, NY 10301

Museum Hours:

Monday - Friday: 11am– 5pm

Saturday 10am–5pm

Sunday 12pm-5pm

Main number: (718) 727-1135

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

Admission

Adults \$3.

Students and Seniors: \$2.

FREE to members and children under 12.

FREE Lunchtime Break: Every Tuesday between 12–2pm

History Center & Archives *New Location*

1000 Richmond Terrace, Snug Harbor Campus, Building H, Staten Island, NY 10301

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10am – 4pm by appointment

Please contact Cara Dellatte at (718) 727-1135, ext. 122

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 1pm – 4pm (FREE ADMISSION)