FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Whitaker Center for Science & the Arts Premieres TINKERTOY®: Build Your Imagination Exhibit
Interactive, educational experience runs February 2 – June 2 inside Harsco Science Center

Harrisburg, PA (January 24, 2019) – There’s no limit to what kids can do in TINKERTOY: Build Your Imagination, a new interactive exhibit premiering at Whitaker Center’s Harsco Science Center on February 2 and remaining through June 2. This marks the first time in Whitaker Center’s history that two special exhibits are on display inside the science center. Castle Builder: A LEGO® Building Exhibit debuted in November and will be staying on exhibit through March 31. Both exhibits are included in science center admission (free for Members).

The 1,500 square foot exhibit, targeted to children ages 3-10, was developed by the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum in Milwaukee, WI. The exhibit was made in collaboration with GE and PLAYSKOOL®, the infant/preschool toy division of Hasbro, Inc. (NYSE: HAS). Giant replicas of the classic TINKERTOY construction set provide the framework for fun, educational activities inspired by GE technologies that turn imagination into working solutions to real world challenges.

Visitors to the exhibit will enjoy a variety of activities that promote imagination and collaboration:

The Welcome Gallery - celebrates the 95th anniversary of TINKERTOY through a retrospective of the toy’s history, and highlights GE technologies that improve communities around the globe every day.

Invent – Children are encouraged to think about where ideas come from, and to explore the emerging field of biomimicry – nature’s influence on design. Visitors can match real inventions with their natural inspiration and create a design of their own.

Collaborate – Dual-sided panels allow visitors to work independently or with a partner to create TINKERTOY designs.

Energize – Children can explore GE’s commitment to renewable energy as they use a kid-powered fan to test their own wind-powered TINKERTOY creations.

Change – A Rube Goldberg-like contraption illustrates the power of creative thinking and how simple mechanisms work. The activity lets children select and position words to build silly – but thought-provoking! – sentences that serve as the springboard for innovation.

Process/Connect – TINKERTOY-inspired equipment lets children explore the concept of filtration, while a companion activity invites them to build ball tracks that illustrate how GE technologies help address the challenge of providing clean water.

Develop – Visitors will enjoy filling a life-size human form with TINKERTOY hubs, providing a great photo opportunity and revealing the elements of a healthy lifestyle.

Create – This open play area reserved for children age 3 and older features a spectacular assortment of TINKERTOY pieces – the perfect place to build their imagination. Pictures of remarkable TINKERTOY creations and special tips provide guidance and inspiration.
The Tinker Tank – A walk-in size replica of a TINKERTOY canister is the starting point for the exhibit’s challenging scavenger hunt, a must for those with an eye for detail and a nose for knowledge! The Tinker Tank contains a variety of educational materials that attest to the impact of unconventional ideas on some of the world’s greatest – and strangest – inventions, and serve as a reminder that “If at first you don’t succeed…”

The exhibit is open during regular science center hours Tuesday – Saturday from 9:30am to 5:00pm and Sundays from 11:30am until 5pm. Tickets are $12.50 (ages 3 – 17) and $16.00 (ages 18 – 54). Senior and Military and Group discounts are available. Children under 2 and under are free. For more information, call 717-214-ARTS (2787) or visit whitakercenter.org

About Whitaker Center

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is a non-profit center for the arts, education, entertainment and cultural enrichment located in the heart of Harrisburg’s vibrant downtown. Whitaker Center is home to Sunoco Performance Theater, Harsco Science Center and Select Medical Digital Cinema featuring a four story premium large format theater with a recently upgraded 4K digital projection system. Visit whitakercenter.org for a full list of events, shows, hours of operation, and ticket rates.

About the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum

The Betty Brinn Children’s Museum is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing educational resources that promote the healthy development of children in their formative years – from birth to age 10. The Museum’s mission is supported by the development of age-appropriate, hands-on exhibits and programs for children, and adult education programs that focus on early childhood brain development, learning styles, parenting skills and how the Museum environment can be used to promote a young child’s cognitive, emotional, social and physical growth. The Museum has benefited more than 2.2 million children and adults since opening in 1995.

About the General Electric Company

GE (NYSE: GE) is a diversified infrastructure, finance and media company taking on the world’s toughest challenges. From aircraft engines and power generation to financial services, medical imaging, and television programming, GE operates in more than 100 countries and employs about 300,000 people worldwide. For more information, visit the company’s Web site at www.ge.com.

About PLAYSKOOL®

Since 1928, PLAYSKOOL, the infant/preschool toy division of Hasbro, Inc. (NYSE: HAS), has provided toys that help infants, toddlers and preschoolers develop and learn as they play. PLAYSKOOL believes that play is the first and most important building block for all learning, and encourages parents and grandparents to play with their children everyday.
About Hasbro, Inc.

Hasbro, Inc. (NYSE:HAS) is a worldwide leader in children's and family leisure time products and services with a rich portfolio of brands and entertainment properties that provides some of the highest quality and most recognizable play and recreational experiences in the world. As a brand-driven, consumer-focused global company, Hasbro brings to market a range of toys, games and licensed products, from traditional to high-tech and digital, under such powerful brand names as TRANSFORMERS, PLAYSKOOL, TONKA, MILTON BRADLEY, PARKER BROTHERS, CRANIUM and WIZARDS OF THE COAST. Come see how we inspire play through our brands at http://www.hasbro.com. (C) 2019 Hasbro, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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