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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF THE EAST END RECEIVES \$15K GRANT FROM THE LONG ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Bridgehampton, NY – Today, the Children's Museum of the East End (CMEE) announced that it has received a \$15,000 grant from the Long Island Community Foundation (LICF) to support *STEAMentors*. Launching in early 2017, the initiative will pair local science professionals with 14 middle school students who have aged out of *Ciencia en CMEE*, the Museum's enormously successful after school science program for Spanish-speaking families. *STEAMentors* is designed to bolster an interest in science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) fields and to encourage *Ciencia* "graduates" to pursue this interest throughout their education.

The LICF grant will enable the Museum to offer specialized mentor training, purchase program supplies, and to help offset the cost of field trips to observe science in practice and institutions like Brookhaven National Laboratory and Stony Brook University's Seawater Lab in Southampton.

"From the start of *Ciencia en CMEE* four years ago to the upcoming launch of *STEAMentors*, the Long Island Community Foundation has been with us every step of the way," said Leah Oppenheimer, the Museum's Director of Community Outreach. "The impact of this grant will be felt by participants in these programs for generations to come."

"The Long Island Community Foundation's generosity is vital in helping us achieve our mission of making the Museum accessible to children of all backgrounds and abilities," added Steve Long, the Museum's President. "We are profoundly for the Foundation's unwavering support for the work we do in the East End."

About the Children's Museum of the East End (CMEE)

The Children's Museum of the East End is one of the most visited museums in Eastern Long Island, and welcomes over 60,000 visitors annually. The Museum opened in 2005 and offers over 7,000 square feet of interactive, hands-on exhibits, classrooms, and performance space. CMEE's mission is "to spark imagination and foster learning for children of all backgrounds and abilities and to build strong connections within the East End community by providing playful experiences." For more information, please visit www.cmee.org.

About the Long Island Community Foundation

The Long Island Community Foundation is a nonprofit, charitable organization that connects donors with the full spectrum of charitable organizations within our community. In 1978, The New York Community Trust, one of the nation's oldest and largest community foundations, established a Long Island division to provide Nassau and Suffolk County residents with an economical alternative to a private foundation or a commercial gift fund. For more information, please visit www.licf.org.

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