



NJMC NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NJMC to Partner with Liberty Science Center

Joint Venture Would Increase Educational Programming

LYNDHURST, N.J. – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today approved a joint project between the NJMC and Liberty Science Center designed to increase the educational programming offered by the commission through its Meadowlands Environment Center.

“Liberty Science Center is an incredible educational resource in the Meadowlands’ backyard,” said Robert Ceberio, Executive Director of the NJMC. “The work they do fits well with the existing educational programs we offer at the Meadowlands Environment Center, and by joining forces we can expand the educational experiences we offer for people in this area.”

The joint effort calls for MEC staff to work with educators at Liberty Science Center to develop additional programs focused on earth sciences and astronomy, with a special emphasis on the connectivity between the region’s two major rivers, the Hudson and the Hackensack, and their common aquatic ecosystem. The programs would complement the arts, science and environmental education programs already offered at the MEC for people of all ages.

New programming could also potentially include additional summer camp activities, programs for older adults and weekend astronomy events. Educators will also work together to find ways to expand the MEC’s innovative MarshAccess program, which

adapts science lessons for children and adults with disabilities. The MarshAccess program is funded by grants from the National Science Foundation.

“This is a tremendous opportunity to expand the horizons of our educational outreach in the context of ‘Our Hudson Home,’ an exhibition that explores how a metropolis and an ecosystem strive to co-exist,” said Emlyn Koster, President and CEO of Liberty Science Center. “With its state-of-the-art educational programs and the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute, the NJMC is a natural partner for Liberty Science Center.”

The non-profit Liberty Science Center is dedicated to offering exceptional science learning experiences onsite, offsite and online. Located in Liberty State Park in Jersey City, the science center engages learners of all ages in science excitement, provides professional development for teachers, and connects people of all backgrounds to pivotal science and society issues.

Ramapo College educators at the MEC provide hands-on science education to more than ten thousand school-age students each year and all programs are designed to meet New Jersey’s Core Curriculum Content Standards. More than 70 districts from Bergen and Hudson counties participated during 2007-2008. The MEC also runs summer camps, hosts astronomy programs and offers a wide range of low-cost educational activities for families and seniors.

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