



Press Release

WOSU PUBLIC MEDIA AND COSI COLUMBUS ANNOUNCE EVENTS BEING HELD DURING WOSU@COSI'S GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

Entertainment, costume character visits, exhibits, tours, activities, and more!

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COLUMBUS, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 18, 2006 — WOSU Public Media and COSI Columbus are pleased to announce the grand opening of WOSU's new state-of-the-art digital media center, WOSU@COSI. Located on the first floor of COSI and occupying nearly 12,000 square feet of space, the center has been under construction since last fall but will open its doors to the community on **Friday, September 29 at 11am** for a grand opening celebration. Highlights of the day will include tours of the new space, entertainment from local arts organizations, hands-on activities, a musical petting zoo, a Share-A-Story event, the unveiling of two new exhibits, costume character visits from Curious George and Clifford, giveaways, and more. The celebration will continue throughout the weekend. No fee is required to tour WOSU's digital media center. There is an admission fee for COSI exhibits and films.

Weekend Events (including performances by The Living Statue, Ballet Met, ProMusica, The Imani Dancers, and the Columbus Bach Ensemble):

Friday, September 29

11am—Appearances by Curious George and Clifford, Studio Search game, refreshments, tours, giveaways, ribbon cutting ceremony, and the unveiling of two new exhibits: the Digital Welcome Mat and U•TV.

U•TV: Be a director! Call the shots in U•TV, an interactive exhibit where you can explore the art and science of television production. Create a multi-layered video of yourself and your friends in this "mini-studio." Modify your image using digital effects and explore the use of chroma and luminance keying to add foreground and background elements to your live video.

The Digital Welcome Mat: You'll be greeted at WOSU@COSI by

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the Digital Welcome Mat, an interactive experience of lights and sounds for visitors. Enter multicolored light circles on the floor and trigger sound effects by interrupting invisible waves.

These new exhibits join the existing exhibit, EffectTV: "Look Ma! I'm on TV!" At the touch of a button you can watch images of yourself distorted in 20 different ways. You pick your pose, then EffectTV takes those images from the camera, alters the pixels in real-time, then sends them to the video monitor. The effect: A psychedelic mirror that you control!

12:30pm: Share-A-Story with WOSU and the Columbus Metropolitan Library

1-3pm: The Living Statue

1pm: Brent Davis and the Bluegrass musical petting zoo

2:30-4pm: Ballet Met

4-5:30pm: The Imani Dancers

Saturday, September 30

10am-1pm WOSU Public Media Member Open House

1pm: Appearances by Curious George and Clifford, Studio Search game, Brent Davis and the Bluegrass musical petting zoo, refreshments, tours, giveaways, and exhibits: the Digital Welcome Mat and U•TV.

1:30pm: Share-A-Story with WOSU and the Columbus Metropolitan Library

2-3:30pm: ProMusica musical petting zoo

3:30pm: Columbus Bach Ensemble

Sunday, October 1

Arthur's™ Wonderful Kind of Storytime

Arthur comes to life as a fantastic costumed character straight from his Emmy and Peabody Award-winning PBS TV series and Marc Brown's wonderful best-selling books. Kids and their parents love Arthur and have made him the most popular children's character in the country today. Now Arthur is appearing live and in-person with Ms. Paige Turner, his hometown of Elwood City's friendly librarian. Kids in the audience interact with the characters, learn to spell Arthur's name, and enjoy hearing marvelous Arthur stories read to them by Ms. Turner. Colorful enlarged books give the kids a good view of the pictures. To top everything off, Arthur's fans will be able to meet and greet him after each *Wonderful Kind of Storytime*.

Show times for this event are 1:00pm, 2:30pm, and 4pm.

WOSU@COSI is a unique and innovative collaboration between WOSU Public Media and COSI that will bring the science of broadcasting to life. A

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visit to WOSU@COSI means a visit to the exciting new world of digital broadcasting. With high-definition television and radio studios being only steps away from public viewing, visitors will have opportunities to watch live productions, participate in hands-on digital media and technology activities co-produced with COSI, and experience media literacy workshops and interactive exhibits. One exhibit in particular, U•TV, will allow visitors the opportunity to explore the art and science of television production through multi-layered video that can be modified by using digital effects and the use of chroma and luminance keying. Additional exhibits are currently being developed and will be unveiled soon.

“WOSU@COSI sets a new standard for community engagement among public stations across the country,” said WOSU General Manager Tom Rieland. “We’re excited about the new services and programming that will result from this innovative project,” he added. “After three years of amazing effort on behalf of the WOSU and COSI team, we’re thrilled to finally be able to open the doors to this exciting educational and broadcast facility.”

In addition to offering unique ways to explore the latest digital technology, WOSU@COSI is designed for the community's use—as a local gathering place for civic engagement, forums, debates, performances, events, and meetings. Located conveniently in downtown Columbus, it’s an excellent resource for area businesses and arts organizations enabling them to utilize the space for meetings, multimedia productions, performances, and other broadcast and non-broadcast activities. Although the exhibit and event space will officially open for community use on September 29, the installation of broadcast equipment and the wiring of the radio and television studios will take place later this fall with the goal of beginning productions by November.

“COSI’s partnership with WOSU will offer a better return on investment to the community and supporters of both COSI and WOSU,” said COSI President and CEO David Chesebrough. “As we work together creatively, not only will the visitor experience at COSI be enhanced, but new educational opportunities should develop that would be impossible by either organization working on their own.”

WOSU Public Media is community-supported, nonprofit, noncommercial public radio and television stations licensed to The Ohio State University. For more information about WOSU Public Media, the WOSU@COSI project, or activities planned for the grand opening celebration, visit wosu.org.

COSI Columbus is open Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm and Sundays Noon - 6pm. Admission is as follows: \$12.50 for adults, \$7.50 for youth (2 - 12 years old), \$10.50 for senior citizens and free to children under 24 months and COSI Members. Extreme Screen tickets are \$5.50 when purchased with a general admission pass and \$7.50 when purchased alone. For more information, visit cosi.org or call 614.228.COSI.

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