



Contact: Stephanie Lenox
promotions@acgilbert.org
503-371-3631

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: December 21, 2007

U.S. Bancorp Foundation Awards Grant for Children's Exhibit

Salem, OR—U.S. Bancorp Foundation, parent company of U.S. Bank, recognizes the value of encouraging math skills in children. With a recent grant of \$2,000 to A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village, they are funding in part an exhibit that promotes meaningful and interactive math exploration through larger-than-life storybooks.

Go Figure! can be found on the second floor of the Gilbert House and features math activities such as measuring, weighing or sorting along with guides for parents. With their favorite characters, children can solve problems and experiment with simple math concepts. The exhibit has multiple purposes, explains Assistant Director Kim Baldwin, who coordinated the purchase of the exhibit and wrote the grant. Not only does it provide an environment where children can learn and play, but it also "helps adults become aware of young children's readiness to learn math and inspires them to become partners in math learning."

Developed by the Minnesota Children's Museum and the American Library Association, *Go Figure!* is a welcome addition to the Village's hands-on programs. Five storybooks create the backdrop for this exhibit, including *Arthur's Pet Business* by Marc Brown, *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins, *The Quilt* by Ann Jonas, *Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by James Marshall.

U.S. Bancorp funds a variety of community support programs as a way of investing in the communities where its banks operate. The focus of this grant cycle was education, which made

A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village

116 Marion Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301-3437

P: 503-371-3631 F: 503-316-3485 E: info@acgilbert.org W: www.acgilbert.org



Press Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephanie Lenox
promotions@acgilbert.org
503-371-3631

the exhibit a good match with the foundation's goals. This grant continues a tradition of financial support from U.S. Bancorp, which funded curriculum development for the Village's Discovery Night programs in 2006.

Typically, funding for an exhibit is secured prior to purchase, says Baldwin. But *Go Figure!* was offered at such a good price that she didn't have to "do the math." The grant, along with other donations, will allow the children's museum to not only pay for the exhibit components but to pay for the renovations and staff time required to install a new exhibit. For businesses or individuals interested in contributing to the exhibit fund, contact the museum at 503-371-3631.

A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village is a private nonprofit children's museum located in downtown Salem's Riverfront Park. Founded in 1989, A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village provides innovative and stimulating educational experiences that spark children's natural curiosity. The Village's mission is to provoke curiosity, inspire awe, foster enjoyment, encourage learning, and enable understanding in all youth.

###

A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village

116 Marion Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301-3437

P: 503-371-3631 F: 503-316-3485 E: info@acgilbert.org W: www.acgilbert.org