Congressman Ted Deutch to visit the Museum of Discovery and Science on August 13, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for AAM’s Invite Congress to Visit Your Museum.

- Photo Opportunity -

Fort Lauderdale, FL August 8, 2018 – Congressman Ted Deutch will visit the Museum of Discovery and Science on August 13, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for “Invite Congress to Visit Your Museum.” Coming up on its seventh year, #InviteCongress is an annual effort led by the American Alliance of Museums to encourage museums around the country to engage with local, state and federal elected officials and stakeholders by inviting them into the museum.

Every museum has a powerful story to tell including the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) and this is a great opportunity to share our story with Congressman Deutch. At a time when elected leaders are trying to advance scientific literacy and compete globally in all sectors, museums are sparking the next generation of scientists, artists, political leaders, historians, and entrepreneurs.

Joseph Cox, President and CEO, said “Museums are in fact economic engines and a vital part of our nation’s educational infrastructure, and play an integral role in the creation of engaged citizens and the workforce of tomorrow. I look forward to sharing with Congressman Deutch the important role our Museum plays in advancing science literacy.”

Museums are job creators, supporting more than 726,000 jobs and contributing $50 billion to the U.S. economy per year. The economic activity of museums generates more than $12 billion in tax revenue, one-third of it going to state and local governments. They also attract tourists, promote economic development, and make communities more desirable for employers (American Alliance of Museums).

- Museums employ more than 400,000 Americans. Museum of Discovery and Science employs 125.
- Museums directly contribute $21 billion to the U.S. economy each year. They generate billions more through indirect spending by their visitors. MODS spends more than $8 million annually on goods and services in our community.
• 76% of all U.S. leisure travelers participate in cultural or heritage activities. These travelers—including visitors to museums—spend 60% more on average than other leisure travelers. MODS serves more than 400,000 visitors annually of which 33% are tourists.
• MODS offers unique features attracting visitors including the AutoNation IMAX 3D Theater, which has the only IMAX with Laser projection system in Florida and is one of Florida’s three Certified Giant Screens; an animal encounter program for the public; and the 52-foot-tall Great Gravity Clock, which is the biggest kinetic energy sculpture in Florida and one of three in the world.
• MODS solicits donations to support its Opening Doors initiative which provides a Museum experience for those who otherwise may not be able to afford to visit, totaling more than $350,000 in accessible programs annually.
• MODS has a successful history of training and hiring disadvantaged teens/young adults aging out of foster care as part-time interns through its TIL (Transition to Independent Living) internship program.
• MODS continuously receives recognition and awards of distinction on the local, state and national level. Recently, MODS earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America’s largest independent charity evaluator. It was selected as a recipient of the TripExpert Experts’ Choice Award. Fewer than 2% of attractions worldwide receive the award. MODS is accredited by the American Association of Museums.
• Museums tailor educational programs in math, science, art, literacy, language arts, history, civics and government, economics and financial literacy, geography, and social studies, often in coordination with state and local curriculum standards (Institute of Museum and Library Services study).
• Teachers, students, and researchers benefit from access to trustworthy information through online collections and exhibits, although most museums need more help in developing their digital collections to meet this need.
• Americans view museums as one of the most important resources for educating our children and as one of the most trustworthy sources of objective information. According to a study by Indiana University, museums are considered a more reliable source of historical information than books, teachers, or even personal accounts by grandparents or other relatives.
• All of MODS’ program offerings keep with the curriculum of the District requirements for Next Generation Sunshine State Standard and/or Common Core.
• For more than thirty years, MODS has worked closely with Broward Public Schools to broaden and enrich the classroom science curriculum. MODS serves 90,000 school children each year through school visits to museums.
• MODS leverages technology to expand the ability to reach more students who may not be able to come for a Museum visit through virtual learning. In partnership with BECON, the cable channel operated by Broward County School District, MODS is able to bring science into the classroom to serve more students and into homes of more than one million cable viewers. Free distance learning programs are presented by MODS staff on BECON TV to educators.
ABOUT MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE
The mission of the Museum of Discovery and Science is to provide experiential pathways to lifelong learning in science for children and adults through exhibits, programs and films. Founded in 1976 as The Discovery Center, the nonprofit facility serves approximately 400,000 visitors annually. Major operational support for the Museum is provided through generous support by Leadership Guild members including JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Jet Blue and Wells Fargo.

The Museum is open seven days a week, 365 days a year; Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Museum ticket prices are $16 for adults; $15 for seniors 65+; $13 for active/retired military personnel; $13 for children 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. The Museum of Discovery and Science is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum call 954.467.6637 or visit www.modorg

Media Contacts:
Marlene Janetos 954.713.0915 mjanetos@mods.net
Theresa Waldron 954.713.0901 twaldron@mods.net

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