

Museum of Discovery and Science Thanks Active Military Personnel and Their Families with Free Admission From May 21 to September 5

Active-duty military personnel and their families receive FREE general admission for all-day exhibit exploration and can upgrade to an IMAX Documentary Film on the GIANT Screen for \$5.00 Per Person

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (May 11, 2022) – The Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is proud to continue offering military personnel and their families FREE admission all summer long through the Blue Star Museums, a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 2,000 museums across the United States. From Armed Forces Day on May 21, through Labor Day, September 5, active-duty military, including National Guard and Reserve, and up to five family members can enjoy a fun family day at MODS free of charge.

"Our Museum welcomes everyone to visit, explore and experience inspiring science through our exhibits and programs," said **Joseph P. Cox, MODS president and CEO**. "We are thankful and honored to extend programs, such as Blue Star Museums, to express our gratitude to those who serve this country as active-duty military personnel and family members who miss their loved one during their service."

The Blue Star Museums free admission program is available for those currently serving in the United States Military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, as well as members of the Reserves, National Guard (regardless of status), U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps and NOAA Commissioned Corps and up to five family members. Qualified members must show a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID) or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card for entrance into a participating Blue Star Museum. The active-duty service member does not need to be present. Families must show appropriate military identification.

"The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to celebrate the tenth summer of collaborating with Blue Star Families, Department of Defense, and especially the more than 2,000 museums across our nation that make this program possible," said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Organizations such as the Museum of Discovery and Science are providing wonderful opportunities for military families to share a memorable experience together this summer."

For a complete list of participating museums across the United States and locally, please visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. Blue Star Museum guests can upgrade to watch an IMAX documentary film on the GIANT screen for \$5.00 per person upon arrival at the Museum's box office.

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS:

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit arts.gov to learn more.

ABOUT BLUE STAR FAMILIES:

Blue Star Families builds communities that support military families by connecting research and data to programs and solutions, including career development tools, local community events for families and caregiver support. Since its inception in 2009, Blue Star Families has engaged tens of thousands of volunteers and serves more than 1.5 million military family members. With Blue Star Families, military families can find answers to their challenges anywhere they are. For more information, visit bluestarfam.org.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE (MODS):

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science. The Museum encompasses more than 150,000 square feet of interactive exhibits. This includes all of our permanent and traveling exhibits, as well as our outdoor Science Park. Families can enjoy super science shows and demonstrations, wild Creature Feature animal encounters, private experiences, mind-blowing Makerspace labs, cool camps, unforgettable birthday parties, engaging field trips and STEM curricula, professional development workshops for educators, distinguished speakers, and more. In addition to daily hours, MODS' STEMobile delivers STEM education on location across South Florida! A STEMobile experience ranges from one-hour to full-day with programming for pre-kindergarten through adult and is available for schools, community centers, corporate team building and special events! All programs can be customized for time, group size and age group. Book a STEMobile visit today. Free programs and scholarships are available!

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, please visit <u>mods.org</u> or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

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