



For immediate release

Press Release

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Local Lions Clubs Help the Junior Museum

Accommodate the Sight and Hearing Impaired

Troy, NY – Local Lions have presented \$8,900 to The Junior Museum to help the Museum increase its user-friendliness for the sight- and hearing-impaired. The project has two goals:

- To provide assistive-listening devices throughout the Museum;
- To provide Braille signs for the exhibits and Braille books and other educational materials.

The \$8,900 funding for this project came from 14 Lions Clubs that cover the bulk of Albany, Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties, and a matching grant from The New York State and Bermuda Lions Foundation. The Foundation provides grants to help with activities that are beyond the financial reach of individual Clubs.

The Troy Lions Club provided "seed" funds and project leadership; other contributing Lions Clubs are Albany, Bethlehem, Cambridge, Greenwich, Guilderland, Hoosick, Malta, Mechanicville-Stillwater, Ravena, Saratoga Springs, Schuylerville, Shenedehowa and Waterford. With the funds from the Lions now secure, the Museum expects the assistive-listening devices and Braille signage to be in place by this summer.

Since 1954, The Junior Museum mission has been to provide fun and exciting hands-on learning opportunities in science, history and the arts for children and families. Now, the

Museum has moved from its old home in Lansingburgh to a new world-class facility in the historic Winslow Building at 105 Eighth Street in downtown Troy, adjacent to the famous and newly restored "RPI Approach." The new home will allow the Museum to expand its commitment to the youth of the Capital Region.

The Junior Museum is uniquely capable of providing educational opportunities for differently-abled learners. The Museum seeks to include all visitors in program and exhibit participation, and the new facility is designed to be accessible to as many people as possible. As part of their continuing support of worthwhile community projects, area Lions Clubs committed themselves to this project for the sight- and hearing-impaired.

Lions are men and women from all walks of life who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in their local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need, wherever need exists. Although the youngest of the major service clubs, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest, with 1.4 million members in over 180 countries. *We Serve* is not only the Lions' motto, but also a definition and a philosophy.

For more information about the Lions, call 518-266-7788 or visit www.timesunion.com/communities/lions. For more information about the Junior Museum, call 518-235-2120 or visit www.juniormuseum.org.

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