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**ZIMMER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM LAUNCHES NEW BILINGUAL DROP OFF PROGRAM  
"JUGANDO GRANDE"**

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (July 23, 2013) – The Zimmer Children's Museum is excited to announce its new program, *Jugando Grande*, a bilingual drop-off program for 3 year old children.

The program will offer bilingual exposure in a fun Reggio-Emilia inspired learning environment within the museum. Led by a certified Early Childhood specialist fluent in English and Spanish, *Jugando Grande* will offer a dynamic program for "playing big" that combines best practices in Early Childhood and Arts Education with the Zimmer mission to help young people develop their capacity for creating positive change. The museum itself provides a unique learning lab for developing the whole child—in mind, body, and spirit.

"I know the critical role that early positive experiences play in the development of children and we are sensitive to the growing demand for reasonably priced early education programs in the city. The bilingual movement is growing quickly in Los Angeles and there are not enough programs to fill the need," says Maria Palazzolo, Associate Director of Play and Learning for the Zimmer Children's Museum. The program boasts a 6:1 student/teacher ratio which provides for a unique and personalized learning experience.

Maria has been at the helm of creating a robust early education program at the Zimmer, which now includes a rotating schedule of more than ten weekly parent and child classes, a Caregiver Academy which offers professional development for caregivers, and fieldtrips for Headstart Preschools. "I am so excited to be launching this new amazing program, one that combines my passion for bilingual education, Reggio-Emilia inspired learning philosophy, and arts integration—all in a safe, fun, and interactive setting. I can assure you that *Jugando Grande* will exceed your expectations!"

*Jugando Grande* will offer five concurrent sessions (each six weeks long) beginning in October. Priority registration opens July 29<sup>th</sup> and will remain open until Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup> only for registrants seeking to confirm participation in all five sessions. For more information please contact Maria Palazzolo at [maria@zimmermuseum.org](mailto:maria@zimmermuseum.org) or (323) 761-8994.

**About the Zimmer Children's Museum**

Zimmer Children's Museum is an interactive children's museum and youth development organization. Its programs and exhibits are dedicated to instilling young people with the confidence and desire to shape their own lives and those around them for the better. Visited by almost 70,000 people annually from diverse Los Angeles families, the museum offers a hands-on and free play learning experience that teaches children aged 0-8 social responsibility and community values. Its youth development program, youTHink, engages over 3,000 public school students annually in programs that use art and creativity to explore issues, generate ideas, and consider other viewpoints. youTHink's programs empower young people to find their voice, seek leadership roles and take action in their communities. For more details about programs and events at the museum, please visit <http://www.zimmermuseum.org>.

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