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The Miniature Railroad & Village at Carnegie Science Center

Commemorated

A Love Story: The Miniature Railroad & Village unveiled on Saturday, May 8 –
Proceeds from the book to benefit the historical exhibit

PITTSBURGH, April 28, 2021 – Enjoyed by more than ½ million visitors each year, the 100-year+ legacy of the Miniature Railroad & Village at Carnegie Science Center is commemorated in a newly released book, *A Love Story: The Miniature Railroad & Village*, on bookshelves at Carnegie Science Center’s XPLOR store and at <https://stores.carnegiemuseums.org/CSC> beginning Saturday, May 8. Patty Everly, Curator of Historic Exhibits at Carnegie Science Center and co-author of the book with Robert Gangewere, will be on hand at the XPLORE store from 2:30 to 4 pm that day to personally sign copies of the book.

The book chronicles the history of a beloved museum display that is deeply tied to the community by featuring hundreds of wonderfully realistic animated scenes that illustrate how people lived, worked, and played in the Pittsburgh region during an era spanning up to 1940. As does the exhibition itself, the book interprets Pittsburgh and the region’s diverse and wildly interesting history, architecture, cultural heritage, and great innovators with curatorial precision honed over a century by the tender care of its stewards. Through stunning photography and compelling descriptions, the 102-page book tells the story of the unique history and continual thoughtful evolution of the exhibit itself while also highlighting the many historical people, places, and events that provided for its inspiration. *A Love Story: The Miniature Railroad & Village* is available online and in the Carnegie Science Center XPLOR gift shop for \$34.95 – a portion of the proceeds from the book support the Miniature Railroad for years to come.

Since 1919, the Miniature Railroad & Village has delighted millions with its handcrafted replicas of regional landmarks, such as Forbes Field and Fallingwater. Its story began with a man named Charles Bowdish of Brookville, PA. Originally a holiday display on the second floor of his

house, it moved to the Buhl Planetarium in 1954, and ultimately found its final home at Carnegie Science Center in 1992. The cultural significance of the Miniature Railroad is celebrated with the addition of a new model each year. In 2020, the new model honored the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment by featuring the Pittsburgh Hill District home and a miniature likeness of Daisy Lampkin, one of the most important women in the civil rights and women's suffrage movements and a resident of Pittsburgh for most of her adult life.

The Miniature Railroad & Village® is sponsored in its centennial year by Tender Care Learning Centers, presented by Reach Cyber Charter Schools, and generously supported by the Robert and Mary Weisbrod Foundation.

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About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2018, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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